

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM  
1333 Butte House Road  
P. O. Box 1555  
Yuba City, CA 95991

# SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWS BULLETIN

VOL. VIII, NO. 3

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA (95991)

OCTOBER, 1969



SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. VIII, No. 3

October, 1969

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COVER PICTURE

The Sutter-Brittan Grammer School, Washington Street, Sutter City.  
dedicated on September 9, 1888. In 1893 Sutter High School was established  
and used the upper floor classrooms.

Published quarterly by the Society at Yuba City, California 95991  
Annual membership dues of \$2.00 includes receiving the NEWS BULLETIN.  
Life membership is \$25.00. Send your remittance to Lola Case, Treasurer,  
P. O. Box 1266, Yuba City, 95991.

#### THE OCTOBER MEETING!

The regular meeting of the Society will be held at 7:30 P. M. Tuesday, the 21st at the Superior Court Room, Sutter County Court House.

Kirby Harris, who wrote an excellent article on the history of the Marysville and Yuba City Street Railway, will present his material on the early fire departments of the area. Fires used to be very, very important - they usually were so big.

#### THE SUTTER COUNTY LIBRARY

A resource agency for those interested in local history.

Material available on Sutter County History (continued from Vol. VIII No. 2)

Much information may be found in the California Blue Book or State Roster. In some issues there is better coverage than in others, but the material is well arranged and easy to find. We start with the 1891 edition to the present.

We now have a microfilm reader and all the Sutter County Papers are microfilmed and indexed up to 1967. We have many Marysville papers and will purchase more in the future as they are microfilmed. The Marysville papers give more Sutter County coverage than the Sutter County papers, as they were dailies and in most cases ours have been weeklies.

There are several hundred important books in our Californiana section (which can only be used in the library) but it takes a great deal of searching to uncover the information which may be desired.

## The Marysville and Yuba City Railroad Co. (Continued)

### Where are we?

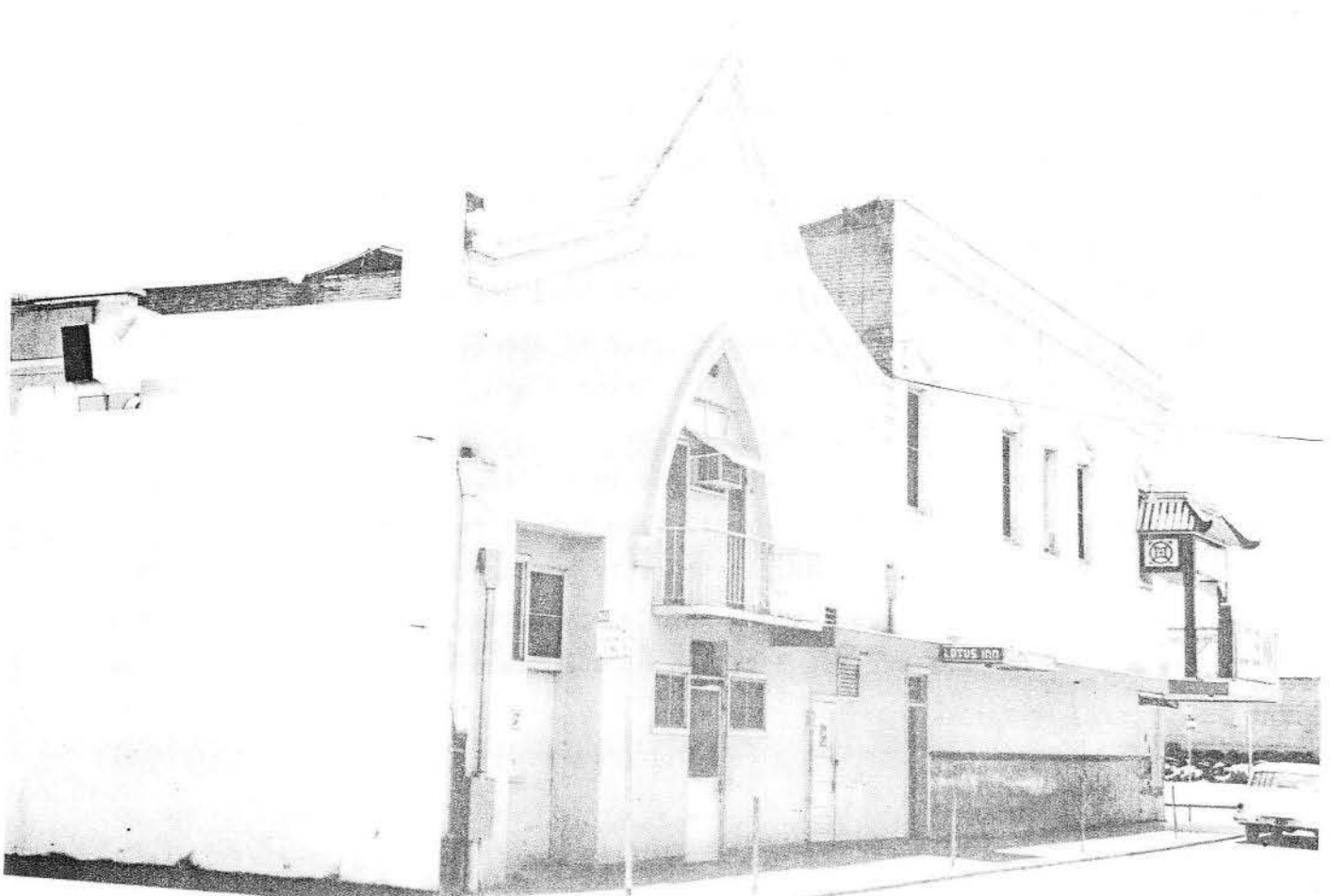
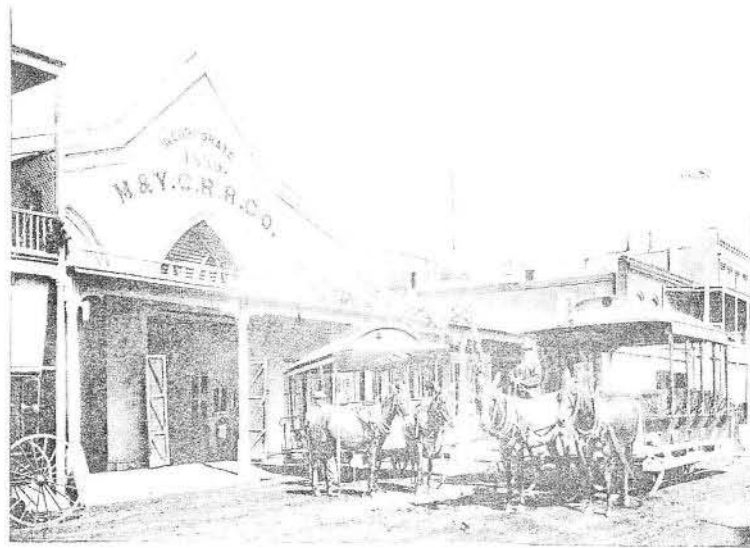
Clues supplied by Earl Ramey to pictures in the last issue of the NEWS BULLETIN, Vol. VIII, No. 2.

The D. Coughlin, Shoeing sign is the key. Dennis Coughlin had his blacksmith shop at 215 C Street (the east side). Therefore the reader is looking north on C Street from near 2nd Street immediately in front of the carbarn and stable. (See map on page 6 of the July issue.) The lower left corner of the picture shows a rail of the track leading into the barn.

The top picture on the following page is the front of the carbarn with the winter and summer cars displayed. The car on the right is in the position of the car in the picture on page 4. Notice closely the form of the building. This picture was owned by Mrs. Sadie Peck whose daughter, Mrs. Ida Davis, gave permission for its use. The man standing on the left is Frank Peck, brother of Mrs. Davis, who was burned in the Marysville Woolen Mill fire in 1899. The man on the right car is Thomas Peirano, father of Mrs. Winnie Peirano Greene, writer of the article in the last issue on Marysville and Yuba City Railroad Co.

The lower picture is of the building behind the present-day Lotus Inn on Oak Street north of 2nd. It is the rear of the old carbarn that extended the half block between Maiden Lane (Oak Street) and C Street. This picture was taken in August 1969 John L. Lewin.

The building used as the carbarn was built before 1856 and is pictured on the map of Marysville of that year. The Museum has a copy of the map on display and so does the Engineer of the City of Marysville, City Hall. On the map the building is occupied by the Centre Market, with the Masonic Hall immediately to the north. The location of the Masonic Hall is now a parking lot.



MEMORABILIA

SUTTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Special thanks to Mrs. Betty Epperson of Sutter, Mr. Bill Robinson of the Sutter County Schools Office, and Mr. John Lewin for the following items. The pictures were from the files of the Society's Museum, the Sutter County Library, and Mr. Lewin.

The Grammar Schools in Sutter County in 1879 from a History of Sutter County, Thompson and West:

Auburn	Hill	Prairie
Barry	Jerrerson	Rome
Bear River	Illinois	Salem
Browns	Knights	Slough
Brittan	Lee	Sutter
Central	Lincoln	Union
Clay	Live Oak	Vernon
Columbia	Marcum	Washington
Eagle	Meridian	West Butte
Fair View	Murray	Winship
Franklin	Nicolaus	Willow Pond
Gaither	North Butte	Yuba
Grant	Noyes	

Some of the schools had first, second, and third grades but most of them had nine grades. Many pupils at that time were seven or eight years old before going to school. Because of transportation or the need to help on the farms, some pupils could not go the full school term. Others who were fortunate enough to continue with their education beyond the ninth grade looked forward to the building of a high school.

In 1893, Sutter Union High School was established and used the upper floor classrooms of the two-story building built in 1888. This was the first Sutter County high school, students coming from Yuba City, Live Oak, and many nearby districts.

FIRST COMMENCEMENT of SUTTER CITY UNION HIGH SCHOOL

June 2, 1896

1. Chorus
2. Invocation                      Rev. L. C. Renfro
3. Solo                                Miss Ruth Davis
4. Essay and Salutary            Miss Maude Hawley
5. Solo                                Missie Smith
6. Class Poem, "Looking Backward," Miss Florence Davis
7. Quartette, Misses Blythe Campbell, Josie Hawley, Mattie Bruce,  
Bertha Lisle
8. Essay                                William Hoffman  
   "Shall Our Schools be Socialistic?"
9. Solo                                Miss Florence Davis
10. Essay and Valedictory      Miss Hattie Wren  
   "Women in the Twentieth Century"
11. Instrumental Music
12. Address                          Prof. Washington Wilson
13. Solo                                Miss May Kimball
14. Presentation of Fasces
15. Instrumental Music
16. Presentation of Diplomas -  
   Hattie Wren  
   Maude Sommers Hawley  
   Florence Josephine Davis  
   William Thomas Hoffman

STUDENTS OF THE SUTTER BRITTAN SCHOOL

1890 - 1891

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ray Powell          | 30. Addie Summy              |
| 2. Ernest Gibson       | 31. Anna Lisle               |
| 3. John Gardemeyer     | 32. Roy Gilkie               |
| 4. Frank De Witt       | 33. Arthur Gilkie            |
| 5.           Hardman   | 34.                          |
| 6. Julius Jacobs       | 35. Rose Poole               |
| 7. Joe Lemenager       | 36.                          |
| 8. Cassius Epperson    | 37. Cornelia Forderhase      |
| 9. Frank Forderhase    | 38. Jessie Saye              |
| 10. Arthur Schellenger | 39. Mattie Brittan (Teacher) |
| 11. May Ramey          | 40. Roland Hawley            |
| 12. Lena Lytken        | 41.                          |
| 13. Annie Jacobs       | 42. Frank Lemenager          |
| 14.                    | 43. Mary Hamilton            |
| 15. Leona Lemenager    | 44. Salina Lemenager         |
| 16. Ivy Beer           | 45.                          |
| 17. Leslie Dannenberg  | 46.                          |
| 18. Nellie Hamilton    | 47.                          |
| 19. Annie Lytken       | 48.                          |
| 20. Mamie Poole        | 49. Neil Jacobs              |
| 21. Annie Christman    | 50. Fred Simmons             |
| 22.                    | 51. Alec Dannenberg          |
| 23. Bertha Summy       | 52. Will Ellington           |
| 24. Bert Dannenberg    | 53. Louis Smith              |
| 25. Bert Paxton        | 54. Ward Madison             |
| 26.                    | 55. Edna Poole               |
| 27. Howard Smith       | 56. Pearl Ellington          |
| 28. Handy Epperson     | 57.                          |
| 29.                    |                              |





Pictures from the ledger:

The preceding ledgers are from the Sutter County School Superintendent-

68		1870 Jefferson School	
Jan	5	By County School fund apportioned	Dr \$129.10
"	11	By Special Tax collected by G. J. Stabler Dist. atty	Dr 6.35
"	26	By " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 8.25
March	9	By State School fund Apportioned this date	Dr 55.07
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 6.12
April	28	By Special District Tax collected by W. F. Peck, collector	Dr 120.00
May	11	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 6.35
July	1	By State fund brought from page 32	Dr 1.2
			<u>\$453.97</u>
1870			
July	1	By balance Special fund on hand	Dr 15.10
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 5.12
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 6.12
Sept	1	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 2.57

state and \$5.07 from special taxes. As one can see, the library fund was 10% of the state fund. For the year 1870 this was \$6.12. Unfortunately,

1870			
Dec	10	To Warrant in favor of Katie Thompson, Teacher	Dr 115 15.00
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 116 35.36
1871			
Jan	9	To Warrant " " B. F. Sapp Bookkeeper Teacher	Dr 10 7.00
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 11 30.00
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 12 5.00
"	21	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 31 57.62
Feb	27	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 62 71.25
March	10	To " " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 71 12.67
"	23	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 90 25.60
"	30	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 96 20.00
July	1	By Balance cash on hand this date	Dr 23.90
			<u>\$401.70</u>
1871			
Oct	14	To Warrant in favor of J. J. Donald Teaching	Dr 175 86.96
Dec	15	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 231 170.00
1872	Jan 3	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 231 140.00
April	24	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 343 16.49
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 344 13.59
"	"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Dr 345 6.00

The preceding ledgers are from the Sutter County School Superintendent's Journal for the years 1868 to 1876.

The accounts receivable ledger gives the monetary sources needed by the Jefferson School District, \$129.10 apportioned from the county, \$55.07 from the state, and \$263.10 from "special tax" collections. One can only surmise what the "special tax" might have been. A school property tax? The passage of a school bond? A form of head tax on families with enrolled students? Having the district attorney and sometimes the sheriff collect it, gives this special tax even more mystery.

For the entire school year of 1870, \$483.68 was allotted for the Jefferson District and its thirty students for the payment of teachers, purchase of books, supplies, etc.; this is equivalent to \$16.00 per student per year. When the \$16.00 is broken down, \$4.30 comes from the county, \$1.83 from the state and \$9.87 from special taxes. As one can see, the library fund was 10% of the state fund. For the year 1870 this was \$6.12. Unfortunately, the purchase of books in most districts was very infrequent. This library money lay idle until 1873--four school years later!

The information provided in the debit ledger is again nebulous and stretches one's deductive powers even more. For example, how long is the school year? Based on the payments to the teacher, late November to the first week in March may have been the length of the year. If this is so, Hattie Thompson's salary then, would be about \$65.00 per month plus room and board provided by B. F. Sapp. In districts of close proximity, sharing of a teacher for part of the year was sometimes necessary if one of the districts could not get its own full-time teacher. Certainly, in emergency

cases one of the more intelligent of the community might temporarily substitute as in the case of W. F. Peck. He is the tax collector, and with favor from the Board, the District's teacher for April and May.

Of interest also is the relationship between taking the census and the school district. Since most district ledgers carry census payments at random years rather than the decade years, it would seem the census was a county or state affair and not federal. Its significance, however, is not clear.

Between the years 1868 and 1876, 35 school districts existed, containing (as in 1874) about 1,300 students. Some districts had less than 20 students, indicating that where pockets of people existed, school districts were created. Some of these districts still exist such as Yuba, Franklin, Lincoln, Nicolaus, and Sutter. But others have disappeared such as Barney, Eagle, Lee, Myers, Salem, and Willow Pond. If any of the Society's readers can enlighten us on any of the above incongruities and changes, drop a note to the Editor, care of the Sutter County Museum, 114 Carriage Square, Yuba City, California 95991.

THE SUTTER COUNTY FARMER

Yuba City, Sutter County, California  
February 28, 1902

Favor a Union High School Here--Preliminary Steps Taken, and another meeting called for next Wednesday evening--As per call issued, a number of the residents of Yuba City met at the Court House last Monday evening to discuss the proposition of establishing a Union High School at this place. A. C. McLaughlin acted as chairman, and L. H. Woodworth as secretary, and those who took part in the discussion were Lawrence Schillig, M. E. Sanborn, C. G. Kline, C. H. Potter, and others. It was the sense of the meeting that a Union High School district be formed, and A. H. Hewitt, Lawrence Schillig, and C. G. Kline were appointed as a committee to look up the law relative to the proper course of procedure, make estimates of cost of securing the old school building here, ascertain the amount of taxable property in Yuba and surrounding districts, cost of maintaining the present school, and such other information as would be necessary. Said committee to report at a meeting to be held next Wednesday, March 5th at 7:30 P. M. at the Court House.

As far as could be ascertained, the principal district interest is Yuba, with a property valuation of over six hundred thousand dollars, and the districts adjacent thereto would be Live Oak, Franklin, Lincoln, and Barry, with probably Gaither and Central, making from one and one-half to two millions of dollars of assessable property. The matter of said districts coming into the Union district would be voluntary on their part, of course.

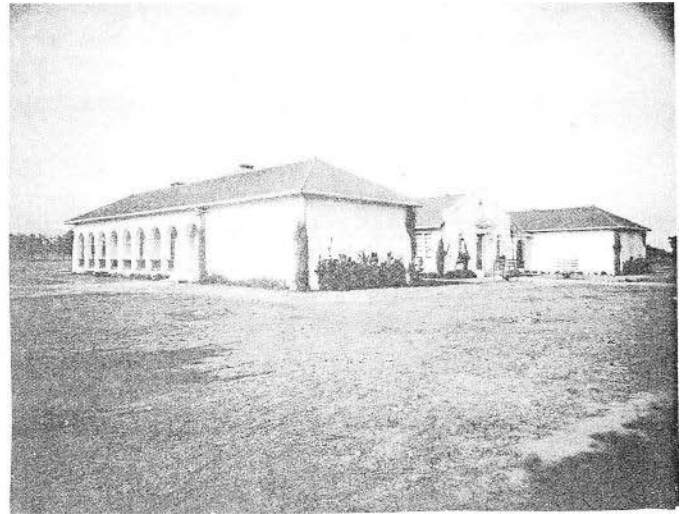
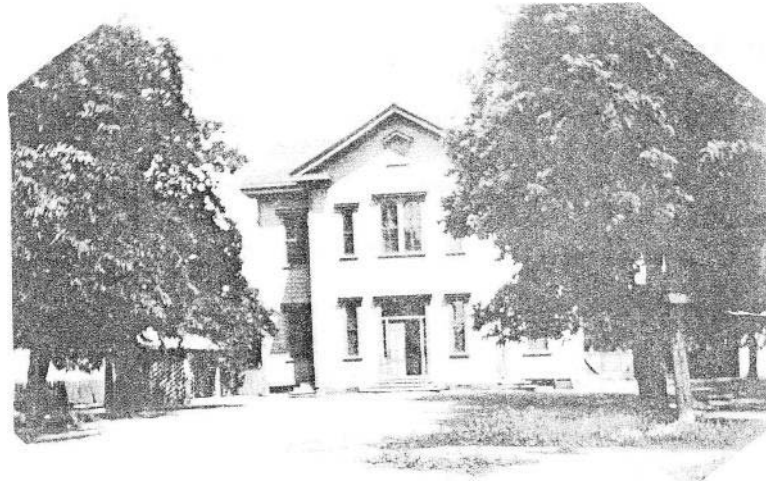
Under the law, the first steps to be taken as soon as the question is decided upon, would be the circulation of petitions in the various districts.

If the majority of the heads of families in each district sign the petition, the County Superintendent will call an election to vote on the proposition. If a majority of the voters are in favor of the Union district, mass meetings are called and a trustee selected in each respective district. Said trustees will then meet, select a site, and proceed with the establishment of a school. It is understood that the old building and lot here could be purchased and made suitable for the purposes required, at a total cost of from \$1200 to \$1500, and that to maintain a good school with two teachers, would require from \$3000 to \$4000 per annum. The increased number of pupils attending the Marysville High School from this vicinity and the decided increase in the tuition this term, together with the prospect of the disposal of the old school building here, has had much to do with the recent agitation of the matter, and it is to be hoped that all interested will attend the meeting next Wednesday evening to hear the report of the committee, and to decide what future action will be taken.

February 14, 1902

The residence of A. G. Bremer on 2nd Street had a close call from being burned one evening last week. The ashes from a pipe set fire to an umbrella which stood against the wall on which was hanging some clothing. The umbrella was burned, as was also a coat, and the wall scorched and a hole burned in the carpet before the fire was discerned. It was soon extinguished.

Credit for the preceding items from old files of the Sutter County Farmer are due Winnie Greene



The above pictures are in this order:

1. The first school in Yuba City, built in 1856 at McRae Way and C Streets and destroyed by fire in 1900.
2. The Yuba City Grammar School on the corner of Bridge and Plumas Streets at the time of the flood of 1907.
3. Sutter High School built in 1913 and burned in 1961.