## The Memoirs of Janet Miles, Part One, pp 83 – 106

iam, worked for the I.R.S. and the other son became manager of the San Bernardino Water Department. He married Nell Shay, the daughter of Sheriff Shay. William Patton married Gladys Rose, a school teacher. Pauline Patton married Taylor Peterson, a noted attorney in town.

Sometime in the 1920s, the Littletons had a store on the west side of E Street north of Court where they sold all sorts of lovely things such as paintings and choice china pieces.

Perhaps the most famous store in the area was Oehl Market. They had a grocery and vegetable department but the mainstay was the butcher shop. The office was on the north side of the building near the door. There the customers paid for their purchases. Ernest Oehl was to be seen there often. One of the cashiers in the early days was Clara Colgin Nichols. She worked here before she worked for the title company. Mr. Voyt was another. As he gave you change, he held his hand high and dropped it into your hand. Another cashier was a Miss Alma Freidman who lived with her family on a small ranch on east Base Line. She was a short, plump German Frau and very nice.

There were refrigerated show cases where the meat was displayed. Behind them were the butcher blocks. Each butcher had his own block. The one to the north was used by Billy Schwalm. He always had a line of customers waiting because he would give you what you wanted. Next was Mr. French, a rather tall, thin man, from Colton. He was very accommodating too. Then there was Mr. Eckhardt. He was quite a large man and had his line of customers as well. The work shop was at the back part of the store. When I was little, we would stop on our way home in the evening to buy meat for supper or the next day. Billy Schwalm would frequently slip me a bologna sausage, a great treat for a kid, even then. The workroom and refrigerators, etc., were in the rear, closed off from the front of the store. On the south side of the big room were the grocery and vegetable sections as well as fruit. Not many people had refrigerators at that time in the early 1900s, so meat was purchased every day or two. Nearly everyone raised chickens, so they were not generally purchased in a store.

I have heard that in the 1870s-1880s there was an emigration of families from Germany. They didn't want their sons to serve in the army. As I understood it, a group of them came to the San Bernardino area. Several family names I recall are the Conrads, the Carl Hammers, the Behrends, the Oehls. They and their children contributed much to the community.

I recall two incidents as happening in the Oehl Market. The first was a Mexican-American family buying an avocado at what I thought was a high price. The second involved Hugh Dixon, an attorney. I believe he lost his forearms in a railroad accident. Then he took up the study of law. He was successful. He, too, was buying meat, perhaps for dinner. With his stub arms, he reached into his pocket to take out money to pay his bill.

The second and third floors of this building housed the Masonic Temple. The lodge rooms were on the second floor and the third floor was the lounges and dining room and kitchen. I believe the Masons used these quarters until they built their new temple on the northwest corner of Fourth and Arrowhead Avenue.

There was a jewelry store at the southwest corner of Fourth and E operated by Mr. and Mrs. Felkel. I seem to recall that a telephone company at one time was located in the second floor of the building at Fourth and E.

As a child I remember going with my aunt to the Stanley Nursery at the southeast corner of Fourth and E. She bought a walnut tree which she planted at the rear of our home. I believe Silas Stanley who was a prominent real estate broker was a son of this family. Also, Marguerite Stanley was a noted writer and poetess. She was also a member of this family. Her poems and writings were widely read.

Years later a bank was built on the Stanley Nursery property. I think a Mr. Smith was president. He was part native American and came from Oklahoma. He was a very friendly and likable man. For a time he and his family lived in the large home built by Mr. Grow at the north west corner of Union and E. Later it was acquired by members of the Gabriel family.

One of the businesses in the block between Fourth and Court was the Field Electric Company. Many years later, an ice cream parlor opened there. It was an extremely popular place because the proprietors served generous scoops.

In the 1920s, there was a branch of a company named MacDonalds. I think it opened on the west side of E between Court and Fourth. They had a confectionery store and had their headquarters in Salt Lake City.

In the early days, the Hobbs House was located on the north side of Court Street about midway in the center of the block. Mrs. Hobbs was the proprietor. It was a boarding house and she served meals to her tenants.

At the rear of Cohen's Department Store was a large building that housed the George M. Sherlock Tent and Awning business. As the name implies, they made tents and furnished awnings for homes and offices. It was a thriving business for years. As time passed by, the son of the family, George Sherlock Junior took over and with the help of his sister Nellie, ran it for years. The other members of the family were the twins, Elsie Sherlock and Ethel Sherlock. Another business on the south side of the street was the San Bernardino Steam Laundry operated by James Miller. They serviced hotels, business, houses and homes. Men's shirts had to be just so with a little starch in the collars and sleeves so the laundry was the place to send them. Probably the hotels sent bedding to it. Mr. and Mrs. Miller built a home on the west side of F Street between Seventh and Eighth and lived there until they built a newer home at the southwest corner of Sixteenth and D.

Hancock and Wade owned the furniture store on the southeast corner of Court and F. Another store the city depended on was the George M. Cooley Hardware Store in the 300 block just east of D. It always seemed they had everything a customer needed: builders' hardware, household utensils, and dishes. In the rear with an outlet to D Street was the plumbing department. There was everything a contractor or household could need in fixing or installing plumbing. Frank Cooley was manager of this department, I think. Mike Allison was one of the clerks. There was a lady who clerked there for years and was so knowledgeable and helpful.

One of the first movie theaters was in this 300 block of Third Street. The name of the theater was Unique. There was music before the show started. I can't recall whether it was an organ or just a piano. During the middle of the show, colored slides were flashed on the screen and someone sang. I can't recall the price of admission, but it wasn't very much. I remember going there to see *Quo Vadis*. I believe a member of the Leonard family operated this theater.

The Plunge, furnished with warm water bubbling up there, was at the southwest corner of Third and Arrowhead. Much later there was a state office building built on the site. South of the Plunge on the west side of Arrowhead, the gas company was located. I think they produced gas which was distributed to the city. The only name I can recall in connection with this concern was Noel Graham.

In the area of Arrowhead Avenue to Mountain View was Chinatown. By the way, these streets were renamed by the Mormons. Arrowhead was C Street, Mountain View was B Street, and Sierra Way was A Street. Approximately in the 1920s or 1930s, the east and west streets were numbered. However, First Street was later renamed Rialto to help wipe out the stigma associated with the name of First Street that was once part of the red light district.

Chinatown was a series of one-story brick buildings occupied by the Chinese. What they sold 1 never knew. The Josh House, which was their temple was the last building on the south side near Warm Creek. One Chinese New Year, when I was 13 or 14, a group of us went there and were shown around. It was beautiful—colorful and with some gold. There was the smell of incense. I can't recall seeing any human figures. I think there were only men there as they were prohibited from bringing in wives and children until much later.

There was quite a large colony of Chinese people in San Bernardino as well as in Redlands, Riverside, and other nearby towns. The area of San Bernardino northeast of the city, now known as Base Line Gardens was where I remember seeing Chinese people wearing huge hats working in the fields planting vegetables. These vegetables were brought into town by horse drawn wagons with canopies to protect the produce from the sun. Housewives knew the days these wagons would come by and went out to select their vegetables and fruits.

The man who came to our block was called Charlie. One year, at Chinese New Year, he gave the little girls porcelain bracelets, one section white, one green or pink. I may still have mine. This type of merchandising was carried on until the late teens or twenties when it was prohibited because of an accident that occurred. Mrs. Oehl went to the wagon, stood on the step to make her choice when the horse was frightened and ran away. She was seriously injured, maybe died. I think this accident was in the 600 block of Fourth Street. Years later when the Chinatown property was being developed for business, swarms of bottle collectors came to comb the premises in hopes of finding valuable whisky and other types of bottles.

In the early days, San Bernardino had a notable red light district. The miners and the lumbermen all came. It was located on First Street (now known as Rialto Avenue), a part of Second Street, D Street, and Stoddard Avenue. There were some well-known brothels and madams. Perhaps the best known was Madam Mills. People who knew her said she was a very kind hearted woman. At times she would go to a family in need and help them. I have heard that the district would have an opening party in the fall and the girls would get new dresses for the celebration! Other names mentioned were the Stanley sisters and Johnny McCall. It lasted until the army came and opened Norton Air Base. Government officials said the red light district had to close. It did, but no doubt the business was scattered all over town.

In the 1890s the block between D and E on the south side was a residential area. At the corner of Stoddard Street, named I think for a local judge, was the home of Dr. Marie Antonette Bennett, an early day physician. She was perhaps one of the first women to graduate as a physician in California. She was a very wonderful woman. The men in her college classes resented a woman's presence and put all the little hard jobs off on her. She had the courage to cope. She told a story of using maggots to clear up an infection. During the first World War, she carried on a big practice to fill the gap of so many doctors being called to service. She bought a lovely home on the east side of D Street between Fifth and Sixth where she died I think in the thirties.

Other notable women of the 1890s were the Dawson sisters, Miss Harriet (nicknamed Hat) and Miss May (real name Mary). Their home was just west of Dr. Bennett's. They came to San Bernardino from Salt Lake City. They had a brother who lived in Corona. Their house was a home and a business. They had a dressmaking establishment. The Dawson sisters' living quarters were on the east side of the house and the workshop on the west. This accommodated a big cutting table, places for sewing machines, etc., and an office at the front. They had a large clientele the ladies in town and from other towns like Redlands.

At that time, the very wealthy came to spend the winter in Redlands. Some of them, like the Rogers family, brought their servants, horses and buggies in their private railway cars. They were the ones like the Hornbys of Hornby Oats who built the splendid mansions in Redlands. They came to the Misses Dawsons to have gowns made of silks, velvets and other fine materials. It was the time of leg o' mutton sleeves [fancy sleeves with a huge puff from shoulder to elbow that were fitted from the elbow to the wrist], voluptuous skirts with dust ruffles, whale boned waists, etc. Dresses were boned and lined and very beautiful.

I don't know how many employees they had. The only two I know of were my two aunts that raised me who were both fine seamstresses: Sara Elizabeth Boyd Raitt and Martha Helen Boyd. They were lifelong friends of the two Misses Dawsons. Miss Harriet died first and Miss May converted the house into a rooming house. Times changed, customers dwindled, and there was a rumor the Misses Dawsons got religion and wouldn't sew for the ladies of the night who came. Miss May is buried near her brother in the Corona cemetery.

As I recall, the Brookings Lumber Company operated a yard across the street on the north side of Second. The John Suverkrup Lumber Yard was on the west side of either Mountain View or Arrowhead Avenue. Mr. Suverkrup was a native of Denmark. He had three sons, Herbert, the middle son, and Fred. Their home was a onestory house on the west side of F Street just north of Fourth. They added another story as the family grew. In later years the boys took over the family business and expanded it. I can't recall whether it was sold off or absorbed by another company.

I believe Dr. Feigel later lived in the Suverkrup home. It was his office as well. Dr. Feigel was a devout Catholic. He was accused of writing false prescriptions for drug addicts. I never believed he wrongfully sold drugs. Someone, maybe an addict, persuaded him to fill a prescription. I believe he did it out of the kindness of his heart. His children graduated from San Bernardino High. I believe there was a boy and girl whose names I don't recall.

At the corner, northwest, of Fourth and West, there was a sizable two-story house occupied at one time by the Wilmot Smith family. They had quite a large family. Later they built a home on Valencia Avenue near the country club. There was a two-story house between the corner house and the Suverkrup house owned by William E. Wilson. He married Rose Crandall, daughter of a pioneer family in San Bernardino. Her father Mr. Crandall, worked on either building or repairing the railroad lines through Cajon Pass. Rose Crandall Wilson taught school. The Wilsons had three children: Nathan, who was a school teacher like his mother, a son who was a mail carrier in Riverside, and Ariel Wilson who married and lived in Southern California. This family has a wonderful history of the very early days in the Valley, maybe including tales of crossing the plains, in a Mormon party.

At one time, the Jack McInerney family owned a home next to the Suverkrups. I believe he was in business with his brother who operated the McInerney Department Store on Third Street. Jack's wife may have been a member of the Rolph family. Their house was painted green and was surrounded by trees.

There was a small house on the corner of Kingman and F, but I never knew who owned it or lived there. It had a fence around it and was unchanged for years, but I never saw anyone around.

On the west side of F Street, between Fourth and Fifth was a two-story house where the Parks family lived. I believe Mr. Parks worked for the Santa Fe. There were two children, Gordon Parks and Dorothy Parks. Gordon was prominent in his high school days. In later years I believe he was employed by the school district as a principal or some official capacity.

The next house to the north was the home of the Misses Beck: Elizabeth Beck and May Beck. Elizabeth Beck was a rather tall woman and quite plump. Miss May Beck was tall and slender. They used the same dress patterns and wore identical dresses. They were very interested in young people, especially those of the Presbyterian Church.

Their front porch ran across the front of the house and they planted smilax there and trained it up on string or wire to form a sort of curtain. There was a death in the family and they took a young boy to live with them. I can't recall what became of him. I think they also owned a vacant lot on the corner. After they passed away, this property was sold and now is the location of a motel.

To backtrack, there was a department store, Cash Department Store, on the northwest corner of Third and F owned and operated by James Drever, a Scotsman who lived at the Elks' Lodge. He carried yardage, household linens, and dolls. My last doll was purchased there. It is a beautiful blonde doll with a china head and bisque body. The marking of the German manufacturer is on the back of the head. It was purchased for seven dollars and fifty cents. I still have the original invoice which is dated, but the year is not shown. When Mr. Drever waited on a customer, he knew what she needed better than she. One of his employees was Sarah Alvarado, a mother of a then old time Spanish family.

There was a store in the middle of this block, on the south side of Third, occupied by an implement company with farm and garden tools. I am not sure, but it may have been owned by the Van Luven family.

On west Third Street across from the Santa Fe yards was the winery of A. Bogo. Families took their demijohns, glass, gallon size bottles covered by a wicker casing, to be filled with the wine of one's choice to the winery. Mr. Bogo had two daughters. One married John Vondey, the jeweler, the other, Rush Mott. She was a long time employee of the Harris Company. In this vicinity was the brewery owned by Mr. Bublitz. It was an attractive building.

Also in this vicinity was the Parker Iron Works owned by W. M. Parker. Among the things they made were ice machines and early refrigerating equipment. Mr. Parker was quite a handsome man. During the Centennial celebration of 1910, Mr. Parker was the prince charming and beautiful Rose Aquirre was the princess. Mr. Parker was interested in education and served on the school board for years. Mr. Parker's daughter, Nora, was on the staff of the Valley College for years. She presented the speakers on the splendid series of travel talks on Thursday evenings. Herbert, his son, went into the business. It was later either sold or closed out.

The Centennial celebration, a week-long festival which took place the first week in May, celebrated the founding of San Bernardino by priests from San Gabriel. Fourth Street from D to E was blocked off and a stage was built to accommodate the shows and dancers. I was nine and I remember going down and looking up at the stage. There were parades, and a carnival atmosphere. The town stopped in its tracks and celebrated. There were flags and buntings everywhere. I remember there was a "Most Beautiful Child" contest. There was a lady, Mrs. Hott who sold the most tickets and her daughter Mildred Hott was the winner and her picture was printed and given around. I had one of her pictures. A log cabin was built on the vacant lot on the south side of Fourth Street where the pioneers exhibited relics of the early days. My aunts took me to see the exhibits at the cabin. Later the cabin was moved to Lugo-Pioneer Park at E and F and Sixth.

The Carneige Library was located on the southwest corner of Fourth and D. It may have been built of glazed brick, light in color. There was a basement and main floor. Racks for books and study tables were in the west end. It seemed to have always been there; I can't recall the year it was built. Some of the dedicated women who served were May Coddington, Liel Waters, Miss Nickerson, and Pauline Patton. Attorney Howard Suhr donated a drinking fountain installed on the north of the building. It had a provision at the ground level for animals to get a drink, too.

Years ago, just south of the library, was a small momand-pop grocery store run by a Jewish family. I think the name was Levi. I faintly recall a photographer's shop and a pawn shop just south.

The business on the west side of D Street north of Third was Carter's Racket Store owned and operated by Rachel Carter and her daughter Anna. They carried notions, lady's underwear, dolls, etc. They had living quarters in the rear of the store. As time went on, and business prospered, they built a home on the west side of Arrowhead Avenue between Fifth and Sixth. Another daughter, Mabel Carter, married Fred Secombe who owned a dairy on east Second Street. He became active in politics and later served as chief of police. His son was elected mayor. The Racket store stayed in business until Rachel Carter died and Anna suffered a stroke. R. F. Garner bought the store property. Their home was rented for several years and was sold by Rachel's son, Charles Carter, to help defray expenses of caring for Anna, incapacitated with the stroke. Charles C. Carter was my brother-in-law, also known as Uncle Chowie to the family. These were two fine women who helped pave the way for other women in business.

At the corner of Fourth and D was the Southern Hotel. It was an imposing, three-story building that was an early day landmark.

Just south of the hotel was a large building that housed the second hand business of Morris Kramer. Today it would be a gold mine, for he bought and sold furniture, and all sorts of things. The place was jammed, but he knew where everything was. Nowadays, some of the items would be valuable antiques. I believe he moved his business to Santa Ana or thereabouts.

In the middle of this block was the Opera House. It was originated by a member of the Waters family. It really was a historic enterprise. Many of the famous actors and actresses played there. At the time I remember it, it was managed by Mrs. Martha Kiplinger, a tall slender woman who carried her glasses on a ribbon and always wore a hat. Usually her glasses were fastened on the end of a long gross grained black ribbon attached to her white shirtwaist. Her skirts were black. I can't ever remember seeing her smile.

The Opera House itself was of medium size. There were box seats on each north and south wall with red velvet curtains at the rear. There were chairs instead of seats. It cost more to sit there than floor or balcony seats. The orchestra pit was in front of the stage at floor level. Birdie Bohan and Edith Ulrich were the pianists, Ernest De Soto, the violinist, and Mr. Parsons played the drums. I can't recall if there were wind instruments or not. Probably there were. Joseph McInerney was a long time employee. He was the house man.

The Opera House ticket office was in the front of the lobby of course. Attractions were announced several weeks before their arrival and customers went to the ticket office to buy their favorite seats. Mrs. Kiplinger was widely known and respected in the theatrical world. I believe she would go to New York to preview the season and book appearances. Some of the greats who played there were: Sir Harry Lauder, Ethel Barrymore in *The Five-Pound Look*, an all African-American cast in *Shuffle Off to Buffalo*, Elsie Ferguson, Sarah Bernhart, and Rita Hayworth. There were many others whose names I have forgotten, some of them came in the time before I could attend. Al Jolson also played there. There is a story told that one time he sized up the audience and thought it not large enough to suit his fancy and refused to go on. Is this incident true or fancy?

You dressed up to go to the Opera House. Programs lasted two to three hours. Only one performance per day was given. I believe it cost \$2.50 or \$3 for a ticket. I remember the decor was mostly red accents. The theater seated a large crowd.

As times changed, Mrs. Kiplinger showed movies. The first showing was at night, except on days when there were matinees. The evening showings were at seven o' clock and the second showing at nine. Eventually Court Street was cut through the 300 block and the Opera House was demolished.

For many years a Mr. Schindler had a shoe repair shop just south of the Opera House. The fire hall was located on the north side of Fourth Street in the middle of the block between Arrowhead and D. The lower, street floor, was where the fire engines were located. There were living quarters for the firemen on the second floor. In the rear was a high tower to hang up the hoses. This station may have been in use when the fire wagons were drawn by horses.

Next to the fire hall on the east was the Kinsington House. It was a very large house and as I recall it was a rooming house. It may have been moved to a location to the east of town. At one time it was owned by a family named Johnson.

In the early days, the Anker family built a house on the northwest corner of Fourth and Arrowhead. It may have been fashioned after houses in San Francisco. It housed three families, each with their own quarters. It faced Fourth Street. Each family had its own front steps and entrance. It was two stories with a basement. This is now the site of the Masonic Temple.

The Fourth Street School was located on the south side of Fourth Street in the 300 block. The building was quite large. I don't know how many rooms. The grounds were fenced. It served the children of the southeast part of town. It may have accommodated eight grades. Miss Eudora Allen was the principal for many years of the Fourth Street School. After graduation, the pupils entered high school.

On the west side of Arrowhead Avenue, formerly C Street, was a rectangular adobe building that may have at one time belonged to Louis Jacobs, an early day business man and backer. He was foresighted and responsible for many improvements in the city.

Nearby, to the south, was the Suhr house, the property of an early day merchant. He passed away at an early age and left a wife and two daughters, Ray and Christine. Mrs. Suhr also died quite young. The girls were under the care of an attorney. They needed someone to live in the house and care for them. The T. H. Mills family heard of this through their daughter, Ada Mills, a student in high school (who later was married to Charlie Carter). Arrangements were made and the Mills family moved in.

Ray Suhr, the eldest daughter was a brilliant young woman who graduated from Stanford as an attorney. She married into the Hinkley family in old San Bernardino. Christine Suhr finished high school and went east to live with relatives. Mr. Hinkley, Ray Suhr's husband, died and later Ray married a Mr. Woodward, a cattleman in Nevada. They had several children including Jack Woodward, a long time employee of the Portland Cement Company, in Victorville. Christine Suhr later came west and made her home with the Woodward family in San Bernardino where she raised her sister's kids, while Ray worked as an attorney.

The Suhr house is where I was born in 1901. A strange coincidence happened regarding the house. The house was split and moved from its original location at 360 C Street, now Arrowhead Ave., and came up F street where it remained in front of my home at 860 F street overnight before it moved to its permanent location at the north east corner of Meyers Street and Ninth in the 700 block.

The Wozencraft home was on the east side of Arrowhead, north of Third. I was born right across from the Wozencroft home. This was a noted family. Their daughter Mary was sent to a private finishing school where her roommate was a princess. To her mother's horror she fell in love with a violinist, a Mr. Strienbrenner. She called him a "Dutch fiddler." She married him, much to her mother's dismay. Mr. Streinbrenner died quite young, I believe. Mrs. Streinbrenner lived in the family home which extended from Arrowhead to the Town Creek on the rear. Senator Conn may have been a part of this family since he lived with them. He was very influential. He was the first promoter of the Imperial Valley as a winter garden spot.

The family tombs in the Pioneer Cemetery were very interesting. They were concrete and extended for a considerable distance on the ground, each coffin having a space with a marble facing, telling the history of the person buried there. On the north and south ends, there was mounted a second burial arrangement. The cement in this early burial arrangement may have disintegrated. It was leveled and the coffins must have been buried in the ground with the marble markers on their surface.

While on the subject of cemeteries, it is well to note that in the early part of the century, they played a part in family life. It was customary for family members to take flowers to the graves, usually on Sunday. It provided a time for visiting other people doing the same thing. Of course, Decoration Day, May 30, as it was called, was the most widely observed time to visit and decorate graves. Graves of those who had served in the military were marked with American flags.

It was customary on the markers to give a short history of the deceased. Date of birth and date of death were also shown. This can prove a source of historical information. Family plots were usually marked by cement curbing. The plots were large enough to accommodate from two burials to four or eight.

In the early 1920s, a group of local business men purchased considerable acreage at the northeast corner of Waterman Avenue and Highland Avenue and developed it into the Mountain View Cemetery. The City Cemetery or Pioneer Cemetery did not have a provision for perpetual care. Some plots were well cared for by the families while others were covered with weeds if the men in charge of the cemeteries ran out of time.

Mrs. George Raitt (my aunt Sada, Sarah Elizabeth Boyd) was visiting the cemetery one time and met up with Mr. Swan, one of the developers of Mountain View Cemetery. He told her the Pioneer Cemetery would soon be neglected and urged her to remove her loved ones to the new cemetery. This shocked her beyond measure, so she decided to do something about it. She contacted Mrs. Charles Tyler, Mrs. Jonas Wood, and perhaps others and told them of the plans. They decided to take measures to save the City Cemetery. At that time, George Henderson was mayor and a member of the Pioneer Society. They banded together and appeared before the City Council with the result the city took over the management of the cemetery. Eventually more land nearby was purchased and developed, a new office was built, sprinkler lines installed, and the cemetery has been a source of pride ever since. According to recent articles in the local paper it is up for sale. So far, no deal has been confirmed.

The Bracewell family home was on the north side of Seventh Street east of F Street. It was two stories. There were two daughters in the family, Lydia and her sister. The latter married Merritt Curtis who was either in the marines or the navy and stationed on the East Coast. Lydia married and lived in San Bernardino and taught school for many years.

The Eickelman family home was on the east side of Arrowhead Avenue in the 300 block. Mr. Eickelman was in the lumber business I think. There were several children. A daughter, Nell, married Porter Hanf. They later built a two-story house on the south side of Sixth Street, east of Arrowhead. I believe there were two sons. One, Carlyle, was active in high school affairs.

One of their neighbors on Arrowhead was the Johnson Family. The daughter's name was Jean; the son's name was George who became either district attorney or city attorney years later.

The home of Sheriff Bright was on the south side of Seventh Street in the 300 block. There were many trees surrounding the house. His son, Shirley, married Mollie Tyler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tyler. Mrs. Tyler was a member of the Joseph Hancock family, maybe a daughter. They owned property on the northeast corner of Tenth and E. Mr. Tyler owned timber land in the San Bernardino mountains. Their home faced Tenth Street at the corner of a short street running north. The house was set back from the street. There may have been a fence across the front.

The Stone family lived nearby. They were refugees from Armenia. They either got off the train or were put off at the San Bernardino station. They knew no English or anything about American customs. A story was told that they saw a fruit tree in the yard of someone's home and promptly picked some of the fruit with the result they were arrested and thrown in jail. They later opened a business dealing with marble and stone, so took the name of Stone. I recall seeing a rectangular stone at the curb to make it easier to alight from a carriage.

Professor Sturgis and his wife lived in the house at the southwest corner of Tenth and D. They came to San Bernardino from the east. They established Sturgis Academy in the late 1800s. This academy was the focal point of advanced education for many years. When the first high school was built at the southwest corner of Eighth and E, Professor Sturgis was chosen to be principal. He served there until his death at graduation time years later.

His widow had a beautiful stained glass window installed in the First Presbyterian Church on E Street. It fittingly pictured Jesus in the temple with the wise men. When she died, I believe she willed the home property at Tenth and D, to this church. It was used as a manse for years. Later it was sold for business.

In front of the building was a yucca tree. There was a botany professor, whose name escapes me, on the faculty of the high school when Mr. Sturgis was there. He discovered the fact that a certain moth pollinated the yuccas. Later he taught in the University of California at Berkeley. I surmise that this tree was given to the Sturgis by this botanist.

The 900 block of D Street was the site of some interesting homes. At the northeast corner of Ninth and D Street was the two-story home of the Byron Waters family. He was a noted attorney. One of his daughters, Sylvia, was principal of Mt. Vernon School for years. The house was moved to Bunker Hill, south of town. The Greek Orthodox church used it and may still do as their sanctuary.

Another home on the east side of the street was that of Jonas Wood, a bank cashier. The bank he worked at was on the southeast corner of Third and E Street and was founded by the Roberts family. Mrs. Wood was a popular vocalist and was asked to sing at local dedications such as the soldier's monument in Pioneer Park. I believe she was a sister of Mrs. Ed Roberts. She was one of the ladies who took up the fight to save Pioneer Cemetery. She persuaded her sister, Mrs. Roberts, to donate a beautiful fountain and basin to be installed at a cross road in the cemetery. Where is it now?

North of Dr. Colliver's home, maybe next door, was a lovely two-story house, the home of Russ McGillvery, who owned a harness shop in the 300 block of Third Street. There were beautiful trees in the yard.

The Hawes family home was on the southeast corner of Ninth and D. It was quite large, made of red brick. There was one son in the family named Murray.

The N. B. Hale home was on the east side of D Street north of Eighth. It was a two-story, wooden structure with a nice yard and trees. Their daughter Leonore worked in the county recorder's office for years.

Town Creek crossed Eighth Street here. There was the usual wooden bridge to care for traffic. I can recall the clatter of horses' hooves as a buggy drove over the bridge. The corner of the streets here was rounded in order to make room for the bridge on the southwest side. There was a nice house on this corner lot surrounded by a wrought iron fence. The John Flagg family lived there until they built a house in the 600 block of Eighth Street. The Flagg house on the property is no longer there and the house the Santa Barbara Historical Society uses now was originally there or four houses down the street and was donated by the Santa Fe Building and Loan and moved to the corner lot where it now stands. This is where all the local historical artifacts are collected and displayed with open houses held and volunteers acting as docents. I belonged to this society and have given them some historical things from my home.

Judge Oster's home was on the west side of D street.



It was two stories and land was a few feet higher than the sidewalk. Many years later the Shields family lived there. George Shields was a real estate broker and his sister Edna worked in the Post Office.

The third house south of Eighth Street was a wooden house painted brown. There was a nice porch across the front. It was the home of Judge Ben Bledsoe and his family. He had two daughters. One of them married into the Rindge family who owned a huge ranch along the ocean front west of Santa Monica. Was it the Malibu land grant? Later, Fred Watkins bought the Bledsoe home. He was a court reporter. They had two children, a boy and a girl.

I believe a family by the name of Wood operated a mom-and-pop grocery store on the corner of Eighth and D or just below it. Perhaps a family by the name of MacElvaine had a home on the northeast corner of Seventh and D Streets. There was a huge black walnut tree in their backyard.

There was a big two-story house on the corner of Seventh and D northwest. I can't recall who built it. Later it was occupied by the App family who owned a candy shop on Third Street.

Jeff Daily owned several acres of land at the northeast corner of Base Line and E. He built a home there which I think was moved to a location in the northern part of town. His land was rented by the circus people, Ringling and Buffalo Bill Cody. The circus trains came on the Santa Fe tracks to I street where they were unloaded and the wondrous circus gear was taken to the property. All the kids in town were there, if they could get there, to watch and maybe help with the unloading. I recall with joy seeing the Wild West Show there. Pellets were thrown into the air and Buffalo Bill shot them down. There was a battle between the native Americans and soldiers. The native Americans paraded on ponies. Each pony dragged a travois, a frame of timbers and rawhide used by the native Americans to transport things. There was a colorful exhibition of Zuaves [a race of people] literally climbing up a straight wall. Whatever was taught in my schoolroom that day would long be forgotten, but not this exciting day at the circus. I was 12 or 13 at the time, so it would have been 1913 or 1914. My Aunt Sada took me.

The H. E. Harris family had a beautiful two-story home at the northwest corner of Tenth and G. Tall palm trees lined the curved driveway. Mr. Harris was a tall good looking man. He frequently walked home when the bank closed in the afternoon. Am I wrong in thinking he made his money in the mines as a partner of a Mr. Hubbard in Redlands? I believe Mrs. Harris was a Seventh Day Adventist. They had only one daughter, Pearl, who married Ralph Swing. They had one son, Everett, who became a lawyer and was active in public affairs following in his father's footsteps. Mrs. Pearl Swing died at an early age. Her parents donated an organ to the First Congregational Church in her memory.

We had a small farm where I lived with my two aunts at 860 F Street. That meant we had a horse, Old Dick, and a Jersey cow, Betsy. When she would go dry, I can remember my aunt would hitch up the buggy, put a halter on Betsy and send for Lester and Charles Nichols, the neighbor's boys. Off they would go to east Sixth Street where the Doyle family had grazing land. There Betsy would stay until time to return.

The Doyle family had several boys and one girl, Mary. Jim Doyle worked for the Allen Iron Works. He had a wonderful memory and should have written a history of San Bernardino and its people. Ed Doyle became coroner. He married Helen Mullen and they raised six children. There was some relationship between the Doyle family and the Byrne family. The Byrne family had a beautiful home on Fifth Street in the 500 block. Were Mr. Doyle and Mrs. Byrne brother and sister?

The Pacific Electric had a street car line that ran from Arrowhead Springs to Colton. There, water from the spring was put into tank cars and sent to thirsty Los Angeles. This line was kept open long after the street cars were taken off. The water tank cars rumbled up and down for years. Now it is trucked. The street cars stopped at Mountain View and Highland Avenue, down Third to Mount Vernon then to Colton. It was the only transportation kids going to school and business people going to work had for many a year.

I believe the J. I. Baxter Livery Stables were located on the west side of D Street north of Fourth. Did the tallyhos [a horse-drawn conveyance for transportation which could be rented] go there? If a family wanted to take visiting relatives around the Valley, they could rent a horse and buggy. This reminds me that freight was hauled by drays [drays were low wagons with big wheels drawn by one or two horses, used to carry heavy furniture and supplies]. Some members of the Boehm family had drays as did the Heap family. At one time they stabled horses in a barn at the corner of Union and F. The Heaps also had storage buildings.

In the early days, groceries were delivered by horse and small wagons. The undertakers had elegant hearses drawn by horses. The sides were glass lined and encased in black casings. Early day undertakers were Barton and Catick. Mark B. Shaw left the ministry to become an undertaker. His first mortuary was the Johnson home at the northeast corner of Fifth and E. This house was moved to the 100 block of Eighth Street. The second Shaw mortuary was a new building in the middle of the block of Fifth Street between D and E. They remained there until a new site was chosen on the East side of Waterman Avenue and Gilbert Street.

Part Two appears in the next issue.



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