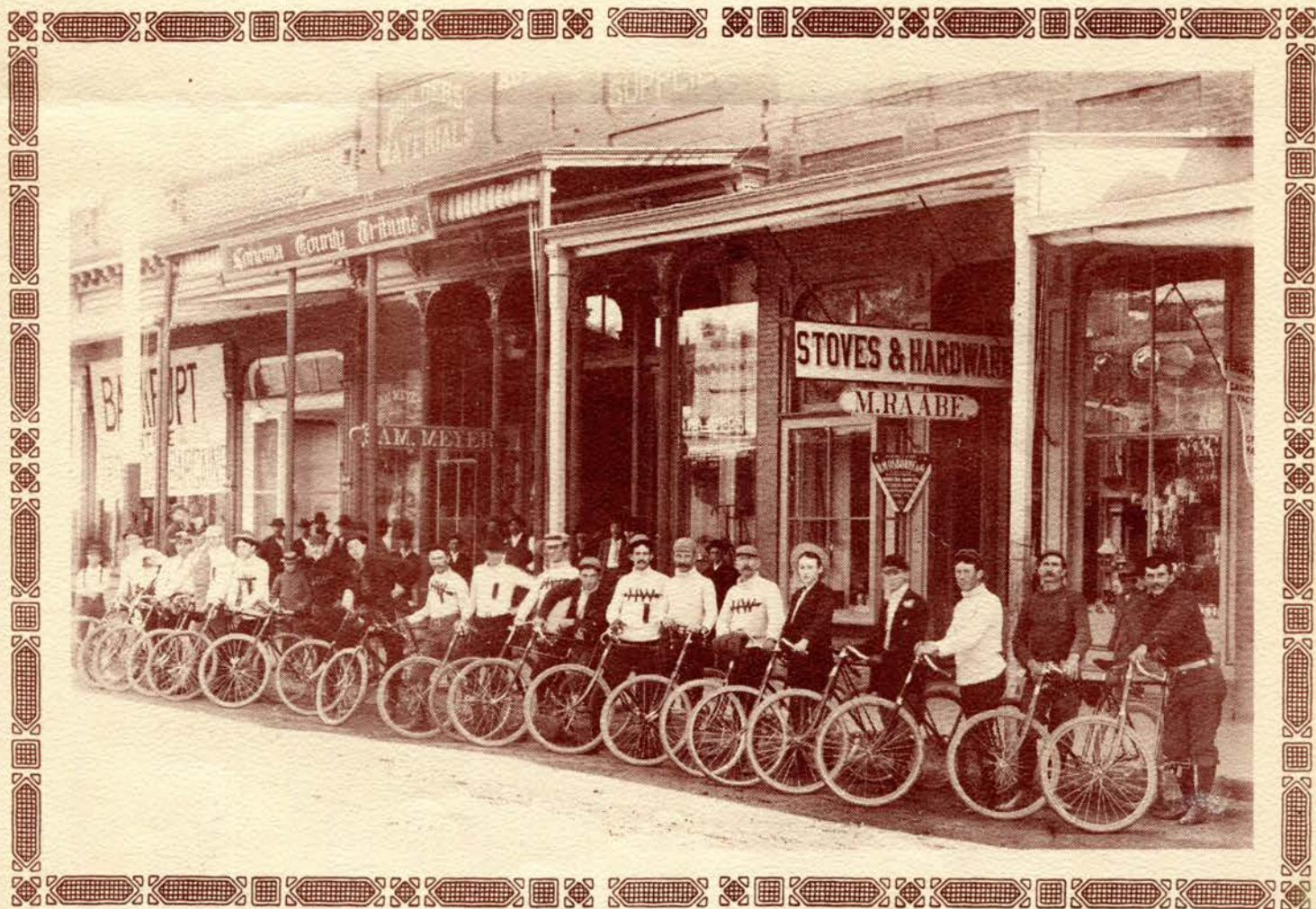


RUSSIAN RIVER RECORDER

Published by
HEALDSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JULY 1977



The Healdsburg Wheelmen - Sept. 22, 1895
Ready for a run to Skaggs Spring

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133 Matheson St. Healdsburg, Calif. 95448

Issue No. 5 July, 1977

ALL ABOARD! for the Oakland Museum, the driver called out, as forty members and friends of the Historical Society departed in a charter bus, full of anticipation, on Wednesday, May 25th at 9:00 a.m.

The docents of the California history, art, and natural science galleries of the Oakland Museum were awaiting our arrival and they proceeded to give us a cursory tour of each gallery. Lunch

was enjoyed on the terrace in a landscaped setting you wouldn't believe possible in downtown Oakland. Then, until three o'clock, everyone made their own personal tour of their favorite exhibits, and at that time we all boarded the bus again and by 4:30 p.m. we were back in Healdsburg. For further information about this interesting trip consult any of the satisfied sojourners.

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ACQUISITIONS AT THE MUSEUM

The museum has acquired some very interesting items since our last newsletter including a china doll from Helen Latimer that belonged to Harry Latimer's mother, which makes it well over a hundred years old. Jack Relyea presented a collection of old photos and certificates of early day fire laddies, and from Helen Nicol we have received a whale oil or "Betty" lamp, circa 1825, a carriage parasol, and an item rarely seen, a pattern used for making shoes used by families in the south after the Civil War. Bob and Gwen Hassett have presented the museum with a silk shawl which was a wedding present bought in Chinatown in San Francisco in 1859 by John D. Hassett. They have also given framed photos of John D. and Elizabeth Hassett, a glove box and a handkerchief box and a wedding dress belonging to Elizabeth, leather chaps of Jim Hassett, a horseshoer's gauge, and three very fine infant garments.

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Rose Demostene...Vice President
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PIONEER RECOLLECTIONS

By John S. Williams

(Editor's Note: This is the second of four articles written by J.S. Williams in 1914)

I will confine myself for a time to Healdsburg and incidents pertaining thereto from 1857 to 1861. A portion of the town extended across the slough where Felix Mulgrew Sr. had a blacksmith shop and his residence was on the east side of the street opposite his shop. August Knaak, the old-time chair mender, also occupied space there. Lewis Neeley had a livery stable there and someone a saloon. I do not remember but I think it was Jack Lambert. And on what is now the site of the Hildebrand garage stood a kind of a public house called "The Cottage", a two-story square-shaped building with a veranda extending around two sides, above and below. It was intended for a public house and was at that time occupied by a Dr. Henry Swain. All the places of business were located on the west side of the street. The old slough was at one time a considerable expanse of water - a great place for ducks (tame ducks). It was fed and kept up by a spring not a great way from the main slough; I think it is on Joe Harris' property or somewhere near there on the east side of Johnson street.

Lindsay Carson at that time owned all the land north of Piper street to the last street at the city limits, and out east near the cemetery creek, comprising eighty acres, more or less, with the exception of an offset west along Piper street to a branch terminating in the slough. I know of nothing of importance in connection with this section of the town, excepting that a Mr. Dudley kept a small dairy of a few cows there, his residence being at that time at the intersection of Piper with West street. The building is still there. There was also a pork-packing establishment on the property of the Swain cottage that did not amount to very much - only for that winter I believe, which was in '59 or '60.

Now going back to Healdsburg south of the slough. John Allman was proprietor of what is now known as the Sotoyome Stables. I think this was the first one of the kind in town. I may be mistaken but will still adhere to my opinion for want of better proof.

Aaron and John Hassett were the proprietors of the first steam flouring mill ever in this town, and also proprietors of the first bear.

The said bear, after a few years confinement, became rather a nuisance in that there was always the danger of hurting someone. They finally concluded to do away with him. They took him out to the race track (what is now known as Luce's Park) and set all the dogs in town on him. Then the fun commenced in earnest. The outcome of the event was that he whipped all the dogs. The bear was then put up at a shooting at so much a shot, shooting at a target. In that way the Hassett brothers received a sum for the trouble and keep of bruin, and most all, if not all, who took part in the target practice received their allotment of bear meat. I do not remember who were interested, but remember of having some bear meat for my breakfast the following morning. That was my first taste of bear meat and if I keep my senses it will be my last.

The school building stood about where the Presbyterian church now is in the midst of a group of large pine trees, about the only group of the kind near town. It was an ordinary box house. The academy was out near the river on the east side of University street. The old Baptist Church was then located on what is now Center and Mill streets. The Presbyterians built south of the Plaza where the Kruse building now is. The Methodist church was where it is now located. As to the Christian, I do not remember that there was one. The Catholic church occupied at one time what was a small residence, I think, on Matheson street, near the Melville Rosenberg home place. I was not here when they built the present old church.

The tan yard occupied ground at that time between Center and East streets, near the intersection of the two with Piper Street. When I first knew it a man by the name of Duncan had charge of it. It finally changed hands and a man by the name of Crawford had possession. Many a wheelbarrow load of tan bark (ground bark) have I hauled to the circus ring for a ticket to go to the circus. I was not the only boy who did it, I can name others. The circus ring then was in the center of the Plaza. The cemetery was where the new grammar school building now is. There were not many planted there then, as this was a comparatively new settled district. All of those that could be located were removed to Oak Mound cemetery during my absence.

(to be continued)

ABELE FERRARI, MASTER MACHINIST

By Rose Demostene

On Easter Sunday, 1977, Abele Ferrari celebrated his 97th birthday, sharing honors with his great-granddaughter, Jennifer Lynn Nelson, who was born on his birthday two years ago.

Mr. Ferrari was born in Savigliano, Italy on April 10, 1880 and at the age of twenty-four emigrated to California. His first job was at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco. Because of his early experience with machinery in the Italian army, he was put in charge of maintenance at the hotel. After a year he tired of this and went north to Asti to work at the Italian Swiss Colony. Having gained some knowledge of wine producing machinery, he shortly after went to work for the Healdsburg Machine Shop, which he subsequently purchased with two partners. The old shop was then moved from the west side of Healdsburg Avenue (then West St.) across the street to the present site. The building was purchased from the McNear family of Petaluma who had been operating a hay and feed store there, and also selling live chickens and leather trap-pings for horses.

For forty years the manufacturing and installation of winery machinery was his life. He is most proud of his seven patents for grape crushers and wine pumps. During all these years, he made, installed, and serviced winery equipment in nearly every winery in California, spending many hours and days traveling with horse and wagon. He remembers when there were fifty-eight wineries between Healdsburg and Cloverdale--it seemed like every family had its own winery. During the early 1920's Mr. Ferrari worked with John Grant who was boring the first steam wells at the Geysers. He supplied all the needed tools and equipment, going so far as to borrow a pump from the Foppiano Winery and a motor from Fountaingrove. It was during this period that his company decided that the horse and wagon was taking too much time on the road. Therefore they purchased an Overland touring car, cut out the back seat, added a flat bed, and this had to be the first pickup truck in Healdsburg.

In 1925 he purchased a one-half interest in the Soda Rock Ranch and Winery in Alexander Valley. The small winery on the place was later demolished and with the iron beams from the old Dry Creek bridge, and the stones from the condemned Healdsburg Grammar School, the present winery was constructed. He and his partner also owned a prune ranch

in West Side. However, the machine shop was his first love and he was active in it until selling out in 1950.

Mr. Ferrari was married to Mansueta Vasconi in 1911 and four daughters were born to them: Rose Demostene, Rena Steele, Inez Nuessle, and Vera Plum. He has led a very active life and still works in his shop at his home. He attributes his longevity to hard work and his daily halfbottle of wine.

* * * * *

MATILDA'S KITCHEN

Parker House Rolls

Scald a little more than a pint of milk, let it stand till cold. Rub a tablespoonful of lard into 2 quarts of flour; make a hollow in the flour and pour in the milk, having previously mixed into the milk 1 large spoonful of sugar, a little salt, a half cup yeast. Sift some flour over the fluid and let it stand until risen; then knead it well, let it rise again, cut with a pint pail cover and "cup" over like a turnover; let them rise again and bake 20 minutes. Follow directions and never fail.

Sweet Pickled Muskmelon

Cut the inner rind of muskmelon into small cubes. Add these to one-half a cupful of vinegar, three cupfuls of sugar, 1 table- spoon of whole cloves, 1 of whole pepper, one-half teaspoon of salt. Simmer gently several hours, until the syrup is dark and thick. 1 large melon will make five tumblerfuls of pickle.

Yeast, Good for two Months

Boil 2 ozs. of best hops for half an hour, in 4 quarts water, strain it, let it cool to the warmth of new milk, then put in a small handful of salt, one-half pound sugar; beat up 1 lb. flour with some of the liquor and mix all well together. The third day add 3 lbs. of well mashed potatoes. Let it stand till next day. Strain it, and it is ready to use. It must be stirred often while making, and kept in a warm place near the fire. Always before taking any to use, it should be well stirred.

..... The above recipes are found in the hand written cookbook of Mrs. Matilda P. Downing, dated 1880.

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NEW MEMBERS who have joined the Society since last April are:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Barbieri, Geraldine | Foppiano, Norma | Oakleaf, Ethel |
| Byington, Alice Marie | Hbg. Chamber of Commerce | O'Brien, Florence |
| Clark, Lucile A. | Jones, Jeannie | O'Brien, John M. |
| Dodge, Eleanor | Jones, Gordon | Penry, B.D. "Pat" |
| Dodge, Nat S. | Liston, Eloise Prince | Penry, Marion A. |

Front cover story:-

THE HEALDSBURG WHEELMEN "BIKED" AGAIN

Sunday the weather could not have been more favorable for the second club run of the Healdsburg Wheelmen and their trip to Skaggs' Springs, after the pace set by Captain A.W. Garrett, was more of leisure than a test of speed. Exclusive of three or four Windsor cyclers the following named men left this city at 10 o'clock and arrived at their destination an hour and forty minutes later: J.H. Gunn, Fred Cashin, Ben H. and Will Barnes, Hubbard and Robert Thornton, Fred Merchant, Albert Bloch, John Reid, Quim Sewell, Harvy Fuller, Will Moore, W.H. Lowry, Lou Stewart, Ed Hamilton, George Bell, Julius Fried, Abner Starks, and Taz Alley.

On the road the boys gathered upon themselves a liberal quantity of dust belonging to the county. However, they soon got rid of it after their arrival at the resort, for they all took a plunge in the large bath-house tank. After this was done they were handsomely and hospitably entertained by the host and everything was at their disposal. The lunch, which was prepared expressly for the club, was excellent and the boys, with their groaning appetites, discussed it until there was nothing left to discuss. For a few hours they enjoyed various outdoor amusements and then started on their return.

Julius Fried left the party to go by way of Geyserville to Healdsburg. Just why he did so is not authentically known, but by reason of recent observations it is not hard to guess and it has been conjectured that there was a pair of bloomers containing a bewitching damsel in that direction which was awaiting him.

At Will Lambert's farm the "biking" party stopped to make a raid on a tempting patch of watermelons. The enormity of their appetites was again demonstrated by their devouring thirty of the biggest specimens in the field. This performance lasted a short time and at dusk the second outing of the Healdsburg Wheelmen's Club was finished.

. . . .The Tribune, Sept. 26, 1895

HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPION TRACK TEAM - 1896

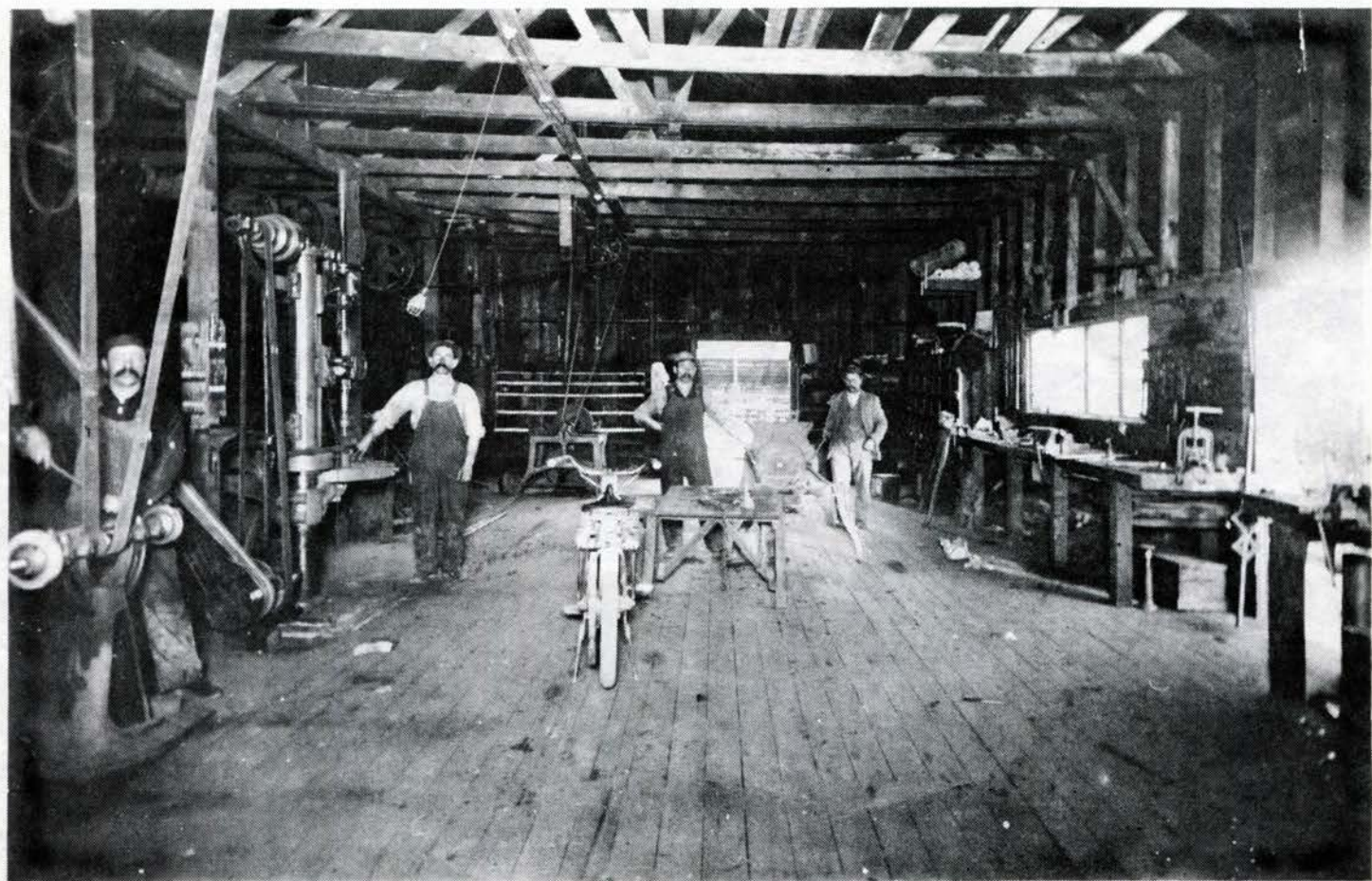
PHOTOS: Front row: Harry Garrett, Albert Garrett, Chester Hickock, Chas. Bond, Lew Norton, Harry Logan, Will Cook, Ed Norton, Ed Snook
Back row: Pete Dirvin, Lou Stewart, Jim Petray, Bob Logan, Temple Bailhache, Mate Hall, Will Madiera, Ben Seawell

AT BIG BUCK BEND - 1915

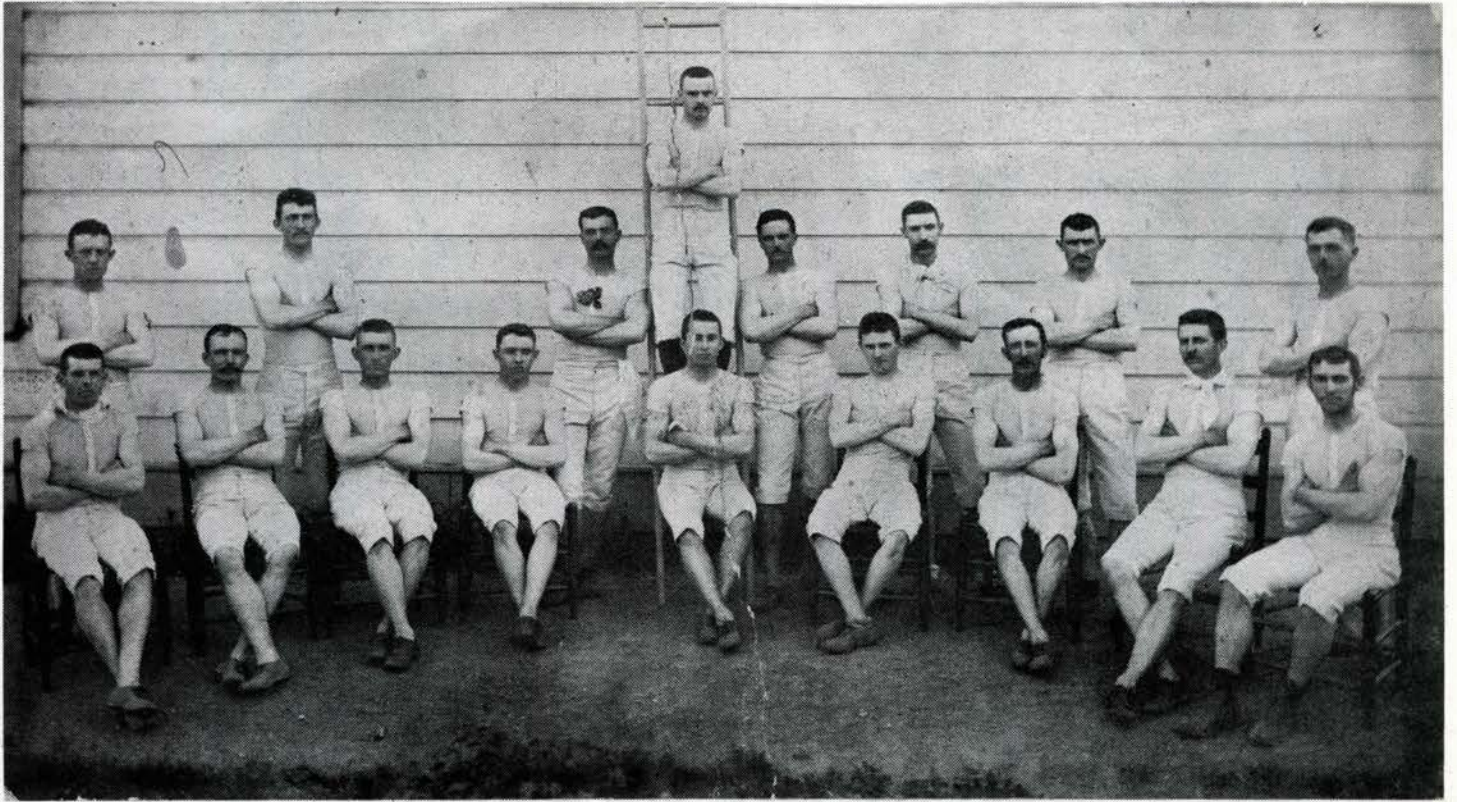
Front row: Andy Shuhart, Ed Phillips, Ed Thompson, Si Higerloh, Al Garrett, Joe Cox, Louis Koberg, _____, Lute Eckels, Fred Wright, Joe McMinn, Charlie Sherriffs
Back row: Charlie Eddinger, _____, _____, Herman Coggins, Fred Warner, George Eckels, Marshal McCracken, Butch Walz (host), George Blackburn, Bill Laughlin, Mike Cummings.



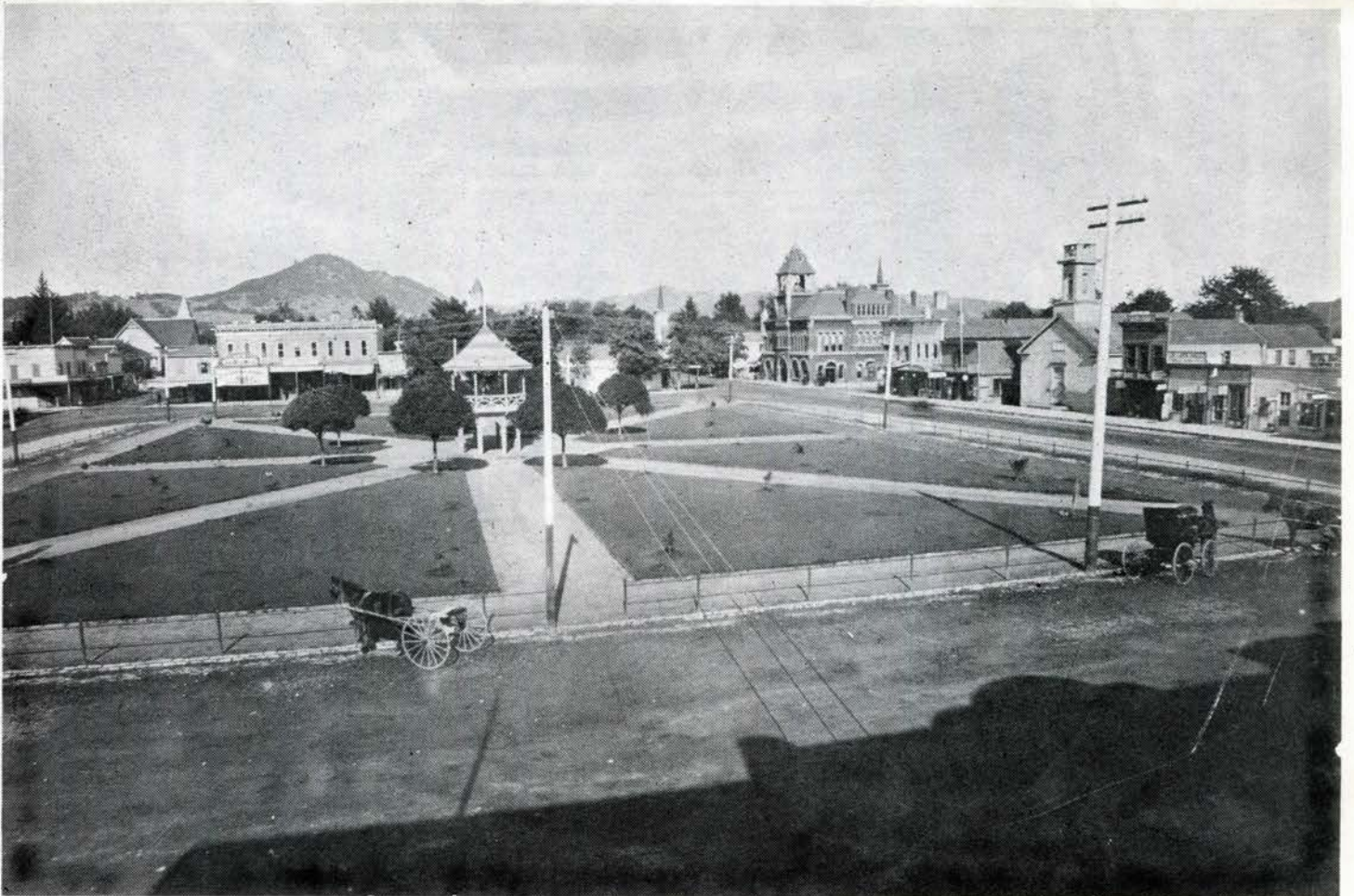
At Big Buck Bend - August 15, 1915



Scalione, Ferrari, and Bossi
Healdsburg Machine Shop - 1909



Healdsburg's Champion Track Team of 1896



View of Plaza - 8197

BOY SCOUTS - THE FIRST TWELVE YEARS

The first boy Scout troop in Sonoma county was organized by W.A. Ware in Alexander Valley in the fall of 1912. They met in their club room in the Alexander Valley church and were a very active group. In a short time they organized their own Boy Scout band that for years participated in the many parades and celebrations in the area. Mr. Ware was assisted by Vaughan Harlan in the leadership of the twenty boys in the troop.

In Healdsburg the first Boy Scout patrol that we know of was organized late in 1913 by Mr. J.L. Magoon and they met every Friday afternoon in the "Scout room" of the Baptist church. The rules of the National organization were followed, requiring that Scouts be at least twelve years of age. Mr. Magoon however, also organized the younger boys into what he called the "Junior Scouts", for boys nine to twelve. The first public inspection of the Scouts was held in February, 1914, reviewed by Dr. F.J. Kinley, the only commissioned Scout Master in Healdsburg at that time. Earlier that month twenty-four Boy Scouts under the command of Mr. Magoon hiked to the top of Fitch mountain. Another group of younger boys was organized by Dr. Kinley with the assistance of Rev. S.A. Parker of the Presbyterian church. In May the first hike was made by the Healdsburg Boy Scouts in the regulation uniform, complete with knapsack.

In June, 1915 H.D. Cross, National Field Scout Commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America visited here and was entertained by the Scouts of Healdsburg and Alexander Valley at a banquet. Music was furnished by the Boy Scouts' band of Alexander Valley.

The Healdsburg and Alexander Valley Boy Scouts marched in their khaki uniforms in the parade at the Rose Carnival in Santa Rosa in 1915, and according to the Press Democrat, presented an inspiring picture. They were led by Scout Master W.A. Ware and his assistant, Vaughan Harlan, of Alexander Valley and Scout Master C.H. Hilton of Healdsburg. The Healdsburg troop included Ralph Chaney, Everett Miller, Darrel Sargent, Henry Emmrick, Gallant Foreman, George Galpin, Riccardo Cerri, and Monroe Hilton. The Alexander Valley boys were Oliver Curtis, Clifford, Edwin and Melvin Wilson, Frank Stovall, Mario Zanzi, Mervin Beeson, Talbot Harlan, Takashi Koga, Leslie and Wallace Masters, Carl Smith, Gerald and Arthur Allenden.

The Healdsburg Scouts, under the direction of Dr. Fred Kinley and Frank Farrance, participated in the Fourth of July celebration in Geyserville in 1918, performing drills and other entertaining features. They went on Wednesday morning returning home Friday. An editorial in the Tribune in 1918 praises the Boy Scouts for their participation in many civic activities.

In March, 1919 the Boy Scouts of Healdsburg took over the hall in the Fox building which the Home Guards had given up. The hall was fitted with a reading room, billiard room, and other facilities. The city agreed to furnish the utilities and the Chamber of Commerce paid \$5 on the rent, leaving \$5 a month to be raised by the boys. Meetings had previously been held in the basement of the library. Planning for a public reception at their new quarters Mr. Ellis Pickett was in charge of the drilling of the boys, W.A. Ware had charge of the band, while Dr. Kinley was the Scout Master. On March 25th the Scout Hall was opened to the public. The Scout troops from Geyserville and Windsor were also present. A boxing match, basketball game and marching drills were featured entertainment. The Scout band played several selections and the Scouts led the singing. The band was then under the direction of William A. Ware and was composed of forty to fifty members that met to practice every Friday night.

Meetings were being held in the grammar school in 1921 and Dr. F.J. Kinley was the Scout Master. The Scouts were divided into three patrols: the Coyote, the Bear, and the Eagle. The leader for the Coyotes was Byron Conran, assisted by Ted Conwell; the leader for the bears was Smith Robinson, assisted by Rollo Brown; and for the Eagles the leader was Walter Albertson, assisted by Fred Gladden. One troop was made up of boys from the grammar school, and the other troop consisted of boys from the high school.

In 1922 Dr. Fred Kinley was awarded a Veteran Scout Commission for ten years of active service with the organization of Boy Scouts.

A troop, known as No. 3, was organized in early 1924 under the sponsorship of the Kiwanis Club and was led by Capt. John T. Fisher, assisted by Cliff Jagers and Richard Warfield. This troop consisted of twenty-one members and met weekly at the grammar school. Boys who passed the Tenderfoot tests in 1924 were Walter Gross, Albert Giorgi, Carrol Hanley, Albert Day, Wallace Parkerson, and Frank Ferraro.

The most significant contribution in local Scouting was made in 1924 when Mrs. Esther C. Rosenberg, widow of Wolf Rosenberg, donated a camp site of twelve acres on Mill Creek, about nine miles from Healdsburg. The property was ideally situated and contained a cabin and spring. Camp Rosenberg was dedicated August 12, 1924. Two hundred boys and men gathered at the Mill Creek camp with Scouting officials from the other cities of the county, the Lytton Band, and dignitaries from San Francisco. All in all it was one of the biggest Scouting events that Healdsburg has ever enjoyed.

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Russian River Flag: Aug. 28, 1879

At a meeting of ten members of the Russian River Rifles held last Saturday, at Griest and Young's shop, C.B. Proctor was made chairman and F.M. Laymance secretary. The old committees were discharged, and the gun (the brass cannon now on display in the Healdsburg Museum) and flag placed in charge of M. Bond, J.E. Stewart and C.B. Proctor, \$2.50 to be collected every time the gun is used, for the building of a new carriage, the gun not to go out without a member of the committee. Adjourned to meet every Fourth of July, or till called by the committee above named. F.M. Laymance, Secty.

Russian River Flag: Aug. 28, 1879

Ed. Flag: I have been interested in the articles you have published about our pioneers. But your informants are laboring under some mistakes. Harmon G. Heald and family were, of course, the pioneers, and their son William is still here, or rather does business here. In 1852 T.W. Hudson did live in Healdsburg, occupying the rear of Heald's store, and the very building now remains and is in the rear of Love Bros. express and telegraph office. Your humble servant, their eldest son, came with them, and Henry, next youngest, born in '54, was the first white child born here; Wm. Heald is one week younger. H.M. Willson kept store in town in 1853 and A.B. Aull was here at that time.

Yours Resp., D.W. Hudson

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 28th - 7:30 P.M. - Healdsburg Historical Society will hold its general membership meeting at the High School. Lake County Historian, Henry Maulden, will be the featured speaker, with his topic being the Pomo Indians. He will display numerous Indian artifacts and be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Indians.

SEPTEMBER 10th - The Healdsburg Historical Society will hold its 1ST ANNUAL CHICKEN TERYAKI BARBECUE on Saturday, the 10th of Sept. at the Villa Chanticleer picnic grounds, to be prepared and served by the ladies of the Mormon Church. Tickets will be available at the July 28th meeting, and after that date they should be purchased at the Museum only, during its open hours (Tues. thru Sat. from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.). Let's make this a very successful annual event.