



THE BOARD AND BATTEN

Newsletter of the Pacific Grove Heritage Society

August/September 1990

The Inside Stories

☞ Paris Kilburn

Republican
Assemblyman for
Monterey in 1881

☞ Others Saw Us Through Postcards

Street Scene of Pacific
Grove c.1909

☞ Down The Piney Path

Interesting news of
Pacific Grove from
the Fall of 1889

☞ The Pacific Grove High School Orchestra

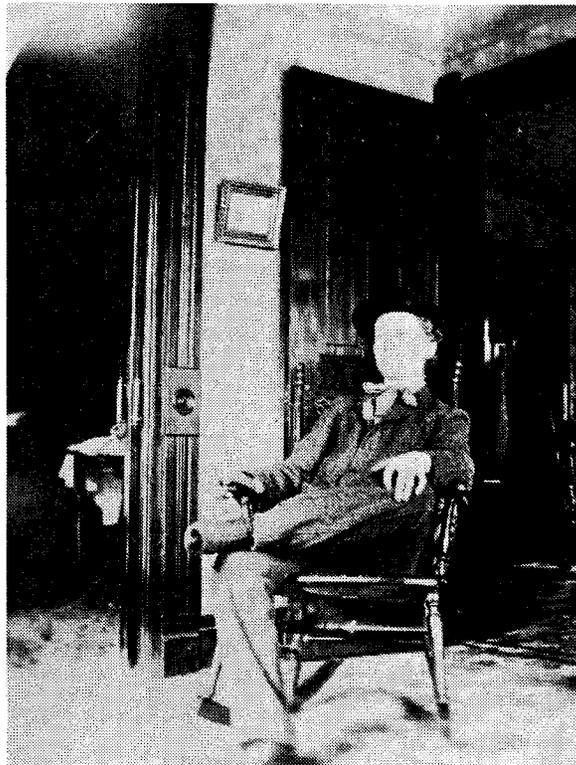
Finally brought to
fruition in 1919

☞ Pacific Grove City Orchestra

A source of
community pride and
pleasure in 1910

☞ San Jose Home Tour

All Dressed Up And No Place To Go?



Probably ... considering early Pacific Grove! It's more likely, however, that this woman is all dressed up to have her picture taken inside her home in turn-of-the-century Pacific Grove. Unfortunately, we do not know her name or address.

Paris Kilburn

❖ by E. C. Davis

Paris Kilburn, Republican Assemblyman for the Monterey area in 1881, was born in Pennsylvania and came to California by way of Panama with his parents in 1852. The family first lived in Napa County, where they were fruit growers. Paris Kilburn married in the late 1860s and settled in the Salinas Valley as one of the pioneer wheat growers. He farmed thousands of acres in the San Joaquin Valley and also near Chualar (1874) where he had a home. He had three children.

After serving his term in the Assembly, he was sent as a delegate to the National Republican Convention of 1888. At this time he continued as a farmer in the Salinas Valley. In 1889 he was appointed Surveyor for the Port of San Francisco for four years and also served for four years as President of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, and the State Banking Commission. He was a member of the A.O.U.W. as well as various agricultural associations.

In 1892 the Registrar of Voters states that Paris was five feet six inches tall, had blue eyes and a light complexion. At that time he lived in Salinas. Six years before his death in 1909, he went to live in Pacific Grove (120 Fountain) and used his influence in getting a \$10,000 donation from the Carnegie Foundation for the public library. He was there daily to help with the service.

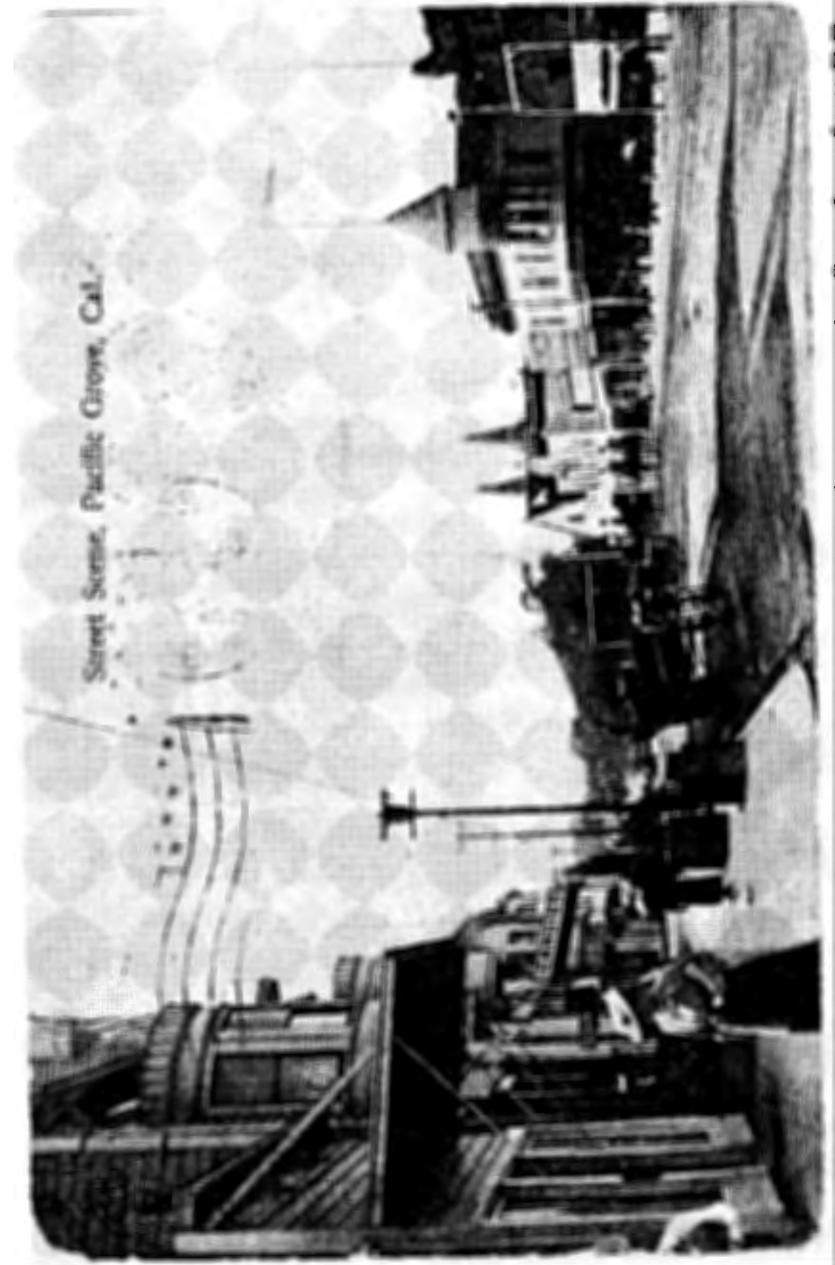
His uncle, General Kilburn, was stationed in San Francisco for many years and was far-famed for his role in the Seminole Indian wars in Florida, the Mexican War, and the Civil War. It may be worth noting that the old Presidio of Monterey was a forgotten post until around 1903, when it was built into a substantial base.

Editor's Note: Before moving to Pacific Grove permanently in 1903, he and his family visited often, living in a tent on their property from 1883 through 1896. A small house was built in 1897 and the current house was built in 1907. After his death in 1909, the house was sold to Jessie K. Leighton.

Tuttle's Cash Register At The Barn

A brass, four drawer, National Cash Register (Model 104) is on display at the Barn. Built in November 1905 for Charles K. Tuttle of Pacific Grove, it was used in his pharmacy on Lighthouse Avenue for many years. It was recently restored by Domenic Villari and loaned to the Heritage Society for long-term display.

Others Saw Us Through Postcards



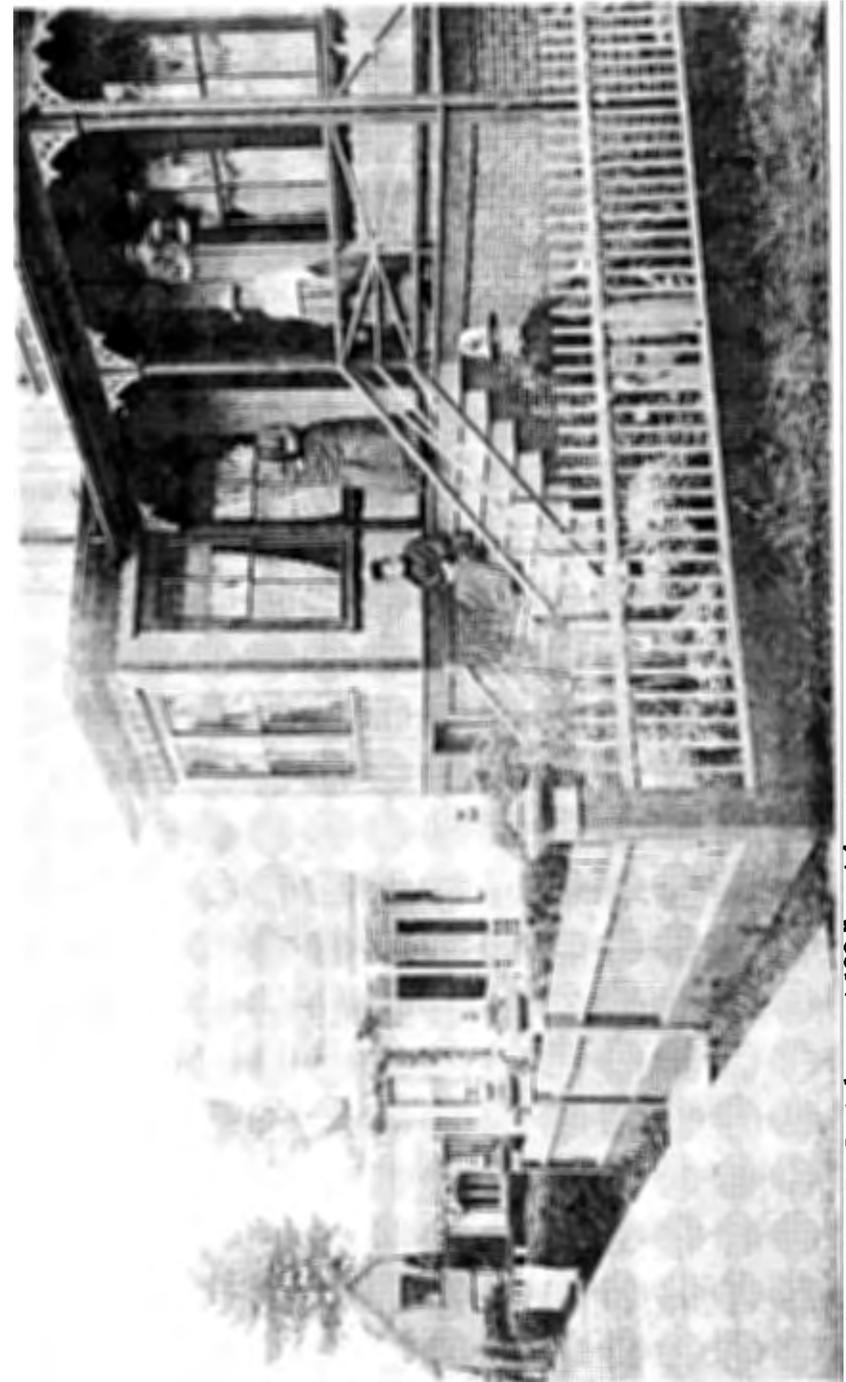
October 14, 1909: Hello Alta. Rather slow but better late than never. Am fine. Love from B.K.

DOWN THE PINEY PATH

*News of Pacific Grove from the Monterey WEEKLY CYPRESS
(Aug-Nov 1889).*

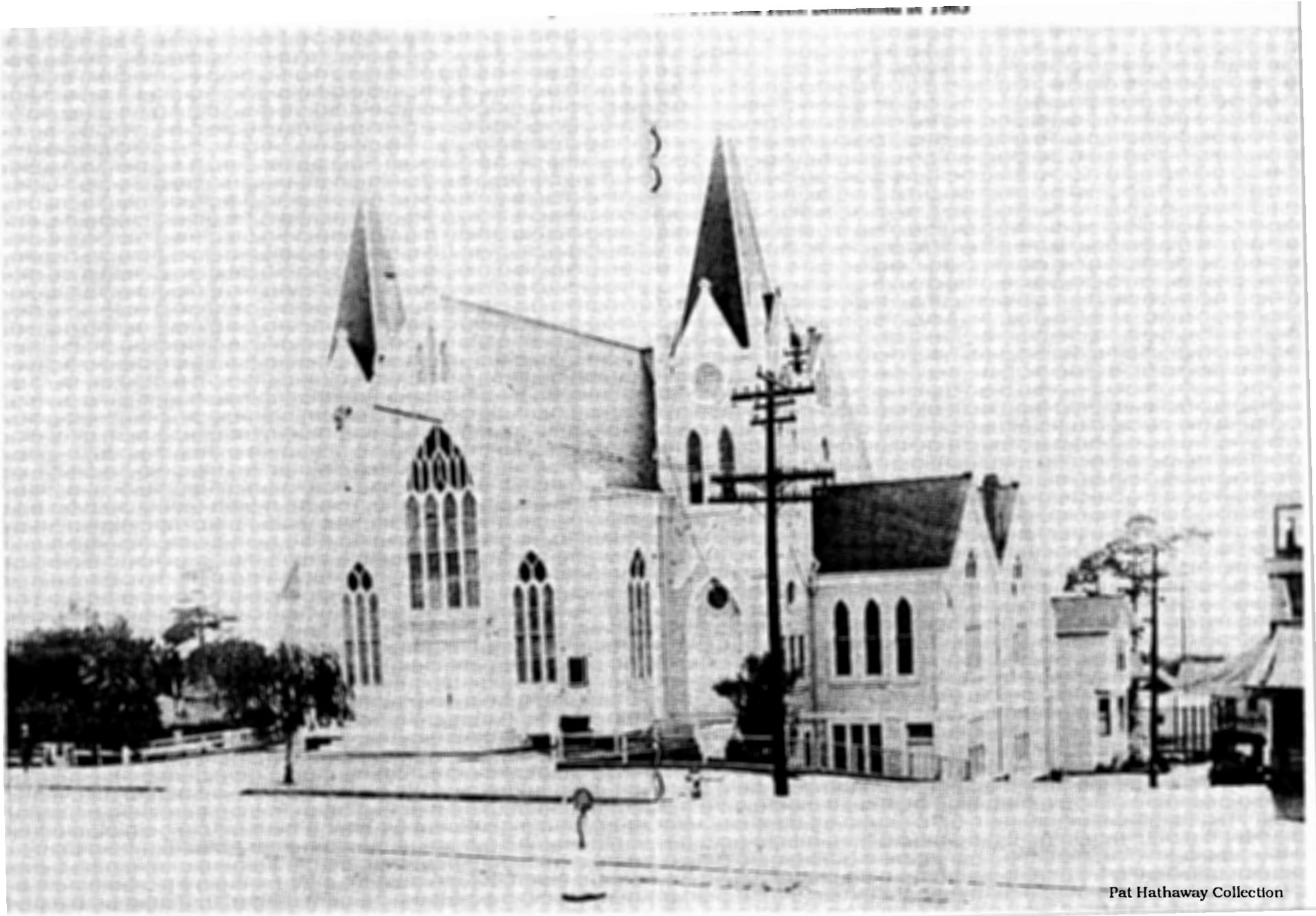
❖ by E.C. Davis

- The yacht NAUTILUS sailed for Santa Cruz with a party of ladies and gentlemen August 14th.
- Considering the lateness of the season, the Grove is still crowded and furnished houses are scarce.
- A corps of surveyors are now at work surveying the Pescadero, presumably for a new town.
- The City Trustees pass a resolution, thanking H. D. Stone for presenting the city with a (fire) hose cart.
- Skaters at the rink endeavored to break the rules of the Grove by dancing first a quadrille and then a waltz. The manager then closed the rink and paid off the Monterey City Band and thus saved the reputation of the city of the pines.
- The rumor is going around that the Railroad Company is contemplating rolling mills, machine shops, etc., such as it has now in Sacramento. The company has any amount of land here and the climate, fuel and shipping facilities will be so much better than at the capital city that the move is not at all among the improbabilities.
- A local Chautauqua Circle was organized at the Grove for the first week of October.
- A farewell party was tendered the departing boarders of Mrs. Dr. Roe last week by the hostess (at 123 Forest).
- The ladies of the Grove M.E. (Methodist Episcopal) church will give a basket social in the West Chapel October 18th. Everybody invited.
- The El Carmelo Hotel closed up October 15th and several of the railroad boys who were boarding there had to hunt another place to roost.
- Hon. Paris Kilburn and his wife are staying at Pacific Grove for a few weeks.
- The El Carmelo Hotel re-opened November 1 with Mr. C. D. Stewart as manager. It is his intention to keep the hotel open all winter.



Boarders at Mrs. Dr. Roe's house at 123 Forest Avenue.

The old M. E. Church on Lighthouse between 17th and 18th Demolished in 1922



Pat Hathaway Collection

The High School Orchestra

(from the 1919 Sea Urchin)

In bygone years there was once a rumor that the beginning of an orchestra in the High School was a fact, and a feeble attempt was even heard inside the walls. A later rumor says that as recently as 1912 another movement was made, only to die for want of fostering care and lack of interest. It remained for the year 1919 to revive the musical flame. After many and varied attempts and determined efforts of Miss Irene Wilkins, music instructor, the talents in hiding under different bushels were brought forth, and the Pacific Grove High School Orchestra gave its maiden performance at the High School, February 14th, when it assisted the Boys' Glee Club at an entertainment. Although the organization has been working together a very limited time, it has a fairly large repertory. This includes the works of the best composers, classical and modern. So far they have appeared very creditably at a community dinner and Red Cross affair, as well as in concert.



The personnel of the orchestra is as follows: Violins: Virginia Rathbone, Walter Mahon, Edward Francis, Fred Peden; clarinet, William Cummings, Jr.; flute, Harold Stalter; cornets: Talbot Harlan, Henry Mack; pianist, Elizabeth Buford; drums and taps, Emil Shifley.

Pacific Grove City Orchestra Started

(from the October 15, 1910 Del Monte Weekly)

One of the institutions of which Pacific Grove is very proud is the orchestra which was started a month ago. Although it is only a month old and has not yet even been named — "the baby has not been christened yet," as the members say — it is a very lusty infant and makes lots of noise already. Miss Lola Lawrey is the leading spirit in the affair and with great energy and executive ability has gone ahead in making her plans for organization and then carrying them out with marked success.

There is much talent among the young people of the peninsula and there are about thirty young people who are already willing and anxious to join. They have as their leader Camillo, a director of wide experience, and are planning to give a concert soon after the holidays. It is too soon yet to say much as to the program, but the purpose of the society is to study some of the more important works of real merit, and they are working now on some lovely things of Wagner and Hayden.

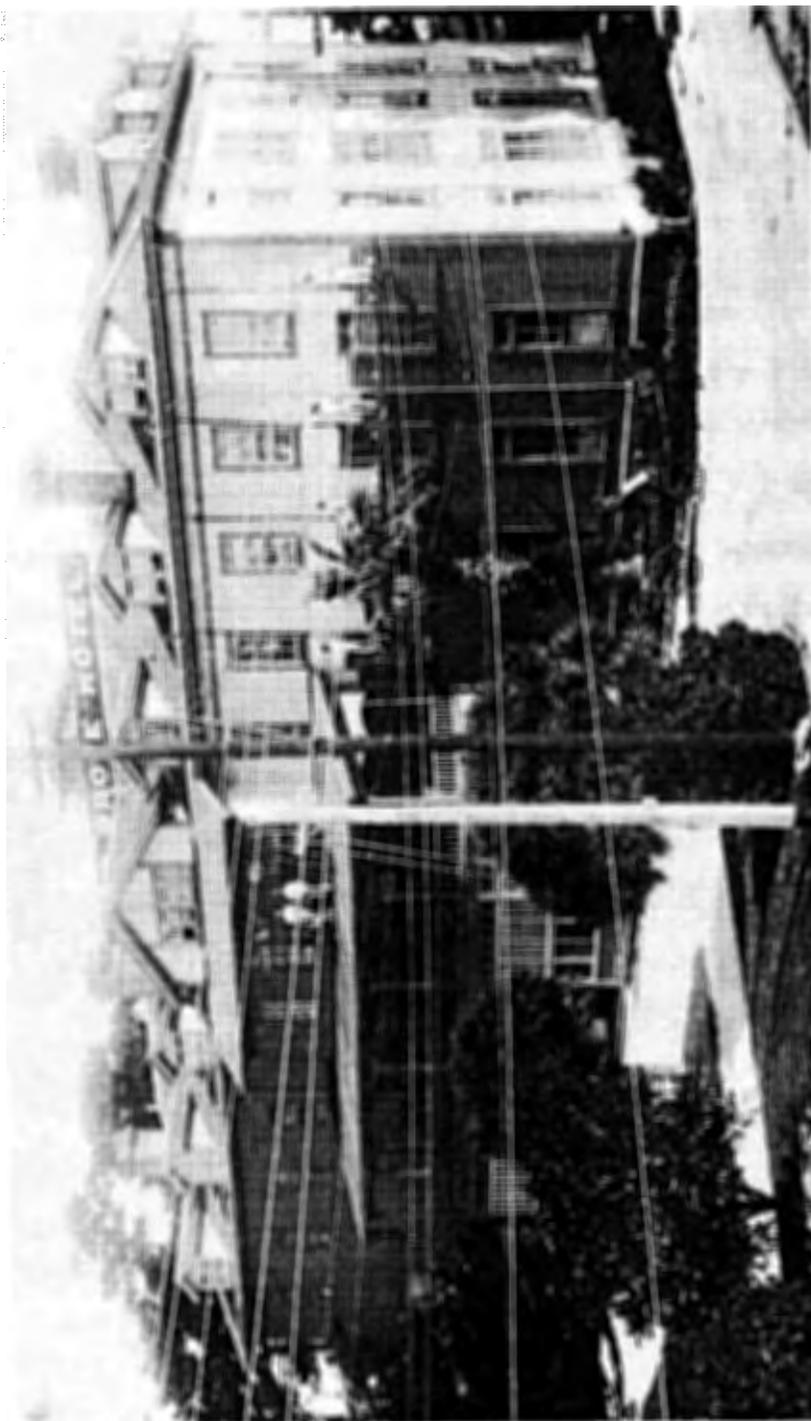
A great deal is expected from this orchestra, for besides being a source of great pleasure and profit to the musicians themselves, their friends are looking forward with much pleasure to the concerts which will be given once in awhile.

Another institution which has sprung into popular favor almost at its birth, so to speak, is the Shakespeare Study Club, which is under the direction of the educational section of the Women's Club. Mrs. Richmond Wheeler of Salinas, who is widely known and widely loved for the excellence of her scholarship and the unassuming sweetness of her personality, conducts the class, and is planning a delightful course of study for the winter.

The Girls' Glee Club

(From the 1919 Sea Urchin)

Have you gone past the High School late in the afternoon and heard strains of sweetest music? It is the Girls' Glee Club, reorganized at the first of the year with Miss Wilkins as director. It consists of about twenty-five girls. This year the officers were elected as follows: President, Athlene Spoon; vice-president, Mary Hall; secretary, Lucille Fox; pianist, Elizabeth Buford.



The El Carmelo Hotel being painted after being renamed the Pacific Grove Hotel around 1900.

San Jose Home Tour

The Victorian Preservation Association of Santa Clara Valley is sponsoring a Fall House Tour on Saturday, October 27, 1990 from noon until 5 pm. The four San Jose houses on the tour were built between 1870 and 1887. Further information may be obtained from Barbara Conley at (408) 279-2864.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Claudine Van Fleet
Dena & John Weber
Sylvia Ann Ostenso
Judith Gilbert-Forcina
Herbert & Roxana Blanks

Eva Chinn
Mrs. L. McNiece
Robin & Lydia Medany
Jane Olson
Mayo Hayes O'Donnell
Library

Share The Heritage With A Friend Annual Family Membership \$10.00

Members receive *The Board and Batten* newsletter of the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove.

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✂ Please return to The Pacific Grove Heritage Society
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*The
Heritage Society
of Pacific Grove*

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