



HISTORY

of the

HEADSBURG KIWANIS CLUB

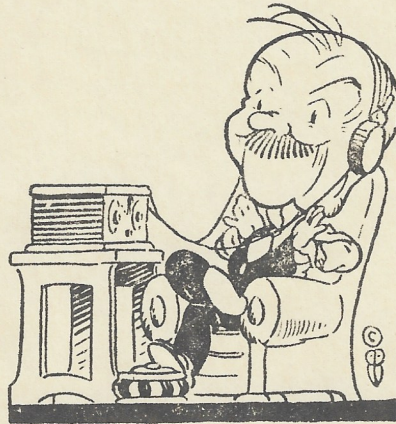
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JULIUS MYRON ALEXANDER

HISTORIAN

1924





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California

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Abridged because of the high cost of Stationery and the
financial shortage of the Historian.

a beauty parlor, where Kiwanians are made to look un-natural. Another room is where a preacher tells about the good things Kiwanians have done, while they were walking around; of their punctual attendance and how they lived until they died. It is kind of a "Good-bye" room.. The front room has pictures and ferns and easy chairs. It also has a desk and a fountain pen. . That is where little bits of bills are made for Kiwanian widows to pay. Sometimes Fred smokes a cigarette, while sitting in the front room and thinking about the days when he was an aviator. Fred is married so he does not think aloud. Just why an undertaker should join the Kiwanian Club we do not understand for the club has three doctors and a preacher and has pure food at the hotel where they eat every Tuesday. Undertakers usually look far ahead so I guess Fred sized up the combination.

History has to begin somewhere and by a combination of circumstances, the Healdsburg Kiwanis Club began at an undertaking parlor and we hope if it ever ends it will not be so doelful.

Sometime before June 25th, 1923, Nathan Combs and Frank Kean arrived in Healdsburg. They picked up George Imrie, Joe Miller and Doc Julien Wright and met Fred Young down at his parlors. There they held a big conclave and pow-wow . A record was not kept of the meeting so a date for this particular session is not available It is perhaps just as well that they did not keep a detailed record.

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"Once upon a Time", everybody likes a story that begins that way. Every history should be dignified, but we are not going to write a story about King Tut and after we are dead we just want our written history to be so simple that our Kiwanis children can understand it.

Flying machines, automobiles, bobbed hair and birth control have modernized history. It is now necessary for the writer to also modernize and cut off his long whiskers and renovate his locks, else the reader will not have any more use for history than does Henry Detroit.

Now we are going to begin: Once upon a time, there lived in Healdsburg, on Russian River, near Pitch Mountain, in Sonoma County, California, an undertaker. A simple though historic statement. The undertaker was small of stature, quick footed and alive. Historically it will be necessary to mention names, so the undertakers name was Fred Young, at least he will tell you that is his name, but his real baptismal name is Rufus Frederick Young. Fred was an aviator during the late conflict. Now most of his work is confined to the ground or to be more explicit, just a little underneath the earth. The undertaking parlors where Fred operates is in a one story building with four rooms. In one room he keeps lovely caskets

said: "Nate I guess you had better study law. It will not pay for you to talk all the time to the potatoes and onions"; so Nate went to school, read the Bible and Aesop's Fables. After he finished school he kept on talking, so Napa County gave him a job as District Attorney and paid him a salary for talking. Frank Kean the State Organizer was also there. He was a good fellow and some talker and he and Nate stepped on the gas and let-er-go. The traffic officer never heard about the meeting until it was too late. Doc Julian Wright gave up his practice for a few minutes to lend dignity to the meeting. Joe Miller got excused from the Bank work, for the rest and recuperation, George Imrie gave his dry herring some water and trudged along with the other boys down to Fred's place. That made a party of five, some boys too they were to concoct a mixture after due deliberation. Then after awhile, in the dark of the moon that same bunch got together again at the undertaking parlors. This time they added some more fellows to their bunch. Sometimes fellows write their names on the plaster to leave a record but these boys never left a line for the benefit of historians. One was a lank lean fellow and another was weighty and thick set. They evidently selected the different kinds to show the diversity of products of the Napa Kiwanians. From that meeting they adjourned to meet at the Healdsburg Legion Hall on the date of June 15th, 1923. About 25 of the good Kawanian bunch came over from Napa that day at which time they appointed the "Key-men". They have had good reasons for calling them "Key-men". We used to know a fellow that always carried a bunch of keys in his pocket. He was just an ordinary keyman but he made a practice

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Nathan Combs was born on a ranch near Napa City. His father and mother were pioneers so Nat himself claims to be a junior pioneer. When he was a child he talked all the time and charmed

is now in jail but a Kiwanian Keyman is evidently a different kind of a man. At the meeting they approved and appointed Doc Wright, Fred Young, Joe Miller and George Imrie as the boss Keymen. These fellows appointed eight others whose names we will not put in print. It is probable that their thumb prints were taken before they were turned loose. Your Historian was not one of them so he avoided having his picture taken and his hair bobbed. At that meeting they elected temporary officers. Joe Miller was named for President, Ralph Williams for Secretary and George Imrie for Treasurer.

June 29th, 1923 a meeting was held at the Plaza Hotel. At that meeting a committee was appointed for recommendation of permanent officers to report at a meeting to be held July 3rd, 1923. At the organization meeting at a luncheon at the Plaza Hotel, a bunch of good fellows came over from the Napa Kiwanis Club to help us get started. The Napa Kiwanis Club was the God-father of the Healdsburg Club. At that meeting they sang for us and told us a lot of stories. The Club members elected the following permanent officers. Joe Miller, President, George Imrie Vice President, Charley Comstock Secretary and Mike Cummings District Trustee, and G. W. Hayes Treasurer. At the meeting of August 13th, the Club got down to real business and talked over and indorsed Civic affair improvements. On August 28th, it was moved and carried that the Club sponsor the Lytton Band on their trip to Sacramento in a competitive play to be held Sept, 2nd,. President Joe Miller was also presented with a President's button. November 3rd, was set as the night for Charter Presentation. Brother Bill Hill was authorized to put on a dinner and a committee appointed to formulate a programme and take charge of the affair. Many

On the evening of January 8th, a meeting was held at the Plaza Hotel for the purpose of installing the newly elected officers. Lieut. Governor Nathan Coombs of Napa was present and officiated. The meeting was designated as Ladies Night and after the official programme had been completed and luncheon served dancing was indulged in to conclude the evening's pleasure. The following newly elected officers were installed: President, George Inrie, 1st, Vice President Fred W. McConnell, 2nd, ~~xxx~~ Vice President Robert G. Cook, Secretary Geo. P. Sanborn, Treasurer Ralph Williams, District Trustee, J. H. Miller, Sergeant at Arms Frank J. Corrick. Directors J. H. Miller, J. Walter Seawell, W. B. Whitney, Fred Young, John Reiners, A. W. Garrett, R. A. Gobbi and C. W. Comstock. At the meeting of March 21st, Joe Miller was elected as a delegate to Denver National Convention. At the meeting of April 15th, it was unanimously voted that the Club sponsor the the Grammar School Troop of Boy Scouts of the Luther Burbank Council. In this Historical record only a few of the high light activities of the Kiwanis Club have been taken up. At each regular Tuesday luncheon able and instructive speakers have visited the club and given of their instructive service which has always been greatly appreciated.

Closing of the Year 1924, A. D. for Kiwanians.

It is probably the duty of an Historian to write a little instead of using scissors all of the time. The year of 1924 has now become historical for Kiwanians. It was a good year and only contained one New Years Day. The Kiwanians did a lot of work and had a lot of fun too. Not a single one of the local bunch died off. For that reason undertaker Young has threatened to withdraw from the luncheons. If he will stay in we will try to do better next year. Dave Donnan our preacher has been a little bit discouraged, also. I guess we need a new Doctor member.

The Kiwanian year of 1924 was somewhat strenuous from a climatic standpoint. It was absolutely Prohibition. Wells went dry; cows went dry - it simply didn't rain. Grasshoppers came in and ate a lot of grape vines and prune leaves. That of course was the first of the year for this last end of it put the 18th, ammendment all to the bad. It looked like pretty close picking for the farmer Kiwanians but they managed taxpull to pull through with, we hope enough money to pay their 1925 dues.

History shows that the Kiwanians did a lot of good work in 1924. Read over the clippings pasted herein from our local scribes and pharasees. Some of it was put over and some of it was like a balloon away up in the air. It looked pretty but there is danger of it landing in the deep sea. If the boys would throw out some unnecessary ballast the landing would be safer. If they do not some of their plans will have to make a parachute jump to land safely.

Early in the Winter of 1924 Bill Hill closed up his eating place and the Kiwanians had to move. The Ladies of the Legion

became well entrenched again for their weekly luncheon. Numerous speakers visited the Kiwanians and gave some good talks. The Boy Scouts were boosted along and given some good help. Presiden Imrie made a good officer and behaved himself with dignity.

The Healdsburg Kiwanian Club, for 1924 was composed of a bunch of good fellows willing and always striving for betterment. They lived up to their slogan of "We Build" and they stood on a firm foundation. They work and live in Healdsburg and its surroundings the most beautiful, prosperous and hospitable community in all of Northern California. Co-operation, the Golden Gate Bridge, prunes, grapes, hops, Fitch Mountain and Russian River- the greatest of these is Co-operation. God gave the land in all its beauty. It is up to its people to keep clean and beautiful their diamond setting in this Golden West.

P. S.

Sad to inscribe, the Kiwanian birth rate was very slight for 1925. Perhaps neglectful.

Years of life are measured and remembered by events. In a life time there are three events that outstand all others; birth, marriage and death. Of the first we are only told, to be celebrated in birthdays; marriage is a memory that carries with it much of happiness or regrets; death is closely linked with life as an event but not a memory save for the living. Years are remembered and measured, more by great catastrophes than by peace. Nationally we have had a peaceful year as a great steamship that has reached its harbor in safety. In our Western jurisdiction we have had but one disaster: that of the City of Santa Barbara, where a number of our brother Kiawianians went down to financial grief. For those who suffered ~~suffered~~ the great spirit of Western brotherhood was awakened and the hand of help reached out from all about and gave for rehabiliment. It was the spirit of Kiawianians exemplified in "We Build". For the aid given by our local club we were remembered by a letter of heartfelt thanks.

Only hitting the high spots, historically, the Healdsburg Kiawianis Club for 1925 lived up to its creed of service and good fellowship. We began the year with the installation of new officers, January 6th, at the Legion Hall at which time Chaplain Hayes officiated. On January 12th, Jiggs gave a merry party and a corn beef and cabbage feast, with Dinty Moore assisting. January 12th, the club held its birthday event which was of unusual interest for all. January 27th, Santa Rosa visitors attended at which time our club indorsed the County Junior College located at Santa Rosa. Later the local club sponsored and organized a Kiawianis Club in Santa Rosa which came into an ideal club life. Several visits were made by members of our club, to the Santa Rosa Club during the year. Delegates from our home club have made a number of visits to the Sonoma Club which was sponsored by the Santa Rosa Club. Its members are a live bunch of fellows. Our Delegate George Imrie also attended the International Council at St Paul and brought back a splendid report.
at San Diego, George was

Lieutenant

honored by the appointment of ~~Deputy~~ Governor, for which he is so well qualified, and his appointment gave to our local club much of pleasure and gratification. During the year we had a wonderful meeting and luncheon at our High School by the courtesy of Ernest Morehead, the principal. Several programmes were given in honor of our local country guests from the various sections. Superior Judge Rolfe Thompson gave us an able address on Constitution Day and later Congressman Lea spoke to us on State and National affairs. On November 24th, our club gave a Minstrel show at the Liberty Theatre. The proceeds were for the foundation of a Community Chest for Healdsburg. The performance was a credit to all and a goodly sum was realized. Frank Corrick was Master of the affair and to him great credit is due for its success. December 22nd, gave us a "Merry Christmas" meeting with Bill Hill as Santa Claus for which occasion he apparently let his beard grow. December 29th, brought New Year Greetings with a good programme and the best of wishes to all for a "Happy New Year".

Our Club has now a membership of 51, 7 have been added during the year and 9 lost by deletion. The loss has mostly been occasioned by removals from Healdsburg. The Silent Messenger called away our beloved member Prof. Nunberger leaving of sorrow in the hearts of all of us. Art Starbuck lived up to the traditions of Alexander Valley and his household presented to the Club a little Kiawanian boy who now rules in the Starbuck Castle over and beyond the Province of Chiq̄q̄ta. Just last month a little Queen came also into the home of our good member *Bill [unclear]* of which we are all justly proud. As an incentive to Rooseveltian propaganda your Historian would suggest that each Kāawanian baby for 1926 be presented with a silver loving mug suitably inscribed. It really should be safe to put in an advance order for mugs.

Our officers and members are to be congratulated on their true Kiawanian spirit during all of the past year. We were sorry to lose our good brothe and officer David Donan. Our President Ed Quinn has been most efficient and capable as our senior officer and has left to us a splendid record