

A Researcher's Digest

on

F. A. Hihn

and the Founding of

California Polytechnic School  
at San Luis Obispo

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*Louis Edwin Hihn — From Childhood to My Last Hurrah: My Memorable Experiences; An Autobiography.* 1992.

\**Correspondence of Charles B. Younger Sr. and Charles B. Younger Jr., Santa Cruz, California Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.* 1996-1998 [13 volumes + Index]

*Hearing on petition of Charles B. Younger Jr., Esq. for allowance of attorney's fees In the Matter of the Estate of F. A. Hihn, sometimes called Frederick A. Hihn, Deceased. Reporter's Transcript.* 1997.

*Inventory of Gift ... from The Estate of Teresa Agnes Hihn Moore.* 1997.

\**A Researcher's Digest on F. A. Hihn and his Santa Cruz Rail Road Company.* 1997.

\**A Researcher's Digest on F. A. Hihn and his Santa Cruz County Pioneers.* 1998.

\**Letters of F. A. Hihn & F. A. Hihn Company (November 25, 1901 — March 14, 1902.* 1999.

\**Letters of F. A. Hihn & F. A. Hihn Company (December 26, 1902 — May 26, 1903.* 2000.

\**The Noel Patterson Collection - Appraisals, Correspondence & Maps.* 2001.

\**A Researcher's Digest on F. A. Hihn and the Founding of California Polytechnic School - San Luis Obispo.* 2001.

## Description of The Hihn-Younger Archive

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### SUBJECTS

A German immigrant to California's Gold Rush, F. A. Hihn is considered by many as the County's most influential entrepreneur, from arrival in Santa Cruz (1851) to his death (1913). Charles Bruce Younger Sr. was Hihn's principal attorney and dean of the legal community, and the two families were united by the marriage of Agnes Hihn, Therese and F.A. Hihn's youngest daughter, and C. B. Younger Jr. Several collections have been donated, including maps and records of F. A. Hihn, the F. A. Hihn Company, and related corporate enterprises: the Capitola-Hihn Company, the Santa Cruz Rail Road Company, the Santa Cruz Water Co., the Valencia-Hihn Co., artifacts, correspondence, documents, memorabilia and photographs of the Hihn and Younger families.

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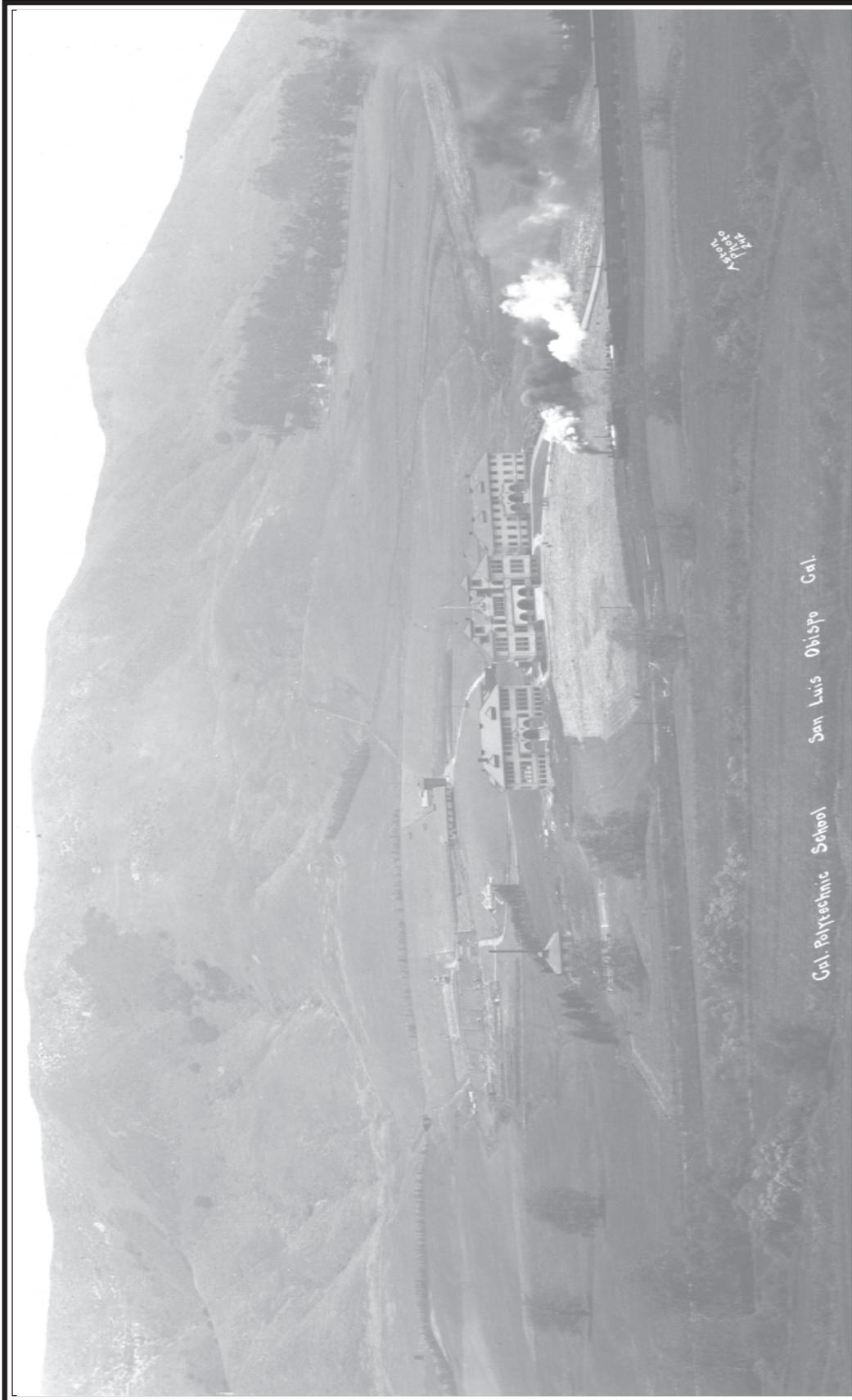
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Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens





Aston Photo 242

Cal. Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo Cal. [ca. 1905 ]

Image Courtesy of University Archives, California Polytechnic State University



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**Stanley D. Stevens**

The Hihn-Younger Archive  
University Library  
University of California at Santa Cruz  
2001



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	Chauncey Hatch Phillips
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***Perspective on the Founders***

I fear we who have come into the heritage of the Polytechnic School within the last few years, as all of us have who are closely associated with it, do not appreciate the work that was done by the pioneers in its origin and establishment. If we do not appreciate this work, it is simply because we do not fully understand regarding it.

**Leroy Anderson**

Founding Director, Cal Poly

[from letter to Myron Angel on his 79th Birthday, Dec. 5, 1906]

Director Anderson reported that since doubt had arisen as to whether the State Board of Examiners would approve the bill for the purchase of the cattle ordered by the Board at its meeting of August 12, he had telegraphed to the eastern breeders to hold the stock until further orders. Since then, as **Trustee Hihn had generously made himself personally responsible for the advancement of the funds**, he had ordered the shipment to proceed as originally contemplated.

— Minutes, Board of Trustees, Oct. 4, 1902



*F. A. Hihn*

Hihn's portrait with signature was the frontispiece of  
E. S. Harrison's  
*History of Santa Cruz County.*  
San Francisco, Cal.: Pacific Press Publishing Company, 1892

### Introduction to F. A. Hihn and The Founding of Cal Poly

This volume, third in a series of my *Researcher's Digests* on F. A. Hihn and his life's activities, is not intended to be a general biography of F. A. Hihn. Rather, it is one piece in the mosaic of his life.

Nor is it intended to be a general history of the founding of Cal Poly. That has been ably done by Morris Eugene Smith in his 1958 thesis presented for his degree of Doctor of Education from the University of Oregon (*A History of California State Polytechnic College, the First Fifty Years, 1901-1951*).

Nor is it a general history of San Luis Obispo County. That honor goes to Myron Angel in his 1883 masterpiece. Angel is also regarded by Smith as the "Father of California State Polytechnic College."

My objective is to explore and document every aspect of F. A. Hihn's life, and while I may have missed some comment about him due to the unavailability of material or my choice of focus, I believe that I have captured the essence of his "Cal Poly experience." I have focused on Hihn from the perspective of his "Paso Robles experience," since that is the genesis of his appointment as a Trustee. That focus lends an otherwise disproportionate reliance on the Paso Robles newspapers.

This *Researcher's Digest* is arranged in four parts, a general introduction, the transcription of relevant data from documentary sources in chronological sequence, and a compilation of biographies of those mentioned in the sources (to the extent that information was available). An index ties together references to persons and subjects in the first three parts.

I have included some items in the Chronology that may seem out of place to the Cal Poly story; however, one must understand the connection between F. A. Hihn and the town of Paso Robles to learn the genesis of his appointment as a Cal Poly Trustee. I had intended to combine in a single volume Hihn's Cal Poly and Paso Robles activities, but as I progressed through the sources I knew that a single volume on Cal Poly would be a more efficient task. The Paso Robles story will be held for another volume.

In spite of my best effort, however, I know instinctively that this compilation is not comprehensive. (For my additional thoughts on sources, see my comments below under "Bibliographic Notes.") Researchers know from experience that new material always surfaces when one least expects it. There will be items found subsequently, as-yet-unknown. It is hoped that they will be brought to my attention.

This *Researcher's Digest* is published now, as Cal Poly celebrates its Centennial. Other published sources provide insufficient treatment of Hihn and his experiences during the founding years of Cal Poly. I hope that what I have gathered here will be of help to those who might learn from it the pivotal role played by F. A. Hihn in the founding of Cal Poly.

## The Railroad Brought Development and Opportunities

With the expansion of the Southern Pacific railroad down the interior coast, through the Salinas Valley and beyond to eventually reach Los Angeles, small settlements were expanded, and new towns were created. King City, San Ardo, San Miguel, Paso Robles, and Templeton were all developed about 1886. San Luis Obispo, and many other communities were primed to take advantage of the arrival of the railroad. Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo is an outgrowth and benefactor of that expansion. Its site adjacent to the rail line is testimony to that influence.

A traveler had few options until then: a steamship from San Francisco to Los Angeles, horseback, or stagecoach.

The boom of the 1880s in Los Angeles has been aptly sketched by Glenn S. Dumke in his *The Boom of the Eighties in Southern California* (San Marino, CA: The Huntington Library, 1944, (p. 17-18):

The Central Pacific Railroad, the first overland route from California, was essentially a San Francisco enterprise, and during its formative years it made no provision for the southern half of the state. There came a time, however, when its founders realized that, in order to maintain their monopoly of California's railroad business, they must tap the potentially prosperous areas south of the Tehachapi [mountains], and their interest in this project increased when competing lines threatened to enter the state by its desert gateway. As a result, the Southern Pacific Railroad was incorporated in December, 1865, by the owners of the Central Pacific. The new line was authorized to proceed down the coast and to receive aid from any counties below Santa Clara.

San Luis Obispo County got its share of the "boom" fever, as Dumke elaborates:

Both Paso Robles (then called El Paso de Robles\*) and San Luis Obispo received publicity in Los Angeles newspapers during the boom. The former was noted for its mineral springs and baths and the cheapness of its land, priced from sixteen to thirty dollars per acre. San Luis Obispo was described as the center of "the great butter and cheese belt of Southern California." Land here was also moderately priced, at eighteen to twenty-five dollars per acre. There were in April, 1887, between 3,000 and 4,000 inhabitants in the region, and land values rose sharply. San Luis Obispo boasted that it possessed more than 2,000,000 acres of prosperous back country, one-half of which was cultivable. (p. 172)

\*[which is its official name; even today it is used extensively]

An example of development in San Luis Obispo County is documented by Dumke in his chapter on "Ghost Towns" (today I doubt the residents of Templeton would characterize their town quite this way):

Templeton, between Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo, was not in Santa Barbara County, but because of the vast publicity it received in southern newspapers [it] should be included in the list [of Ghost Towns]. The town, located on the Southern Pacific Railroad, was destined to be the community center for various ranch lands surrounding it, which totaled 63,000 acres. Promotion began in December, 1886, and by April of the following year there were three hotels, two livery stables, and three general stores in the village. Templeton Institute was founded by a professor from Missouri. Sales were managed by the West Coast Land Company, directed by C.H. Phillips, of San Luis Obispo, and having on its board the distinguished figure of former Governor George Perkins. The company, after buying surrounding ranchos, divided its land into small farms and sold them for ten to thirty dollars per acre. By April 300,000 dollars' worth of farm lands had been disposed of. Advertisements pointed out that the county's population had more than doubled since 1880, and that irrigation was unnecessary, as the lands were so near the coast. The developers were encouraged by the purchase of 50,000 dollars' worth of farm land by Willard V. Huntington, Collis' [Huntington's] nephew, who was a San Francisco real estate broker; Huntington projected a large fruit and vine ranch. Excursionists to Templeton were so numerous that more than a thousand extra cots for their accommodation during the height of the flurry were set up in store buildings. The place is now hardly more than a country village. (p. 197)

Another example of the influence of the Southern Pacific railroad company is noticed in the compilation of Erwin G. Gudde, the noted author of *California Place Names*:

**Templeton** [San Luis Obispo County]. Laid out by the West Coast Land Company with the coming of the railroad in 1886, and named Crocker. Because the name was changed shortly afterward to Templeton, it has been assumed that the town was named for Templeton Crocker of San Francisco, a grandson of Charles Crocker, one of the founders of the Central Pacific Railroad. [2d Ed., p. 318]

And from a local newspaper at the time:

**The New Town of Crocker.**

The San Luis Obispo Tribune, speaking of the location and prospect of the town of Crocker, lately laid out near Blackburn's, by the West Coast Land Company, says: The plans for the town will embrace the most approved results of modern thought. A public square is to be provided; arrangements are well advanced

for a church of beautiful design; lot are set apart for school and municipal purposes. A wealthy citizen of San Luis Obispo has secured privileges for the construction of large brick warehouses which are to be put up at once upon the approach of the railroad, and locations are already secured for a livery stable, hardware store, blacksmith shop and hotel. The site is 17 miles from San Miguel and 22 from San Luis Obispo and few of our people appreciate the fact that about 500 square miles of fine agricultural country will be tributary to it. [San Miguel Inland Messenger, 1886 Sep 3 2:2]

**Crocker — by Some Other Name — to be the Winter Terminus.**

A Call [*San Francisco Call*] reporter interviewed Colonel Crocker the other day, and that railroad official stated that he had just returned from a tour of inspection over the Soledad extension, and that the track had been completed as far as the town of Paso Robles. It had been intended that Paso Robles should be the winter terminus, but they had latterly decided to push the construction of the road down as far as the new town, which has been called Crocker, but to which he intended to give some other name. At this point construction operations will cease until a more favorable season allows the continuation of the road across the Coast Range to San Luis Obispo. [Inland Messenger 1886 Oct 22 2:2]

**Improvements at Templeton.**

The new town of Templeton, formerly Crocker, presents a lively appearance. Among the new buildings noticeable are a large boarding house, two store buildings, a stable and several other houses, the intended occupancy of which we have not learned. A blacksmith shop is to be moved from San Luis, we understand, and various other structures are projected. The fact that it is to be the terminus of the railroad till next summer will give it quite an impetus, and its central locality and pleasant surroundings strongly recommend it as a place with a good prospect. [Inland Messenger 1886 Nov 12 3:3]

The climax to all the boom activity of the 1880s and 1890s took place in the Spring of 1901. San Luis Obispo was ready for Cal Poly — now that the railroad had finally closed the gap — considering “the Herculean task of building a railroad over and through the Santa Lucia range of mountains to San Luis Obispo.” For the editorial comments of S.D. Merk, see “First Train to Pass ...” at Paso Robles, **1901 Mar 30** in the chronology.

## Biography of

# F. A. Hihn

Friedrich August Ludewig Hühn  
better known by his American name  
**Frederick Augustus Hihn**

Frederick Augustus Hihn was the Trustee who negotiated the purchase of the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo campus site from Dawson Lowe in 1902. (see Chronology 1902 Mar 12 and Apr 5)

“I had to write as Mr. Lowe and I talked”

Hihn then pulled ten dollars out of his pocket as security to close the deal with Lowe, paid him the ten dollars, and went back to the Ramona Hotel and drafted the Deed to purchase the property.

His influence and role as a founding member of the Board of Trustees didn't stop there.

But first, F. A. Hihn needs some introduction to show that his appointment as a Trustee was a well-placed trust. He was held in high regard by his colleagues; e.g.,

Berkeley, February 14, 1903.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

I have just sent you another bundle of contracts for signing, accompanied by President Smith's letter, which, I trust, will be sufficiently explicit. It is really to be hoped that this is the last group of signatures that will be called for.

I have just read your letter to Governor Pardee and it seems to me that it is most admirable, both in spirit and in the line of argument pursued. **I have admired from the beginning your devoted work for this Institution and I fully believe that others appreciate it also.** I think we can succeed even if we should fail to get equipment for domestic science which is so desirable. My proposition is to begin that branch even under great difficulties and embarrassment and demonstrate fully the desirability and popularity of it.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/[Professor] E[dward] J[ames] Wickson

F. A. Hihn was well known in most of California during the latter-half of the 19th Century, so well so that by the time the California Polytechnic School was being considered for San Luis Obispo, his appointment as a Trustee was an obvious choice for the Governor.

Friedrich August Ludewig Hühn, was only nineteen years-old when he left his native Germany in the Spring of 1849 for California's Gold Rush.

Born in Holzminden (Duchy of Brunswick, Germany) in 1829, his family was comprised of nine children. He had six brothers and two sisters. The family name was spelled Hühn.

After a voyage of almost six months (173 days from Bremen, 107 from Rio de Janiero), during which he celebrated his 20th birthday, his ship sailed through the Golden Gate.

October 12, 1849

On board the *Reform*

"This morning we all got up early to look at the coast of California. There is land on both sides, bare hills; yet there seems to be enough grass since we see cattle grazing in many places. We are now close to the entrance of the harbor. There are boats and bigger vessels moving out of the harbor; we do not know why they are traveling in this direction, and we surmise that they are looking for gold, so much do we expect of California. We pass through the entrance of the harbor at noon. On one side there is an old Spanish fort which seems to be deserted. At one o'clock in the afternoon we anchor in the harbor in front of San Francisco. There are several ships, and others are coming in. Some passengers go ashore with the captain. I am staying on board till tomorrow; von Langerke came back and told me he did not intend to rent a store because the rents were too high. Therefore I decided to go to the mines with some other passengers. We stayed in San Francisco for about a week, looking the city over, which consists for the most part of shacks, and preparing for our trip to the mines. We took passage on a schooner bound for Sacramento. ..."

Excerpt from F. A. Hihn's *Tagebuch*

F. A. Hihn arrived in San Francisco in October and proceeded to Sacramento, en route to prospect for Gold. He joined a party of seven in San Francisco, led by Friedrich Gerstaecker, who had joined Hihn's ship *Reform* en route to California. After innumerable troubles they reached the south fork of the Feather River in the early part of November. They bought a mining claim and prepared to locate for the winter, but it commenced to rain, the river rose and washed away their tools, and for a time they were forced to subsist on manzanita berries. After two weeks it was decided to leave their camp for Sacramento, where they arrived about December first, and there the party disbanded.

In Sacramento, Hihn and JohannErnest Kunitz manufactur ed candy. Kunitz, 20-years-old, was another German immigrant that accompanied Hihn on the *Re-*

*form* and to the Feather River. Like Hihn, he later moved to Santa Cruz where he manufactured glue and soap. In January, 1850, after enjoying success for about two weeks, the Sacramento and American Rivers overflowed and the candy factory and all its contents were destroyed.

In the summer of 1850, Hihn had enough luck in the gold mines at Long Bar on the American River that he was able to enter the hotel business in Sacramento. He became one of the proprietors of two hotels: the *Uncle Sam House*, and the *Mechanics Exchange*. However, due to the aftereffects of flooding, business was not good. In the winter of 1850-51 he sold his interest and moved to San Francisco.

In San Francisco, Hihn engaged in an occupation that he had studied during his apprenticeship in Germany, collecting medicinal herbs and preparing them for market. He opened a drug store on Washington Street near Maguire's Opera House, but on May 4, 1851, one of the many San Francisco fires destroyed almost the entire city and nearly all of his worldly goods. Another fire, on June 22, consumed what was left.

Having suffered from two floods and poor business results in Sacramento, and two fires in San Francisco, it was no wonder that he wanted to return home. He was on his way to board a ship to return to Germany when he met one of his friends whose premises had also been destroyed by fire. "What are you doing?" Hihn asked when he saw the friend shoveling ashes; "Building a new store," was the reply. Hihn questioned why anyone would want to continue, having been burned out twice. His friend pointed out that someone would eventually build another business there, and it might as well be him. Hihn thought that made good sense.

Still cautious of the threat of disaster but encouraged enough to begin again, Hihn, together with Henry Hentsch, moved out of the City and headed to Mission San Antonio with a load of goods. At San Juan Bautista he met with instant commercial success. From San Juan Bautista he changed his route and headed north. He arrived in Santa Cruz in October, 1851, just two years after his arrival in California. Here, in one of California's most active commercial centers of the era, Hihn began a grocery store at the hub of today's business district: at the Lower Plaza ("Flatiron Building" site).

About the time Hihn arrived in Santa Cruz, the landscape was sparsely settled, and the population of Santa Cruz County, initially named Branciforte, was only about 650.

Frederick A. Hihn died in 1913 at eighty-four. For at least five decades, Hihn was considered Central California's "most important citizen." His position was recognized by Edward S. Harrison when his *History of Santa Cruz County* was published in 1892. Hihn's portrait is the *frontispiece*.

He had a lengthy list of accomplishments:

- In 1851, with Henry Hentsch, started a grocery business in Santa Cruz
- With Elihu Anthony developed (1856) Santa Cruz water system
- Proprietor, Soquel Water Works
- Investor (1858) in Santa Clara Turnpike Company — first wagon road between

Santa Cruz (Soquel) and Santa Clara Valley [San Jose]

- Had extensive real estate holdings in both the city and county of Santa Cruz; owned large part of the former Rancho Soquel Augmentation
- Land developer and sub-divider
- Founder, Camp Capitola (1869)
- One of the organizers of San Lorenzo Valley Railroad (1861), California Coast Railroad (1867); member Railroad Committee of Santa Cruz (1869); helped organize and was President, Santa Cruz & Watsonville Railroad Co., 1872; one of organizers of Santa Cruz Railroad, President 1873-1881
- Helped organize Santa Cruz City Bank & City Savings Bank of Santa Cruz
- Owned sawmills at Aptos, Valencia, Glenwood, Gold Gulch, Laurel, Boulder Creek, and Kings Creek
- President of Society of California Pioneers of Santa Cruz County [from its founding in 1881 - to his death in 1913]
- Santa Cruz County Supervisor [1862-1868; Board Chairman, 1863-64, 1868]
- State Assemblyman from Santa Cruz 1870-72
- Santa Cruz school trustee
- President, Santa Cruz Fair Building Association
- Organized F.A. Hihn Company [1889]

[adapted from *Santa Cruz County Place Names* by Donald Thomas Clark]

His Letters, two volumes now transcribed, allow us to add the following:

- Owner of the Hotel El Paso de Robles and its Hot Springs Baths, as well as significant portion of the city of Paso Robles
- President, Stockton Gas & Electric Company
- Owner, Patent Brick Company (Marin County)
- Founding Trustee, California Polytechnic School (Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo)
- Executor (1881-1902+), Estate of Sedgwick J. Lynch (builder of Hihn's Capitola wharf, 1857; & Treas., Santa Cruz Railroad Co.)
- Executor (from 1894), Estate of Joseph Green Eastland (President, Society of California Pioneers, 1880-1882)
- Executor (from 1901), Estate of Alice Lander Eastland (Mrs. Joseph Green Eastland)
- Chairman, Committee to Select Site of Santa Cruz Public Library

Hihn was, however, not without his foes. Arthur A. Taylor, Editor-Publisher of the Santa Cruz *Surf*, was one of his most adamant critics. The issue below is water — private versus public control of the supply and distribution for municipal use. Hihn and another Santa Cruz Pioneer, Elihu Anthony, had built the first water system for the Town of Santa Cruz in 1856, long before the City ever got into the business in 1890. Hihn eventually acquired the system from Anthony, and operated it for the balance of his life.

### LOFTIER THAN LOMA PRIETA.

...

Mr. Hihn has contended with the tenacity of a tyrant, for his right to extort tribute from every citizen of this city, now, henceforth and forever, and the City with equal force striking for freedom and the assertion of inherent human rights. Already the battle has been long and costly to both parties.

Its length will be interminable, its cost intolerable for both unless Mr. Hihn wills it otherwise.

...

He has had more to do with the making and marring the fortunes of Santa Cruz than any other hundred persons combined. For almost fifty years he has been the strongest personal force in this community and for forty years has wielded the power of the greatest wealth.

...

The City at present is furnishing water free. It is the purpose of the municipal government, backed by the sentiment of the people, to continue so to do as long as the fight lasts. This of course implies a stiff rate of taxation, but it is the only way to successfully wage the water war, as long as war lasts. But peace hath her triumphs, far surpassing the victories of war. A water rate so arranged that the income from the present city works should apply to the lessening of taxes and the equitable pro rata from the Hihn system to be applied as he should bequeath, could readily be adjusted and would be acceptable, under the circumstances, to the most ultra advocates of free water. [Source: Editorial by Arthur A. Taylor, *Santa Cruz Surf* 1898 Aug 4 2:2-5]

Hihn never did yield to Taylor, nor the City, and it was left to the heirs of F. A. Hihn to ultimately sell the system to the City in 1916. Yet, when Hihn died in August, 1913, Taylor's editorial and tribute to Hihn was the most favorable.

### Hihn's Appointment as a Trustee

The genesis of F. A. Hihn's appointment by Governor Henry T. Gage on January 31, 1902, as a Trustee to serve a term of three years, can be found in a letter he wrote to Henry E. Adams, Superintendent of the Stockton Gas & Electric Company (of which F. A. Hihn was President).

It is hardly necessary to discuss the question of the Polytechnical School Trusteeship. Of course I fully appreciate your, Mr. Herrin's and Mr. Lynch's kindness, but it does not alter the fact that at the time the law was being or had passed, I was asked by one of the directors of the Paso Robles Improvement Co. whether I would accept the position, as they desired to

have the School at Paso Robles. I consented and then wrote to Governor Gage asking for the appointment, referring to the request of the Paso Robles people, to which I received an answer that my application would receive consideration when the matter came up. Later on the Governor explained to me his views of the School and stated he proposed to appoint me when the funds appropriated would become available.

[Letter No. 1417 - Book 46, p. 693 Letters of F. A. Hihn February 8th, 1902]

### Hihn's Devotion to the Task

It was clear from before the first meeting of the Trustees that F. A. Hihn was keen to make his mark upon the founding of Cal Poly. He was appointed on January 31st; he wrote to Professor Wickson two weeks later, on February 13th, 1902, proposing that they meet to discuss their forthcoming duties.

Feb. 13, 1902

Edward James Wickson, Professor,  
University of California, Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:— Having been honored by being appointed as one of the Trustees of the California Polytechnical School, of whom you have been appointed for the longest term ... I should be pleased to confer with you personally or by letter before a meeting of the Trustees takes place for the purpose of comparing views and coming to an agreement as to the best course to be pursued. ...

Trusting you will excuse this intrusion, I remain  
Yours truly, (Signed) F. A. Hihn.

[Source: Letter No. 1701 Book 46, p. 819 Letters of F. A. Hihn & the F. A. Hihn Co.]

Hihn was not alone in this sentiment. His fellow Trustee, Professor Wickson, the first Secretary of the Board, wrote the President of the Board, Senator Sylvester C. Smith, that they were all true-believers in their cause:

the enterprise in which we are engaged and to which we are all of us giving, without stint, time and strenuous effort without thought of compensation [is] because we believe the effort is of such importance to the State.

Personally, it seems to me that the beginning of systematic training in the practical arts of country life will be looked upon in the future as one of the great accomplish-

ments of Governor Gage's administration and will reflect lasting honor upon it.

[Source: University Archives, Cal Poly State University, Correspondence, pp. 61-63. Oct. 16, 1902.]

From time to time, in the early years, Hihn and other Trustees pleaded and begged for more financial support for the school. In the following letter to Governor Pardee, it is clear that Hihn used all the persuasion that he could apply:

1903 Feb 13

Though my time is very much occupied, considering that I am in my seventy fourth year and though I have no individual interests in San Luis Obispo or vicinity, I was so much attracted towards the noble purpose of the proposed school that I did not hesitate to accept the tendered position as trustee and have ever since given it as close attention as if the school was all my own. I want to see it started and become a success, but I do not see my way clear to make a fair beginning without being able to take care of and instruct young women in domestic science and that cannot be done in a practical way without the proposed additional building.

[Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library.]

Hihn's generosity was also evident. He had an open invitation to the Board of Trustees to meet in his San Francisco offices at the Safe Deposit Building (California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, SE corner, California and Montgomery) (he was President of the Stockton Gas & Electric Co.):

Santa Cruz, Cal. Aug. 5, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

My dear Professor:-

As to the time and place of our next meeting, I have serious doubt whether suitable rooms can be had at the Palace Hotel owing to the Advent of the Pythians. I believe I can secure a room which can be utilized for the meeting, but if such a room cannot be had at the Palace, I suggest that the meeting be held at Room 612 and 613 Safe Deposit Building San Francisco, the office of the Oakland Gas & Electric Co. and of the Stockton Gas & Electric Co., at 10:50 A.M. The size of the room is limited, but I think it is sufficiently large for our purposes and there is a large table for spreading maps and plans. I name 10:50 instead of 10

A.M. as the time of meeting so as to give me time in case I cannot secure a room to come the same morning from Santa Cruz on the train which is due in the City at 10:30 A.M.

Trusting that you are enjoying good health, I remain

Yours truly, /s/ F A Hihn

### **Hihn's Election as Vice-President of the Trustees**

The by-laws of the Board called for officers to be elected from among its Members: "The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Treasurer and Secretary may or may not be members of the Board."

Hihn was initially elected Vice-President on March 25, 1902. Another election must have occurred after this (not recorded in the Minutes), because at a special meeting held in San Luis Obispo, Sept. 25, 1905, "Vice-President Shackelford [was] in the chair." Hihn was elected again, May 13, 1906, followed by Assemblyman Warren M. John (R.), of San Luis Obispo. As Hihn's term was ending, Paul M. Gregg, of San Luis Obispo, was identified as Vice-President. (*California Blue Book or State Roster*. 1909)

The role of Vice-President was the traditional one, but I suspect the pressure on Hihn was somewhat greater than the typical Vice-President. The President, Sylvester C. Smith, was not only a California Senator (since 1894), he was the Republican nominee for Congress from California's Eighth District, with all the campaigning that required. The Eighth Congressional District encompassed a huge area (11 counties): Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura. He was elected in the November, 1904, election.

Hihn filled-in as President during the meetings of October 4, 1902, April 6, 1903, December 12, 1903, and February 27, 1904 (although Smith arrived late during this latter meeting and took the Chair).

At the April 6, 1903, meeting in San Luis Obispo, Governor Pardee was present as an Ex-Officio Trustee while Hihn occupied the Chair as President. No doubt the Governor was impressed with Hihn's ability. Pardee re-appointed him to a four-year term, and never did replace him, although Hihn had submitted his resignation.

### **Attendance at Committee Meetings**

F. A. Hihn was, from the outset of his appointment, recognized for his business acumen and experience. He was appointed to the Committee on Site (also referred to as Special Committee on Selection of a Site, and Committee on Site & Improvements). This Committee had responsibility for selecting the campus site, construction of buildings, establishing a water supply, power plant, roads, and construction of a boiler and steam radiating system. He was appointed to the Committee on March 25, 1902, and reappointed on February 14, 1906, and July 15, 1907.

<u>Meetings of Committee</u>	<u>Hihn's Attendance</u>
April 4, 1902	present
April 5, 1902	present
June 1, 1903	present
June 27, 1903	present
July 9, 1904	present
September 3, 1904	present
January 31, 1905	present
April 1, 1905	absent

An example of the confidence extended by their fellow Trustees, on March 8th, 1902, Trustees Graves and Hihn were authorized to secure, on behalf of the Board, an executory contract covering the tracts of land offered by Dawson Lowe for the campus. On March 12, 1902, Hihn reported to Governor Gage that a suitable site for the campus had been selected:

The 100 acres originally offered are assessed at from \$45 to \$60 per acre and are a part of a larger tract located adjoining to the Northern limit of San Luis. We deem this land as most suitable and the price reasonable. We have taken an option for the purchase of about 275 acres fronting on the East side of the S.P.R.R. I enclose a copy of the agreement. **It was drawn by me;** it is far from artistic; I had to write as Mr. Lowe and I talked, without legal aid but Mr. Graves approved of it before it was executed.

**I paid \$10 to secure an option for sixty days.** In case we locate here, we think a flag station will be established here, also a side track.

On April 8th, 1902, Hihn wrote to his fellow Trustee, Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirk, that the Committee was working hard to secure the property:

Mr. Lowe's proposition to convey the land for a Polytechnic School only seemed difficult to dispose of. **The matter was discussed by the Committee until a late hour without a solution.** Later on, **after burning some midnight oil, I drew a form for a deed** which sets forth the provisions of the act under which we proceed ...

Mr. Graves considers the form satisfactory, Mr. John approves it and Mr. Lowe is willing to adopt it. I enclose a copy. If approved by you, please submit it to the Attorney General for his approval and wire me the result so that I can stop the expense if unfavorable.

The survey is being made. When I get the field notes I will prepare the description of the land and the easements.

[for the modifications suggested by the Attorney General, see his letter to F. A. Hihn on May 31, 1902]

After the death of William Graves on September 9th, 1902, it seems that Hihn was the effective Chairman of the Committee. As Vice-President of the Board, he had the confidence of the other Trustees.

The Committee on Site had broad powers to act in the absence of the full Board of Trustees; e.g.:

San Luis Obispo, April 6, 1903

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held in the Ramona Hotel at 9:30 A.M. **Vice-President Hihn in the chair.** Present.- Trustees [Governor] Pardee, [Superintendent of Public Instruction] Kirk, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson. The minutes of the meeting of January 3rd were read and approved.

...

Director Anderson reported profile and estimates of the cost of making road from [Hathway] Avenue to the grounds of the School. On motion the subject was **referred** to the Committee on Site and Improvements for further consideration.

Director Anderson submitted reports upon fencing, road building and development of water supply which were **referred** on motion to the Committee on Site and Improvements **with power to act.**

Director Anderson described needed changes in the plans of the buildings and they were on motion **referred** to the same committee in connection with the Architect **with power to act.**

...

Director Anderson stated the necessity of proceeding in regard to furnishing the buildings and the matter was, on motion, **referred** to the Committee on Site and Improvements **with power to act.** [Source: Record [vol.] 1, California Polytechnic School S. L. O., p. 67] [*see also* some other examples of delegated authority July 15, 1907]

### **Attendance at Trustees' Meetings**

F. A. Hihn did not attend every meeting of the Trustees during his first term, but he only missed a meeting when there was good cause.

There was good cause on May 22, 1902. Hihn, no doubt, would have missed any scheduled business of the Cal Poly Trustees to attend, and participate in, the funeral of his fellow German-immigrant, and fellow-officer of the Santa Cruz County Society of California Pioneers:

Death of Otto Stoesser. ...

He did not belong to any organization except the Santa Cruz County Pioneers. In their sessions he took much interest and for some years was Vice President of the society. ...

The Pioneer Society, of which the deceased was an honored member, was represented in the procession by A. Noble, F. A.

Hihn, F. W. Lucas, E. L. Williams, Winston Bennett, Peter Peterson and William Rennie, of Santa Cruz, and John D. Bagnall and N. A. Uren, of Watsonville.

[Source: Watsonville *Pajaronian* 1902 May 22 2:3] [For more on Otto Stoesser, see *Santa Cruz County History Journal*, Issue 4, 1998, Edited by Stanley D. Stevens, p. 229.]

Hihn's attendance-record during his first term was remarkable, considering he was such a busy man with all of the other enterprises he commanded; i.e., President of the Stockton Gas & Electric Co., principal director of his own company (the F. A. Hihn Co. which included his son August as President, and Frederick Otto Hihn as Treasurer, and a substantial office staff), President of the Santa Cruz Society of California Pioneers, executor of three estates: Sedgwick James Lynch, Alice Lander Eastland, and Joseph Green Eastland. He also had several other business responsibilities, and a family life.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Meetings of Trustees</u>	<u>Hihn's Attendance</u>
1902	10	9
1903	7	7
1904	5	4

During Hihn's second term, a four-year term ending January 31, 1909, his attendance waned. It seems obvious that the work of the Trustees did not contain the same dynamic opportunities for Hihn's participation, and his attention was drawn to other responsibilities.

One event, on April 18, 1906, was enough to stagger anyone's sense of duty. The San Francisco Earthquake and Fire destroyed a great deal of Hihn's property in that City, and his commercial enterprises were in need of his time, and he was probably feeling his age. He lived another seven years, but some Santa Cruz County historians maintain that Hihn never recovered from the losses created by the earthquake, and the expense of rebuilding.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Meetings of Trustees</u>	<u>Hihn's Attendance</u>
1905	6	6
1906	5	1
1907	5	2
1908	6	1

Before his first term (three-years ending January 31st 1905) expired, he had submitted his resignation to Governor Pardee (about three-weeks before his 76th birthday) stating that:

Santa Cruz, Cal. July 24, 1905.

To his Excellency,  
Governor George C. Pardee,  
Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Sir:—

Advancing age bids me to reduce my work; hence I tender my resignation as Trustee of the State Polytechnic School of San Luis Obispo.

With high appreciation and many thanks for the honor you have bestowed upon me, and for the courtesies extended, I remain,

Respectfully yours, /s/ F A Hihn

Nevertheless, the Governor evidently chose not to replace Hihn on the Board of Trustees. The official records in the State Archives reveal no action by Governor Pardee to replace him. [California State Archives, F3638-4 C576: Executive Appointments, Administration of Gov. George C. Pardee.]

Hihn reminded the Governor on November 14th, 1905, that [his]

resignation is still in your hands, where I wish it to remain, to await the appointment of my successor, whenever you deem the best interests of the State are served thereby. It may be well to consider, that though [I am] enjoying good health and being still active and able to attend to business, I am in my seventy-seventh year and on the down hill path.

Hihn continued to attend in 1906, even after the San Francisco Earthquake, but his attendance was reduced to a single meeting. His attendance in 1907 was infrequent, and in 1908 he was only able to attend a two-day meeting in Salinas (perhaps designed for that location as a half-way point to enable Hihn and other Trustees of northern counties to attend).

Although his term had expired and he was not present, the Minutes of May 15, 1909, refer to “a motion made by Mr. Hihn.” Probably this motion was held over from a previous meeting. Nevertheless, his influence was still present.

### **Reimbursement of Expenses for Attendance at Trustees' Meetings and other Out-of-Pocket Expenses**

F. A. Hihn was reimbursed, after he held-off asking for nearly a year, on May 16, 1903, to cover the March 1902 to May 1903 period. He was again reimbursed for his current expenses at the July 11, 1903, meeting, and again at the meeting of December 12, 1903.

The question remains whether Hihn ever asked for reimbursement of the \$10.00 that he gave to Dawson Lowe as the “down payment” on the Cal Poly campus, on March 3d, 1902.

### **F. A. Hihn inter-mixed *his* Business with *Cal Poly* Business**

It only took F. A. Hihn about one week after his appointment to swing into action on Cal Poly. Typical of his pace, during his entire service of seven years as a

Trustee he conducted his regular business and his Cal Poly responsibilities simultaneously.

He was appointed on January 31st, 1902, although he didn't receive the oath for the appointment until February 18th. The same day, he heard from Senator Sylvester Smith about the proposed first meeting of Trustees, called for March 1st in San Francisco at the Palace Hotel (F. A. Hihn's favorite hotel in the City). Knowing Hihn, I imagine that he sat down almost immediately (February 19) and wrote Smith his views on the future of Cal Poly.

As prompt action is necessary, I suggest that you and those of the Trustees who advocated the establishment of the proposed Institute and assisted in the passage of the act, formulate a plan of action for the consideration of the Trustees at the proposed meeting, so that the Board may at the earliest practicable time adopt a plan and proceed with the work entrusted to its care.

With this end in view, but fully appreciating my lack of sufficient knowledge, I make the following suggestions which may, at least in part assist in the formulation of a plan of action.

He knew a campus of 100-acres was ideal (although they ultimately purchased 280.15 acres for \$7,647.00 — an average of \$27.30 per acre), as well as the characteristics of the land, and the buildings needed, and most important at the time, it had to be on the Southern Pacific railroad line:

As the Institute is intended to educate young people in the lower walks of life [as compared to law and medicine], including agriculture and mechanical pursuits, I suggest that the site selected should consist of say 100 acres of good farming land suitable for growing grain, summer crops, vegetables, fruit and berries and that a spring or water-right, furnishing sufficient good fresh water for domestic purposes and for irrigating say at least twenty acres of the land, be on or available for the site, also say not less than fifty acres of pasture land, with sufficient growing timber for fuel. The location of the land should be in a healthy neighborhood, free from malaria and strong winds, capable of satisfactory drainage and sewerage, and near a Railroad Station.

The School Building to be a two-story building designed to have a tower over the entrance, to be built later, floor about 6 feet above ground the foundation walls to be of brick, stone or concrete; the walls to be studded, the outer covering to be cement mortar put on wire netting.

The dining hall with a kitchen in the rear and bedrooms for servants in second story, outside wall cement mortar.

A two-story dormitory on each side of dining room, one for men, the other for women, outside walls cement mortar.

A workshop.

A stable for horses, hay, wagon shed.

A warehouse, the basement of school may do for the present.

I suggest that though we may not have sufficient means to erect all the buildings needed, a plan should be made showing all said buildings and their location and an estimate of the cost.

These long-range ideas were very much characteristic of Hihn. He was a visionary, and his ability to articulate concepts for himself or others to execute appear throughout the documentation; e.g., on February 25, 1902, at the same time he was making his outline of Cal Poly's future, he wrote the Merchants' Association of San Francisco (of which he was a member) and proposed a plan for Market Street and a subway to connect ocean freight to the commercial stores (Letter No. 1770, Book 46, p. 855):

Gentlemen:— I take pleasure in tendering a check for \$12.00 in payment of my dues to Dec. 31, 1901. No other dues seem so well paid for on benefits. Long may our Association live!

Permit me to present two propositions for your consideration:

FIRST: Make Market St. from the Ferry to Valencia a grand retail street well lighted up, fine show windows, the sidewalks and street in the best of order. It could be made so attractive.

SECOND:- Build a railroad subway for freight purposes along Fremont St. from Bryant to Market and along Front St. from Market to Water front, connect with a track to run along the Water front from either end of the subway. The transverse sewers to be turned so as to run along the West side of Fremont and Front Sts. to the Bay. An electric pump to keep the subway dry. Store and car could thus be brought together. Other subways under parallel streets to be constructed when wanted. The owners of the lots would no doubt be willing to pay the expense of excavation, not only under their buildings but also under the sidewalks and roadway. The Railroad Company should pay for the floor and superstructure to maintain the street roadway. The subway to be operated by electric power.

Yours truly, /s/ F A Hihn

Perhaps the most succinct example of Hihn's mixing his personal time among other duties appears in the letter to his son-in-law (Charles Bruce Younger Jr.) and his daughter, Agnes, who were on their honeymoon headed down the coast to San Diego:

[on letterhead of Hotel Ramona, San Luis Obispo]

April 5, 1902

My dear Mr. Younger

Your very interesting letters from San Juan to me and from Jolon to your father were read with great interest.

The account of the wanderings of yourself & Agnes through the streets (pardon me "street") of San Juan, the great City which has the distinction of being the most diminutive municipality in the State brought back vividly to my memory my wanderings through this street 52 years ago.

Yesterday I started from Santa Cruz, stopped at Watsonville, inspected the Loma Prieta Lumber yard, took the N. G [narrow gauge] train to Salinas inspected the lumber yard at Moss Landing on the way and on arrival at Salinas the lumber yard and planing mill there, then took the train to Paso Robles and went out to view some clearing of land I am having done and on my return to the hotel inspected the boilers engine, elevator etc. and the new walks and other work in the grounds, and then took the train to San Luis Obispo where I had a meeting with my Co trustees of the Polytechnic school, a conference with the party from whom we propose to buy the site of the school, with the County Surveyor, and then I drew up a form for a deed for the site to the State - then I wrote a long letter to Supt. Adams of Stockton about an extension of our works to Lodi - etc etc - and finally about 12 MN. I tumbled into bed. This morning I got up early - have made a visit to the proposed site with the surveyor etc, settled all debatable questions and return this afternoon to Santa Cruz, where I shall be due at about 9 PM.

...

Sincerely yours,

/s/ F A Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: For the story of F. A. Hihn's sojourn at San Juan Bautista from Aug. 22, 1851 to Sept. 12, 1851, see F. A. Hihn's "How I came to Santa Cruz" in *Santa Cruz County History Journal*, Issue Number 1, 1994, pp. 73-81. With an Introduction ... and Notes by Stanley D. Stevens.]

### Bibliographic Notes

No effort was ignored in the pursuit of documentation to tell the F. A. Hihn — Cal Poly story. More material may exist somewhere. Nevertheless, while additional material might have provided a few more details of his activities, his attitudes, and motivation, I believe we can draw some reasonable conclusions from the context of what we do have.

An extensive search for the official and/or personal papers of Governor Henry Tiftt Gage was fruitless. In the process of hunting for them, I learned that until the 1990s, during the administration of Governor Pete Wilson, the official correspondence of a Governor has not been required to be deposited with the California State Archives. For example, the correspondence of Governor George Cooper Pardee is at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley (BANC MSS C-B 400). Items from that collection are used herein.

There are questions which remain unanswered that might be revealed in the correspondence between Hihn and Gage, but they must remain for future researchers. For example, what were Governor Gage's views on Cal Poly that he "explained" to Hihn?

I ... wrote to Governor Gage asking for the appointment, ...  
 Later on the Governor explained to me his views of the School ...  
 [Letter No. 1417 - Book 46, p. 693 Letters of F. A. Hihn - To:  
 Henry Eastland Adams, Stockton, Cal. February 8th, 1902]

I also sought easy access to certain newspapers published in Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo. I ordered these for addition to the University Library's microfilm collection:

Paso Robles <i>Moon</i>	1892-1895
Paso Robles <i>Independent</i>	1894-1895
San Luis Obispo <i>Telegram-Tribune</i>	1891-1904

Those newspapers are, of course, available at the Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo public libraries. However, that doesn't make it too easy to scan seventeen rolls of film. This must be done over an extended period of time. Four to five hours of newspaper scanning on a microfilm reader is about all one can muster in a day. Nor does Interlibrary Loan make it too easy to accomplish (with the usual two-weeks loan period for periodicals). So the purchase of film is the most economical acquisition of these research materials (17 rolls for about \$1000 is less expensive than the cost of housing and transportation in/to Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo).

Unfortunately, these newspapers had been filmed by a company in Riverside, Cal., that recently went bankrupt. The Bankruptcy Court, at the time of my order and during the completion of this volume, was still in control of the company's assets — including the equipment and master-film used for reproduction.

Hihn's own correspondence was essential in telling this story.

In the Introduction to my transcription of Book 46 of the Letters of F. A. Hihn and the F. A. Hihn Co. (1901-1902), I observed that,

Historians do their best when they use original documentation (compared to secondary sources; e.g., newspaper accounts) of the events and the people who created our past. When it comes to writing about Frederick Augustus Hihn, one of Santa Cruz County's most influential pioneers, there are a few, but hardly enough, documentary sources available.

In 1922, nearly a decade after the death of F. A. Hihn, at a time when the Company bearing his name had been dissolved and his Estate had been distributed, someone decided to close the Company offices and dispose of business records that were no longer useful. ... the following newspaper account [tells the story]:

DUSTY RECORDS OF PIONEER HIHN  
INTERESTS CARTED TO INCINERATOR;  
MARKS END OF OLD REGIME

Returned checks from banks totaling millions of dollars and six great auto truck loads of records, bookkeeping books, maps, old papers, dating back to 1868, were hauled to the city incinerator today from the offices of the former F. A. Hihn Company, on Park Street, to be consumed in the city's great furnaces as a final wind up of the affairs of this once all-powerful company in the city and county.

The offices were visited by a News man today and several rooms on the lower floor where half a dozen bookkeepers and four or five stenographers were once kept busy, were vacant, dark, dusty and littered with all sorts of office records and old papers which were being removed by workmen to a big truck outside.

Half a dozen rooms on the second floor, used for storing records, dating back over 50 years, had also been visited by the draymen and the floors of the rooms looked like a cyclone had struck them.

These offices contained the work of expert bookkeepers together with all the plans and forms as outlined by the late F. A. Hihn in conducting all the big enterprises of the former company. Many such records at one time were held almost priceless, but now are not worth the paper they are written upon.

In the room occupied by the late August Hihn as an office up to the time of his death, hangs a large picture of the pioneers of Santa Cruz, a picture of the late F. A. Hihn and also one of Fred Hihn. ...

C. L. Gibson, who worked for the Hihn Company for many years is superintending the cleanup and trucking the records to the incinerator.

*Santa Cruz News* January 28, 1922 p. 1 cols. 4-5

We are fortunate, therefore, that F. A. Hihn's descendants have saved as much as they could and donated it to the University of California at Santa Cruz for research; it includes letters and documents, family photographs, some F. A. Hihn Company records, and memorabilia, including his *Tagebuch* of 1849 (the diary of his voyage around Cape Horn from Germany to join the California Gold Rush).

The present volume, Letter Book 46, is one of five such volumes donated to the University Library in 1977 by Marion Stowell Younger, widow of Donald Younger, grandson of F. A. Hihn. These volumes reside in Special Collections at McHenry Library, University of California at Santa Cruz, along with The

Hihn-Younger Archive. We presume that all other Letter Books were destroyed in 1922.

F. A. Hihn Co. Letter **Book 46**: Nov. 25, 1901 through March 14, 1902

F. A. Hihn Co. Letter **Book 50**: December 1902 to May 1903

F. A. Hihn Co. Letter **Book 57**: April 1906 to September 1906 (which includes F. A. Hihn's report of the April 18, 1906 Earthquake and Fire in San Francisco, when he was at the Palace Hotel)

F. A. Hihn Co. Letter **Book 60**: May 1907 to August 1907

F. A. Hihn Co. Letter **Book 73**: January 1911 to May 1911

Books 46 and 50 have been transcribed, and all relevant material to the Cal Poly story was used. During research on the Cal Poly volume, I also examined Books 57 and 60 for anything related. What little there was has been used herein. It is unfortunate that Books 47, 48, 49, 51 through 56, 58 and 59 are not available. They may have contained more letters from Hihn on his role as a Trustee during his tenure.

### Other Documents

In addition to the Letters of F. A. Hihn, the following unpublished sources were used in this compilation (cited more specifically throughout the Chronology):

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Inventory & Description of Younger Collection Box 52, Hihn-Younger Archive, Special Collections, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz [UC-NRLF W 31 293] SPZ SPEC YOUNGER BOX 52

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San Luis Obispo *Tribune* [newspaper on microfilm, San Luis Obispo Public Library]

Santa Cruz *Sentinel* [newspaper on microfilm, University Library, University of California at Santa Cruz; and other local libraries]

Santa Cruz *Surf* [newspaper on microfilm, University Library, University of California at Santa Cruz; and other local libraries]

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### Acknowledgments

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Stanley D. Stevens  
Santa Cruz, September 10, 2001

A Researcher's Digest

on

F. A. Hihn

and the Founding of

California Polytechnic School  
at San Luis Obispo

Chronology



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[Transcriber's Note: the symbol ^ used before and after a word or phrase ^thus^ indicates a manuscript insertion of additional or corrected text, by the author of the Letter or Report. A word or phrase that is lined out in the original is shown ~~thus~~. Whenever ellipses are shown thus ... they are an indication that text appearing in the original source has not been transcribed for this compilation.]

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**1889**

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**1889 Jan 21**

Source: Santa Cruz Surf 1889 Jan 21 3:3

**F. A. HIHN & CO.**

—————

**An Important Incorporation in Immediate Prospect.**

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**LAND, WATER AND LUMBER**

—————

**In Enormous Quantities to be Controlled  
 by a New Corporation.**

—————

Learning that important changes were contemplated in the business office of F. A. Hihn, the largest land owner and capitalist of the county, a SURF representative interviewed one of the interested parties and was informed that the report was true and that the plans were nearly perfected for the proposed changes.

It is the intention of Mr. Hihn to transfer his large landed estate and extensive business interests in this county to an incorporation, the stockholders in which shall consist of himself and wife and his sons and daughters, his heirs-at-law.

Mr. Hihn's family consists of himself and wife and six children: three sons, Louis W., August C., and Fred O., and three daughters, Katie (wife of W. T. Cope), Agnes and Tessie. The two latter are yet minors and their interests will remain in trust until they reach their majority.

The legal division of the property would be one half to the wife and one sixth to each of the children, and shares in the new incorporation will be issued to the children of age on that basis.

The new incorporation will be governed by a board of directors, and its first officers will consist of A. C. Hihn, President; W. T. Cope, Secretary, and F. O. Hihn, Treasurer.

The capital stock of the incorporation will be fixed at \$600,000, although the property conveyed to it will probably be of three times that value. It will consist mainly of F. A. Hihn's entire real estate in this county, excepting his homestead on Church and Locust streets, aggregating about 13,000 acres — the Aptos mill, Camp Capitola, and the Soquel Water Works.

The Santa Cruz Water Works will not be included, nor the loans, accounts and credits due F. A. Hihn, but his stock in the City Bank and other local enterprises will be conveyed and included in the assets of the new corporation.

Practically speaking, the corporation will conduct the Santa Cruz county business, while Mr. Hihn will still retain in his own name the vast property in San Francisco and elsewhere.

## 1891

### 1891 Oct 11-12

Source: Nicholson, Loren L. "Hotel El Paso de Robles." *La Vista*. Vol. I, No. 4 January 1970. San Luis Obispo Historical Society. p. 45

On October 12, 1891, the new Hotel El Paso de Robles opened its doors for business. It was not an event. The manager and the owners simply declared this day as the beginning of operations. The day before, a Sunday, the dining room began serving meals.

## 1893

### 1893

Source: Smith, Morris Eugene A history of California State Polytechnic College. The first fifty years, 1901-1951. A thesis presented to the School of Education and the Graduate School of the University of Oregon... June 1958. n.p., The author, 1958. p. 3-4

Myron Angel was most responsible for the founding of the Polytechnic. Envisioning in 1893 a state supported educational institution in San Luis Obispo, Angel for eight years campaigned for his ideal by writing numerous articles, heading citizens' committees, and corresponding with legislators. He was the key figure in the fight for the school and deserves recognition as "father of California State Polytechnic College."

Angel was born December 1, 1827, in Oneonta, New York, where he spent his boyhood. The most important event of his youth was an appointment in 1846 to West Point; however, after several years' study he resigned from the military academy, setting out with his brother Eugene to search for gold in California. ....

When in 1883 he arrived in the city of San Luis Obispo with the purpose of writing an account of San Luis Obispo County, the natural beauty and delightful

climate proved so attractive that he decided to settle permanently in [San Luis Obispo] where he was to make his home until his death in 1911. ....

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## 1895

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**1895 Feb 23**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1895 Feb 23 3:1

The enterprising people of San Luis Obispo are working up the project of a State Normal School at that place. It is to be hoped that they will be successful; the location is nearly equidistant between San Jose and Los Angeles; it is picturesque and healthful, and every characteristic of the place recommends it as the seat of such an institution. The Normal School at San Jose is over-crowded and some steps will soon be necessary to divide its patronage. We can think of nothing more appropriate than another Normal School, at San Luis Obispo.

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## 1898

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**1898 Aug 4**

Source: Santa Cruz *Surf* 1898 Aug 4 2:2-5 [Editorial by A. A. Taylor]

### LOFTIER THAN LOMA PRIETA.

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The heights of Fame and Fortune in all their various aspects are always attained by ascending the ladder of Opportunity.

This ladder has now been let down in the pathway of a distinguished citizen of this city, the Hon. F. A. Hihn. By seizing it he may rise to a higher altitude than any Santa Cruzan of the century.

The opportunity which invites Mr. Hihn is to settle the vexed water question in this city in a way that will involve present and immediate prosperity for the town and its people, advance his personal fortunes, endow posterity with blessing and perpetuate his name among the beneficent and truly great—to be one among the immortals of whom it can be said as it was of Washington that his noblest victory was the conquest of himself.

Mr. Hihn can do this now with grace, with honor and with profit—win the grateful plaudits of his fellow citizens and endear his name to the generations yet unborn who will enjoy life, and home and happiness in this favored spot.

He can do it in a way that will reflect higher credit upon the qualities of his head and heart than any posthumous [sic] gift or endowment could do, and in a way that he will reap substantial reward for his action, not only in future fame, but in the approbation of his fellow men, and in immediate financial returns.

Mr. Hihn's opportunity is one of those rare ones, where giving will not impoverish, or withholding enrich, but where the hand which sows may also reap.

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It may be safely assumed that every citizen is tolerably conversant with the water question here. For thirteen years it has been the one municipal issue, and

“free water” the rallying cry of the friends of independence and progress. On the one side have been all the interests which pertain to the welfare, growth and advancement of Santa Cruz, on the other the personal interests, (as he perceived them) and the tremendous will power, and long pocket book of F. A. Hihn. It has been a battle royal, miniature in its proportions it is true, not enlisting the attention and applause of the world, but as holy a war for freedom as ever patriots waged in home or foreign land.

At the outset the acquisition of water works by the city was a question of expediency, it became a matter involving the manhood and integrity of every citizen.

Mr. Hihn who owned a system of water works, looked upon the action as an invasion of his private rights. Soon the struggle became one for supremacy between the City and the individual. Thus for a dozen years the fight has been continuous and the end is not yet. Mr. Hihn has contended with the tenacity of a tyrant, for his right to extort tribute from every citizen of this city, now, henceforth and forever, and the City with equal force striking for freedom and the assertion of inherent human rights. Already the battle has been long and costly to both parties.

Its length will be interminable, its cost intolerable for both unless Mr. Hihn wills it otherwise.

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When Santa Cruz essayed [sic] the acquirement and control of water works, the municipal ownership of public utilities was in its infancy. Since that date the trend of events has all been in favor of the extension of this principle.

There has been no relinquishment, but a constant extension of public ownership, and few students of political science doubt but what within the coming century, private ownership of water works will become extinct, and the majority of all other public utilities will be held in common by the people. This is said in passing to give the emphasis of “manifest destiny” to the proposition that the City of Santa Cruz will never surrender or succumb.

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Mr. Hihn himself, must realize this truth. By litigation and competition Mr. Hihn can pile up the taxes, and accumulate curses upon his own head, but he NEVER will conquer six thousand people, or by hook or crook ever gain possession of the Santa Cruz Water Works. This is not spoken in defiance, but is a statement of a immutable truth, a truth inherent in the nature of things, and thirteen years of struggle should be sufficient to convince the most skeptical, and the most antagonistic mind.

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We are quite willing to concede that when Mr. Hihn first resisted the acquirement of water works by the City he believed it to be an invasion of his private rights, and that he considered himself righteously impelled and justified in resistance.

After three elections and the reiterated and unanimous expression of the people he erred in not yielding to the inevitable and accepting the logic of events.

But all that is passed, and however disastrous the consequences have been the heaviest burden has fallen upon himself and will continue to do.

Some may think we are too personal in dealing with this matter, but Mr. Hihn although not an office holder is a public man. He has had more to do with the making and marring the fortunes of Santa Cruz than any other hundred persons combined. For almost fifty years he has been the strongest personal force in this community and for forty years has wielded the power of the greatest wealth. No man liveth to himself, and certainly no man gifted as F. A. Hihn.

So much has he passed into eclipse in recent years owing to his attitude of antagonism to the people that many new comers do not realize how large a part of Santa Cruz he has been and how much is really due to him.

The influence of Mr. Hihn in "early days" was dominant for order when chaos abounded.

When Californian civilization was "without form and void," his spirit was strong and among those who moved upon the mass, and evolved the type of civilization we now enjoy, in some respects the best the world has yet known.

He was not a bigoted partisan in politics or religion. He was the friend of schools and churches, the opponent of the saloon and the "free and easy" life which tended so powerfully to demoralize and undermine the social fabric forming in the new State.

Mr. Hihn was a school trustee when there was but one teacher in the district. We believe we are correct in stating that no church has been erected in the county from Aptos north to which he was not in some degree a contributor.

He has opened more roads, started more school districts and established more homes in this county than any other man.

He was the pioneer in the construction of water works when there was no public spirit or public power to carry on such enterprises. As Supervisor he put the county on a sound financial footing for the first time in its history. To him the town is mainly indebted for its chartered existence, for its water front, and river rights.

His initiative effort and investment brought the first railroad into Santa Cruz.

In those days when the population was more shifting than at present, when selfishness and indifference prevailed and there was less of public spirit, Mr. Hihn was active, progressive for the times, and far ahead of his contemporaries in civic affairs.

So dominant, so masterful, so powerful did he become that he came to regard the assertion of other rights as an invasion of his own. But whatever the history of the past decade, whatever the outcome may be of the water fight, while it may detract from the credit he receives, cannot change the fact that while promoting his own fortune, Mr. Hihn for forty years was a man of public spirit who wrought great things in the development of this town and county.

But for the friction which has marred these later years, he ought to have been Mayor of the city, and this district could not have done better than to have made him its representative in Congress.

The SURF does not consider it a reproach to be dubbed the "organ" of the free water sentiment of this city, and while it has been uncompromising in its opposition to the Hihn forces in this fight, it has ever been a constant source of regret that it was compelled to treat as an enemy, a man who had done so much for the public

weal, a man possessed of so many noble impulses, of so many sound principles, and we say without hesitation that we would rather today be advocating Mr. Hihn's election to the Legislature than to be denouncing him for his interference with the rights and privileges of the people.

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This much, by way of prelude, seemed essential to a dispassionate view of the present situation and the disclosing of the open door of opportunity which now invites to an ultimate and suspicious settlement, the closing of the chasm, out of which has flowed for a dozen years, revilings, backbitings, criminations and re-criminations, and all manner of political uncleanness, which has made life revolting and business bad, in this latter day Eden.

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**F**OLLOWING the close of the war and the establishment of our new relations in the Pacific and the Orient, California is to receive a new impetus, which will exceed the book of 1887 or the one which followed the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad.

Santa Cruz is in poor shape to reap the benefits which ought to accrue to her.

Its suburbs ought to be annexed.

It must have a new charter.

There should be an end of municipal litigation and harmony established between its capitalists and among its people.

All these things would follow a final adjustment of the vexed water question.

At this time more than ever before F. A. Hihn holds the destiny of the city in his hands.

He has recently made a proposition to dispose of his water works to the city, but on terms which are so absurd, that if Mr. Hihn were a disinterested outsider, it would appeal to his sense of humor.

But, the very suggestion of such a course opens up possibilities that are enticing to contemplate, and reveal what Mr. Hihn might do with honor to himself to call down the blessings of the people and embalm his name in a grateful immortality.

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*Let Mr. Hihn offer his water works to the city, on condition that their income should be devoted to some public benefit.*

Then the Rubicon would be crossed, the Gordian knot cut, the chasm closed, and harmony and hope infused into the body politic.

The object should be of his own selection. A score readily suggest themselves. A Free Library building, a Hospital or a Museum in the city's recently acquired park, a grand industrial and amusement pavilion, or whatever project of public weal that lies nearest his heart.

By embracing opportunities in the past Mr. Hihn has acquired an immense personal fortune.

He has had the excitement and the enjoyment of its accumulation. He has proved his superior financial powers and stands head and shoulders above all the pioneers who started with him in the race. His days of earthly activity are drawing to

a close. He certainly cannot contemplate confining the final distribution of this vast estate to the fruit of his loins.

Success in life carries with it obligations which no man can shirk with safety, and with the approbation of his own conscience.

The details of the plan suggested could be easily wrought ought in a manner which would protect Mr. Hihn's benefaction, and also secure to the city all the benefits of a suspension of the water fight, a reduction of taxation, an end of litigation and the inauguration of an era of good feeling.

Mr. Hihn has an infinite capacity for details, amounting to positive genius. The people would be quite content to accept his dictation in all these lines.

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The City at present is furnishing water free. It is the purpose of the municipal government, backed by the sentiment of the people, to continue so to do as long as the fight lasts. This of course implies a stiff rate of taxation, but it is the only way to successfully wage the water war, as long as war lasts. But peace hath her triumphs, far surpassing the victories of war. A water rate so arranged that the income from the present city works should apply to the lessening of taxes and the equitable pro rata from the Hihn system to be applied as he should bequeath, could readily be adjusted and would be acceptable, under the circumstances, to the most ultra advocates of free water.

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It is with a fervent hope that they may be acceptable that the SURF offers these suggestions to Mr. Hihn and the people. Such a consummation would bring a prosperity to Santa Cruz to which she has been a stranger for years. It could not fail to yield a satisfaction to the donor which would add years to his life, crown it with joy and build for him a monument — loftier than Loma Prieta.

[Transcriber's Note: **Loma Prieta** is a peak in Santa Clara County, 15 miles south of downtown San Jose, overlooking Santa Cruz County as well. At altitude 3,791 feet, it is the tallest peak in the Santa Cruz Mountains. *Loma Prieta*, in Spanish, means "black mountain" — the name commonly given by the Spanish-speaking population to any high chaparral-covered point that appears black from a distance. It was on the South slope of this mountain that the "Great Quake of 1989" occurred on October 17 — along the San Andreas Fault — the strongest jolt since the "San Francisco" quake of 1906. The name "Loma Prieta Earthquake" has been commonly applied to this event.]

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**1897**

**1897 Jan 16**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1897 Jan 16 1:5

**Petition for a Normal School.**

— — — — —

A meeting of the representative citizens of San Luis Obispo was held in the City

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

Hall of that city last Saturday. The purpose of the meeting was the preparation of a petition to the Legislature for the establishment of a Normal School in San Luis. Myron Angell [sic] was made chairman of a committee to compile the petition and representatives will be sent to Sacramento in the interest of the project. Building sites have been offered and much local aid is promised. Assemblyman [James Kennedy] Burnett of this county and Senator [Sylvester Clark] Smith of Kern county will be prime movers in the legislature for the proposition.

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**1897 Jan 23**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1897 Jan 23 5:2

**SAN LUIS ITEMS.**

**Notes From the County Seat and Neighborhood.**

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The question of establishing a Normal School here has been submitted to the Legislature.

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**1897 Feb 27**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1897 Feb 27 8:2

**SAN LUIS ITEMS.**

**Notes From the County Seat and Neighborhood.**

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The Senatorial committee were very favorably impressed with San Luis Obispo.

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**1899**

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**1899 Jan 14**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Jan 14 3:4 & 3:5

**County News.**

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Senator Smith has introduced a bill asking for the appropriation of \$100,000 for the establishment of a Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo county.

...

The bill for the Polytechnic School has been introduced by Senator Smith, joint senator for San Luis Obispo and Kern counties.

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**1899 Feb 4**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Feb 4 3:4

**County News.**

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The Polytechnic School bid for the location of the school in San Luis Obispo county will be reported upon favorably by the Senate Committee, says the [San Luis Obispo] *Tribune*.

**1899 Feb 25**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Feb 25 3:4  
**County News.**

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The Polytechnic School bill for San Luis Obispo county passed the Senate by a vote of 29 to 1. Several senators were absent when the vote was taken.

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**1899 Sep 30**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Sep 30 2:1  
**An Improvement Club.**

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Paso Robles has long stood in need of some local organization to handle questions of public interest and work in conjunction with the municipal authorities; but every one seems so intent upon his own affairs, that such an organization has never been brought into existence [sic].

Now that the fair is over let us not rest on our laurels but be up and doing. The railroad is soon to be completed, shall we wait until the iron horse of the overland train screeches in our ears to remind us that the long looked for has arrived? or shall we get ready to receive it, have on our best bib and tucker for the event. There are many questions of importance that an improvement club could well handle — matters that are discussed and laid aside — put off from day to day — year to year. An organization could take these matters up and put in action the dominant good intentions of our city. Let us have a call for a meeting and organize at once. Try it for a while any way.

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[Transcriber's Note: S. D. Merk, Editor & Publisher of the Paso Robles *Record*, frequently issued "news" reports that contained much of his own editorializing. He was also Vice-President of the Paso Robles Improvement Club; Secretary of the San Luis Obispo County Press Association when it was formed in 1900; also, he was elected Chairman of the San Luis Obispo County Democratic Central Committee, and in spite of Merk's loyalty to his adopted town of Paso Robles, that committee on Wednesday, August 22, 1900, adopted a resolution of support for Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo; see **1900 Aug 25** below]:

Believing that San Luis Obispo county, by reason of its geographical position, its relative importance among the counties of the state, and its rapid development and promises for the near future, is entitled to some recognition at the hands of the state we renew our claim to the location of the **Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo**, and pledge our candidate for the Assembly, if elected to exert every honorable effort to the attainment of that end.

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**1899 Oct 14**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Oct 14 1:6  
**Improvement Club to be Formed.**

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

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**A MEMBERSHIP OF EVERY  
 VOTER IN TOWN DESIRED.**  
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**Call for a Meeting for Next Tuesday Evening.**  
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Paso Robles has caught the spirit of the times and proposes to put forth its concentrated energies at once.

A few weeks ago some of the enterprising business men proposed to fill a long felt need of a working body for general improvement, by the formation of an Improvement Club.

The splendid suggestion has met with universal approval and the public is invited to meet next Tuesday evening at the city hall to elect officers and perform such other preliminary work necessary to organization.

The objects of the club a before stated will be for general improvement of the town and its duties can be extended in various directions for the benefit of all property owners.

Co-operation with the trustees will be one of the prime object [sic] of the club.

**1899 Oct 21**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Oct 21 1:6

**IMPROVEMENT CLUB TO BE FORMED.**

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**Organization Will Soon Be Completed.**  
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In response to a call for a meeting to organize an improvement club in Paso Robles a delegation of citizens met in the city hall last Tuesday evening.

After a preliminary talk R. W. Putnam named C. L. Torr\* for temporary chairman and Mr. Torr was unanimously [sic] elected. Mr. Putnam was elected temporary secretary.

Brief addresses were made by Messrs Shackleford\*\*, Torr and Brendlin and upon motion, Mr. Torr appointed a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws and form a membership roll.

The Improvement Club has been organized at a most opportune time. There is much good work for it to do in improving the town. It is designed to be a permanent organization with a membership of every businessman in town.

Mr. Shackleford in speaking of the matter said he believed the club could do much good if co-operation of all could be had and if the club would not try to do too much at once and meet with discouragements.

Mr. Torr gave some sage advice and good experience by relating the course adopted by the Petaluma Improvement Club. Co-operation with the newspapers Mr. Torr said was one of the beneficial branches of work to be taken up.

The local press came in for a share of Mr. Torr's good suggestions. The incubator factory, silk factory and other industries were some of the industries secured to Petaluma by its improvement club.

There is little doubt but that many obstacles will be met with. The club could be of little use if it did not overcome some of the little difficulties that naturally confront a growing town.

The prime object will be the general improvement of Paso Robles. Planting trees will be an important subject for consideration this winter.

Another meeting will doubtless be held next week at which time a constitution and by-laws will be presented for adoption. A membership roll will also be presented for the signature of the members.

\*[Transcriber's Note: C. L. Torr was a wood dealer in San Jose, at least during 1903, and the F. A. Hihn Company supplied him with a great deal of firewood out of the Santa Cruz Mountains. For correspondence see Letters of F. A. Hihn and F. A. Hihn Company: <http://libweb.ucsc.edu/Hihn/>; "Brendlin" was August Brendlin, a native of Germany, who was naturalized in San Luis Obispo County Superior Court in April, 1892, at 44-years-old.]

\*\*[Transcriber's Note: The spelling of R. M. [Richard Mathew] Shackelford's surname frequently appears incorrectly, as Shackleford. Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County, 1900: Richard Mathew Shackelford, Paso Robles Precinct #141; age: 64 yrs.; residence: Paso Robles. For ease in reading this text, his name, hereafter, has been corrected wherever the error is made. He was, in 1902, appointed a Trustee of Cal Poly, replacing William Graves, deceased. (see also Shackelford's biographical file).]

**1899 Oct 28**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Oct 28 1:6

**The Improvement Club.**

**PROMISES TO BE A STRONG ORGANIZATION.**

**Next Meeting To Be Held To-night.**

The Committee on constitution and by laws for the Improvement Club met last Wednesday evening [October 25th] and drew up a form for adoption at the next meeting.

Preliminary arrangements are progressing satisfactorily and much interest is being taken.

Mr. F. A. Hihn, of Santa Cruz, a member of the Paso Robles Hotel Company and who has large property interests in Paso Robles, was in town during the early part of this week and speaking in connection with the Improvement Club commended the efforts of the citizens of the town in their effort to promote the advancement of the city. Mr. Hihn desired to be classed as a member of the Club and stated that he would co-operate with the Club in the good work.

Such favorable comment when coming from a person of the business ability and experience that Mr. Hihn possesses, certainly lends assistance to the advocates of the Improvement Club.

Permanent organization will probably be perfected at the next meeting after a constitution has been adopted and then the Club can settle down to business.

A membership roll has also been prepared for the signature of members.

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**1899 Nov 4**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Nov 4 1:5-6

**Improvement Club Organized.**

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**ROLL SIGNED; CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS ADOPTED.**

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**The Good Work Begins Under Favorable Auspices.**

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Last Tuesday [October 31st] evening a delegation of citizens interested in the welfare of this town met in the city hall and completed the organization of an Improvement Club.

Mr. Torr the temporary chairman elected at the preliminary meeting called the Tuesday evening meeting to order and presided until the permanent officers had been elected.

The committee on constitution and by-laws had prepared their work in a manner generally satisfactory to the club and during the course of adoption, which was done by sections, very few slight changes were made.

The constitution provides for a monthly due of twenty-five cents for each member and any member who shall be in arrears for three months shall not be entitled to vote. Any property owner of citizen of Paso Robles or vicinity may become a member upon signing the roll and paying his dues. Politics of any character, whatsoever, is eliminated from the proceedings of the club.

The object of the club is to improve the city both in appearance and in a business way.

The election of officers which is provided for semi-annually by ballot in the constitution resulted in the selection of R. W. Putnam for President; S. D. Merk, Vice President; F. Sparks treasurer; H. G. Wright, recording secretary; E. M. Bennett, corresponding secretary; A. R. Booth, A. Brendlin and O. Perry, finance committee.

Mr. Brendlin canvassed the town Wednesday for signatures to the membership roll and secured about sixty names. This number makes a strong membership to start out with and shows the town to be unanimous on the matter of the formation of the club.

Much good is bound to result where every one unites in this manner. All that now remains is for the members to spare the time and show their interest by attending meetings.

The club will invite Mr. J. H. Barber of the Experiment Station to read a paper on tree planting at the next meeting of the club which will be on Tuesday evening, Nov. 11th. It is important that members should get the date of meeting thoroughly fixed in their minds. The constitution provides for the meeting nights to be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month at 7:30 p.m.

President Putnam has been astir this week outlining good work for the club and with a hearty co-operation from the members he will direct the club on to success.

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**1899 Nov 11**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Nov 11 3:4

**Improvement Club Meets Next Tuesday.**

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**THE FAME OF THE CLUB EXTENDS ABROAD.**

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**The Club Now Has Over Eighty Members.**

On next Tuesday evening the first regular meeting of the Improvement Club since its organization will be held.

It is expected at this meeting that some important work will be laid out and preparations made to carry it through.

The membership roll has been growing this week and now over eighty persons have signed the roll pledging themselves to the good work.

The young men of the town are becoming interested, most of them having signed the roll and their energies will be a great help in the work.

Corresponding secretary E. M. Bennett has already received letters from abroad addressed to the Club. The Club is scarcely started when its fame has extended abroad. What could be a better exemplification of its influence and benefit.

So far only a few persons have not signed the roll and they only wait to see that the Club means business when they will doubtless give their names and assistance to the work.

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**1899 Dec 2**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Dec 2 3:3

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.**

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**Notes of Interest in and Around  
Paso Robles.**

Paso Robles is moveing [sic] right along. Its Improvement club will give a grand rally Tuesday, December 12 at the Opera House. There will be a fine program. — [San Luis Obispo] *Tribune*.

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**1899 Dec 30**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Dec 30 3:5

**ANOTHER IMPROVEMENT.**

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Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

### **Proposition to Make a Park at the Depot.**

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The Improvement Club at its Tuesday meeting took up the proposition to build a park at the depot and a committee consisting of Messrs Never, Shinners and Merk was appointed on the matter.

The committee met at the depot grounds and in company with Mr. Spurrier selected a plot of land 75 feet by 50 feet in an oblong form for the park.

Mr. Spurrier generously donated his services and has drawn a plot of the proposed park which will be sent with a description of the proposed park to Mr. Shinners who will in turn submit the matter to the Company.

This little park will be a great ornament to the depot and incedentally [sic] of benefit to Paso Robles.

## **1900**

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### **1900 Feb 18**

Source: Inventory & Description of Younger Collection Box 52  
[UC-NRLF W 31 293] SPZ SPEC YOUNGER BOX 52

1900 Feb 18: from Charles B. Younger to Charles Bruce Younger [his son] on letterhead of the Hotel El Paso de Robles, Otto E. Never, Proprietor

... The Superior Court of San Luis [Obispo] was too much monopolized in criminal trials to hear a trial in any civil action. Col. Graves\* had misplaced our stipulation in the Hihn-Carms [James?] case, so I took leave to amend my complaint in thirty days, and in the meantime, he may find the stipulation, when the plaintiff will take judgment accordingly. Remember that I am not convinced that the stipulation is out of place.

yours, Charles B. Younger.

\*[Transcriber's Note: The envelope is imprinted, at return address and on verso: "Drink Paso Robles Soda Water!" "Col. Graves" was probably Attorney William Graves, later a Trustee of Cal Poly (see his Biographical sketch).]

### **1900 Aug 25**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1900 Aug 25 1:4-5

### **Democrats Meet.**

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### **COUNTY CONVENTION AT SAN LUIS OBISPO.**

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### **A Ticket in the Field for which any Man May Well Vote.**

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The Democratic County Convention convened at San Luis Obispo at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

J. W. [John Wesley] Barneberg, chairman of the County Central Committee, called the Convention to order in a brief address and called for nominations for temporary chairman. S. D. Merk was nominated by Dr. Murphy of San Miguel and there being no further nominations was duly elected.

F. J. Rodrigues, the efficient [sic] secretary for several years was again elected as secretary of the convention.

Upon motion of F. W. Keller a committee of five on resolutions was appointed as follows: S. D. Armstrong, G. B. Houston, L. Rucker, G. W. Lingo, R. Phelan.

...

Believing that San Luis Obispo county, by reason of its geographical position, its relative importance among the counties of the state, and its rapid development and promises for the near future, is entitled to some recognition at the hands of the state we renew our claim to the location of the **Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo**, and pledge our candidate for the Assembly, if elected to exert every honorable effort to the attainment of that end.

## 1901

### 1901 Jan 12

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Jan 12 1:5

#### **Improvement Club Meeting.**

The Improvement Club held a regular meeting at the office of the president of the club, R. W. Putnam. The election of officers for the ensuing term took place. The same officers being re-elected. They consist of R. W. Putnam, pres.; S. D. Merk, vice pres.; E. M. Bennett, cor. sec.; H. G. Wright, fin. sec.; F. Sparks, treas.; A. Pfister, A. R. Booth and E. C. Watkins, finance committee.

A resolution was introduced to change the by-laws so as to provide for an executive committee of five members. The new clause will be read again at the next meeting and adopted.

It was passed by motion that the club give an "Old Folks Concert" on Feb. 22d and F. Sparks, A. Pfister and F. W. Keller were appointed a committee on concert.

Treasurer, F. W. Sparks' report showed that over \$200 had been collected and spent for the city's good during the term just ended and a balance of about \$40 on hand.

The recent concert given by Mr. Marquart and others netted the club \$25. A vote of thanks was extended to those who appeared in the concert.

### 1901 Jan 26

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Jan 26 1:5

#### **Polytechnic School Bill.**

The following is the full text of the polytechnic school bill as introduced into the

Assembly by Warren M. John:

There is hereby established in the county of San Luis Obispo, at or near the city of San Luis Obispo, a school to be known [as] the California polytechnic school. The purpose of this school is to furnish to young people of both sexes mental and manual training in the arts and sciences, including agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economy, and such other branches as will fit the students for the non-professional walks of life. This act shall be liberally construed, to the end that the school established hereby may at all times contribute to the industrial welfare of the State of California.

SEC. 2. Within thirty days after this act goes into effect the governor shall appoint five persons, who, with the governor and superintendent of public instruction, shall constitute the board of trustees of said school.

SEC. 3. The said trustees, as provided for in section two of this act, are hereby appointed and created trustees of said California polytechnic school, with full power and authority to select a site for the permanent location of said school. Said trustees shall, within ninety days after the passage of this act, examine the different sites offered by the people of San Luis Obispo county for the location of said school; and the site selected by them shall be and remain the permanent site for said school. But no money shall be expended for or on said site, until a deed in fee simple has been made for land so selected to the State of California.

SEC. 4. The term of office of the trustees shall be four years, except that, in appointing the first board of trustees, the governor shall appoint two members for one year, one for two years, and one for four years. They shall be governed and regulated by the laws governing and regulating the normal schools of this state, in so far as the same are applicable to an institution of this kind.

SEC. 5. The sum of fifty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any moneys belonging to the state not otherwise appropriated, for the purchase of a site, the construction and furnishing of the necessary buildings, and the maintenance of said school.

SEC. 6. The controller of the state is hereby authorized to draw warrants from time to time, as the work shall progress, in favor of said board of trustees, upon their requisition for the same, and the state treasurer is directed to pay the same.

SEC. 7. The moneys hereby appropriated shall be expended under the direction of the said board of trustees.

SEC. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after January first, nineteen hundred and two.

**1901 Jan 12**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Jan 12 3:3  
**County News.**

Warren John has been appointed by the legislature as chairman of the committee on Public Lands and Forestry.

Senator Smith of Kern Co. has introduced the polytechnic school bill.

**1901 Feb 2**Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Feb 2 3:4**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.****Notes of Interest In and Around  
Paso Robles.**

Assemblyman John is a member of a Junketing committee from the legislature which visited the various public institutions in the southern part of the state this week.

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**1901 Feb 9**Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Feb 9 2:2**Legislative Matters.**

Over 300 bills have been introduced into the Assembly and over 500 into the Senate. A thoughtful contemporary remarks that a burning committee for the purpose of ridding the legislature of superfluous measurers should have been among the committees appointed.

...

The polytechnic school bill passed the Senate Tuesday by a vote of thirty-three to three. Senator [Charles M.] Shortridge [Rep., Santa Clara County] led the opposition while Senator Smith was the leader in favor of the measure.

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**1901 Feb 27**Source: San Luis Obispo *Morning Tribune* 1901 Feb 27 4:1**Petitions From Over The Hill****Templeton, Santa Margarita, Paso Robles  
and San Miguel****Join San Luis In Petitioning  
The Governor on The School**

The people of San Luis Obispo county have with one accord joined in the petition to Governor Gage urging him to approve the Polytechnic school bill. When Assemblyman John left the county line yesterday en route to Sacramento he was armed with a petition signed by 967 citizens of the county. It was the result of one day's work in circulating the petition and it truly represents the sentiment of the people of this county. It is a big petition and it talks with strong words to the governor of California.

Santa Margarita turned in a petition of 79 names. It was circulated by L[ewis] D[rew] Weeks, a live rustling citizen of that place. Santa Margarita wants the school.

Templeton responded with a petition of 46, it having been circulated by C[harles] A[nderson] Telleen and H[olver] Peterson.

Paso Robles responded nobly to the appeal and R[alph] W[aldo] Gano, a wide awake citizen of the Springs City, was at the depot with a petition signed by 140 of the leading citizens of that place.

At San Miguel, C[harles] J. Cooper, the well-known druggist, was at the depot with a petition containing 63 names, which shows that our northern friends are right in line.

### 1901 Mar 8

Source: Website, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo — <http://www.calpoly.edu/>

Legislation establishing California Polytechnic School was signed by Governor.

### 1901 Mar 8

Source: Smith, Morris Eugene A history of California State Polytechnic College. The first fifty years, 1901-1951. A thesis presented to the School of Education and the Graduate School of the University of Oregon... June 1958. n.p., The author, 1958. p. 13-15

On March 8, 1901, Governor Gage signed into law the California Polytechnic School bill. There is some evidence that this action was strongly influenced by Southern Pacific Railroad Company officials. The last link in the coast route from San Francisco to Los Angeles, the "gap" between Ellwood and Surf, was to be completed within a few weeks. Certainly a school located in any city along the tracks would be of advantage to the Southern Pacific.

...

The founding act, effective January 1, 1902, was exceedingly liberal regarding curricular offerings the institution might provide. ...

...

The California Polytechnic School Bill called for a seven-man board of trustees: the Governor and State Superintendent of Schools as ex-officio members, the other five individuals to be appointed by the Governor. The trustees were to discharge their general duties in accordance with the laws regulating the state normal schools - in so far as these were applicable - and were explicitly charged with the selection of a permanent school location. ....

### 1901 Mar 16

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Mar 16 1:4-5

### Polytechnic School Bill.

San Luis Obispoans took a holiday last Saturday [March 9th] to celebrate the passing of the Polytechnic school bill which became a law Friday [March 8th].

The bill provides for the location of a Polytechnic school at or near the city of San Luis Obispo and appropriates \$50,000 therefor.

The funds are not available until 1902 consequently it will be next January before the Board of Trustees is formed and several months later next year before the school can be in working order.

The school as its name applies [sic] will give instructions in the many arts but more particularly will educate tradesmen and women in practical lines, such as mechinists [sic], woodworkers, domestics and business methods.

**1901 Mar 30**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Mar 30 1:4

### **Through Trains To-Morrow**

**FIRST TRAIN TO PASS HERE**

**AT 2:05 p. m.**

**Latest Official Time Table.**

To-morrow, Sunday [March 31st], at 2:05 in the afternoon the first regular through train over the Coast line is due to arrive at Paso Robles. To many this through service will seem like the realization of a dream, for nearly every year for the past decade the road was to be completed, at least rumor said so. But year after year passed and only the toot of the local was heard.

About thirteen years ago the Coast road was built from Salinas to Templeton, and with the advent of the railroad came a rush of immigration that quickly built up the towns and settled the country around that had been used as a cattle ranch prior.

A few months after reaching Templeton the work was pushed on to Santa Margarita and the people expected to see a through line completed in a few months. Santa Margarita remained the terminus for two or three years while the Herculean task of building a railroad over and through the Santa Lucia range of mountains to San Luis Obispo. The road was built a few miles south of San Luis and then the long delay came.

For years the people watched eagerly for the work of the extension to commence. The closing of the gap became a well worn phrase. The people's patience likewise began to wear but there was nothing to do but wait.

About two years ago the joyful news was received announcing that work to close the gap had commenced. The report was current that in a few months or a year at least the road would be completed and the north and the south would be united by a Coast line of railroad but the enormous task was miscalculated by the guessers at least for it has taken much longer.

For several months past the rails have been uniting San Luis and Santa Barbara but only occasional trains have been run as the railroad authorities desired to have the road bed in perfect shape before starting the regular trains.

To-morrow will see the complete inauguration of a regular train service, two

trains passing each way daily.

In about a year the Owl train and other important train service will be transferred from the San Joaquin valley to the Coast line. This latter service awaits the completion of an extensive tunnel and a cut off south of Santa Barbara.

The Coast line is one of the scenic routes of the world. For miles passengers will ride within sight of the mighty Pacific and the dust and heat of the interior route will be avoided by traveling over the Coast line.

All trains will make stops at Paso Robles and doubtless many home seekers will come to settle here and tourists will come to patronize the famous hot springs.

Since the publication of the time table in the *Record* a few weeks ago a new schedule has been arranged with slight changes over the former one.

The official circular giving the regular time for trains is published below:

#### SUNSET EXPRESS.

7:00	p.m.	Lv.	San Francisco	Ar.	7:00	a.m.
8:50	p.m.	Lv.	San Jose	Ar.	5:25	a.m.
10:45	p.m.	Lv.	Salinas	Ar.	3:20	a.m.
2:00	a.m.	Ar.	Paso Robles	Lv.	12:17	a.m.
3:25	a.m.	Ar.	San L. Obispo	Lv.	10:55	p.m.
7:40	a.m.	Ar.	Santa Barbara	Lv.	7:00	p.m.
12:20	p.m.	Ar.	Los Angeles	Lv.	2:30	p.m.

#### COAST LINE LIMITED.

8:00	a.m.	Lv.	San Francisco	Ar.	10:45	p.m.
9:25	a.m.	Lv.	San Jose	Ar.	9:16	p.m.
11:14	a.m.	Lv.	Salinas	Ar.	7:26	p.m.
2:05	p.m.	Ar.	Paso Robles	Lv.	4:36	p.m.
3:20	p.m.	Ar.	San L. Obispo	Lv.	3:20	p.m.
7:00	p.m.	Ar.	Santa Barbara	Lv.	11:45	p.m.
10:50	p.m.	Ar.	Los Angeles	Lv.	7:45	a.m.

**1901 Apr 20**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Apr 20 2:1

#### Serious Complication.

The San Luis Obispo *Breeze* has discovered a joker in the Polytechnic school bill that threatens to be serious for the final carrying out of the provisions of the bill. According to the provisions of the bill a serious conflict in the wording exists. Our contemporary sets forth the conflicting statements as follows:

"It will be observed that the Governor is required to appoint trustees within thirty days after the act GOES INTO EFFECT, while the Trustees are required to select a permanent site for the school within NINETY DAYS AFTER THE PASSAGE of the act. The act was passed February 21, 1901, but it does not go into effect until January 1, 1902."

It seems strange that such a plain error should pass the observation of the numerous members of the two houses of the legislative [sic] and also the various persons deeply interested who must have read the text of the bill before its final passage.

[Transcriber's Note: see entry at **1902 Mar 1** for letter to Attorney General asking for his Opinion; and see his reply at **1902 Mar 8**]

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**1901 Sep 28**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Sep 28 3:2  
**COUNTY NEWS.**

...

Gov. Gage will appoint next January the directors for the Polytechnic school to be established at San Luis Obispo next year.

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**1901 Dec 17**

Source: Letter No. 368 Book 46, p. 0180 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: W. H. Davis, Executive Secretary of His Excellency Governor Gage,  
 Sacramento, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— I tender through you to the Governor my thanks for my appointment as a Director of Agricultural District No. 14, and pledge myself to faithfully and diligently perform the duties of this office.

In accepting this Office, which I regret to say is, so to say, a sinecure, I would like to have it understood that I do not desire to have the holding of it stand in the way of my appointment on the Polytechnical School Commission for San Luis Obispo County, as I deem the practical education in mechanical branches of the utmost importance, far more than the holding of Agricultural Fairs.

Respectfully yours, /s/ F A Hihn

[The 1903 *California Blue Book, or State Roster* (p. 146) lists the membership of the District Board of Agriculture No. 14, comprising the County of Santa Cruz: F. A. Hihn [Santa Cruz] is listed with Term Expiring Dec. 1st 1905. Other members are C. W. Clough, H. A. Van Coenen Torchiana, O. S. Tuttle, Edward White, and O. H. Willoughby (all of Watsonville), and John Keimaugh, D. D. Wilder (both of Santa Cruz). Their terms range from 1903 to 1906.

[Same source (p. 102) provides the roster of the Board of Directors of the California Polytechnic School — San Luis Obispo. Appointments by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

F. A. Hihn (R.), of Santa Cruz, *Vice-President* — Term expires January 31, 1905.]

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**1902**


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**1902**

Source: Crocker-Langley San Francisco Directory 1902

p. 883 Hihn, Frederick A., pres., Stockton Gas & Elec. Co., r. Santa Cruz, Cal.  
 p. 1706 Stockton Gas and Electric Co., F. A. Hihn pres., Safe Deposit Bldg.  
 p. 1561 Safe Deposit Building, SE cor. California and Montgomery

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**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments  
 Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**

[p. 124] **Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	Remarks
<b>S. C. Smith</b> Oath Filed <b>1902 Feb 11</b>	<b>Bakersfield</b> Term <b>1 year</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b> Term Expires <b>1903 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Wm. Graves</b> Oath Filed <b>1902 Feb 11</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo</b> Term <b>1 year</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b> Term Expires <b>1903 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Warren M. John</b> Oath Filed <b>1902 Feb 11</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo</b> Term <b>2 years</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b> Term Expires <b>1904 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>F. A. Hihn</b> Oath Filed [blank]	<b>Santa Cruz</b> Term <b>3 years</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b> Term Expires <b>1905 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>E. J. Wickson</b> Oath Filed <b>1902 Feb 10</b>	<b>Berkeley</b> Term <b>4 years</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b> Term Expires <b>1906 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>R. M. Shackelford</b> Oath Filed <b>1902 Sept 24</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo [sic]</b> Term <b>Term prescribed by law</b>	<b>1902 Sep 19</b> Term Expires [1903 Jan 31]	<b>Vice Wm. Graves Deceased</b>

**1902 Feb**

Source: Smith, Morris Eugene A history of California State Polytechnic College. The first fifty years, 1901-1951. A thesis presented to the School of Education and the Graduate School of the University of Oregon... June 1958. n.p., The author, 1958. pp. 15, 17

In early February, 1902, Governor Gage completed his appointment of the following trustees: for one year, Senator Sylvester C. Smith of Bakersfield and William Graves of San Luis Obispo; for two years, Assemblyman Warren M. John of San Luis Obispo; for three years, Mr. F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz; for four years, Professor of Horticulture Edward J. Wickson of the University of California. These gentlemen, with Governor Gage and Superintendent of Public Instruction James J. Kirk constituted the original Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School.

...

Trustee Hihn, acting for the Board in the negotiating of details of the transaction, finally in August reached a mutually satisfactory settlement with Mr. [Dawson] Lowe.<sup>72</sup>

[<sup>72</sup>F. A. Hihn to E. J. Wickson, July 18, 1902; August 5, 1902 (Manuscripts Division, California State Polytechnic College Library, San Luis Obispo).]

**1902 Feb 3**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Feb 3 1:3

**Governor Appoints Polytechnic School Trustees.**

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Word was received at San Luis Obispo Monday that Governor Gage had appointed the trustees for the proposed Polytechnic school at San Luis Obispo..

The appointees are Senator S. C. Smith of Bakersfield, F. A. Hihn, Santa Cruz; Prof. E. J. Wickson, Berkeley; William Graves and Warren M. John, San Luis Obispo.

The appointments have been eagerly watched for during the past month. The school will be located near San Luis Obispo and will probably be started within the present year. The sum of \$50,000 has been appropriated for the school.

**1902 Feb 4**

Source: Santa Cruz *Surf* 1902 Feb 4 1:1-2

**THE GOVERNOR SHOWS HIS HAND**

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**In the Making of Several Appointments — F. A. Hihn  
to be a Trustee of the Polytechnic School.**

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Governor [Henry Tiff] Gage has announced the appointment of Charles Stetson Wheeler to be a Regent of the University of California, vice Albert Miller, deceased.

Mr. Wheeler though still a young man has earned his place as a leader of the bar. Being a graduate of the State university he has special qualifications for the office of Regent. The Governor has appointed I[saias] W[illiam] Hellman of the Nevada Bank a Regent to succeed himself.

Governor Gage likewise announces the forthcoming appointment of J. B. Wright of Sacramento to succeed as Bank Commissioner John Markley, whose term expires on the 23d inst. Mr. Wright was until recently division superintendent of the Southern Pacific at Sacramento and lost his place because general manager Kruttschnitt did not like his way of doing politics. In the lifetime of C. P. Huntington, Jack Wright was one of the most important factors in the railroad political bureau.

Other appointments announced by the Governor were:

Trustees of California Polytechnic School — to be built in San Luis Obispo county, for which an appropriation of \$50,000 was made by the last Legislature — C. S. Smith, Bakersfield, and William Graves, San Luis Obispo, term one year each; Warren M. John, San Luis Obispo, two years; F. A. Hihn, Santa Cruz, three years; E. J. Wickson, Berkeley, four years.

### 1902 Feb 6

Source: Letter No. 1386 Book 46, p. 677 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: W.H. Davis, (Executive Secretary to Governor Gage, Exec. Dept.)  
Sacramento, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Replying to your favor of the 3rd inst., I request that you convey to Governor Gage my thanks for the honor conferred upon me by my appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School.

I shall certainly try to perform the duties of the office to the best of my ability.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ F. A. Hihn

### 1902 Feb 7

Source: Letter No. 1399 Book 46, p. 682 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Walter N. Ent  
San Luis Obispo, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Your application for the position of Secretary to the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnical School is at hand and will receive due consideration.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

**1902 Feb 8**

Source: Letter No. 1417 Book 46, p. 693 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: HenryEastland Adams [Superinten.d, Stockton Gas & Electric Co.]  
 From: Frederick Augustus Hihn [President, Stockton Gas & Electric Co.]

Dear Sir:— Yours of the 5th inst. at hand.

It is hardly necessary to discuss the question of the Polytechnical School Trusteeship. Of course I fully appreciate your, Mr. Herrin's and Mr. Lynch's kindness, but it does not alter the fact that at the time the law was being or had passed, I was asked by one of the directors of the Paso Robles Improvement Co. whether I would accept the position, as they desired to have the School at Paso Robles. I consented and then wrote to Govenor [*sic*] Gage asking for the appointment, referring to the request of the Paso Robles people, to which I received an answer that my application would receive consideration when the matter came up. Later on the Governor explained to me his views of the School and stated he proposed to appoint me when the funds appropriated would become available.

Thankful as I feel to you and your friends for the influence exerted, I would not consider the proposition of the acceptance of the Trusteeship at all had I not promised the Paso Robles people to serve. There is no compensation, and I fear it will be an arduous work to acquire the necessary ground and construct a State polytechnical school with \$50,000.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

**1902 Feb 13**

Source: Letter No. 1701 Book 46, p. 819 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Edward James Wickson, Professor, University of California,  
 Berkeley, Cal.  
 From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Having been honored by being appointed as one of the Trustees of the California Polytechnical School, of whom you have been appointed for the longest term, and as two of the Trustees are residents of San Luis Obispo, and Mr. Smith of Bakersfield is to serve only for one year, I should be pleased to confer with you personally or by letter before a meeting of the Trustees takes place for the purpose of comparing views and coming to an agreement as to the best course to be pursued. I shal [*sic*] remain at the Palace Hotel until Friday morning, when I shall go to the Hotel Metropole at Oakland, leaving here at 8 A.M. I shall be engaged at the Metropole for an hour and must leave there at 11 A.M. and go from there to Alameda and then to my home at Santa Cruz. If convenient I shall be pleased to meet you Thursday afternoon at 4.30 or 5 P.M. at the Palace or at 10 A.M. Friday morning at the Metropole. My room number at the Palace is 166.

Trusting you will excuse this intrusion, I remain

Yours truly, (Signed) F. A. Hihn.

**1902 Feb 18**

Source: Letter No. 1623 Book 46, p. 782 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Honorable CharlesForrest Curry, Secretary of State, Sacramento.  
 From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Owing to absence from home[,] the Commission, as member of the Board of the California Polytechnical School, did not reach me until today. I have signed and taken the oath of Office and same will be returned to you.

Yours truly, [not signed]

**1902 Feb 19**

Source: Letter No. 1646 Book 46, p. 795-796 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: AlfredRodger Booth, Paso Robles, Cal.  
 From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Yours of the 17th inst at hand.

As to Military reservation [at Rancho Nacimiento, where Camp/Fort Roberts is located]. It seems to me we want a good road to it and it is not too early to lay it out and commense [*sic*] building it. It should be a County road so that the County can sprinkle it and shade trees should line it on both sides.

Let us proceed at once.

POLYTECHNICAL SCHOOL — “Paso Robles has no show.” I fear you are right. The law seems to favor San Luis, but as faint heart never won fair lady, I suggest an aggressive campaign in this behalf. Get the best possible location say 100 acres of good level or nearly level land and say 50 acres of hill pasture interspersed with Oak, with a good spring sufficient for domestic purposes and also for irrigation. This is about the ideal of a place and it must not be far from a Railroad station. I doubt whether San Luis has anything like that to offer. You may have it at or near Paso Robles. If so trot it out. It has not necessarily to be a gift.

RONCONI — I think he makes a mistake in not buying the whole of lot #101. He needs it and should have it. If he does not have the money ready, I will wait for him at 4% net a year.

WHEAT — I enclose the receipts. Make the best bargain you can with Mr. Armstrong. If there be any inferior wheat you may ship it here; we can sell it here.

The three warehouse receipts call for: —

5896

20225

9120

35241 lbs. just about a carload. If any wheat be shipped, let it come with the flour. If it be necessary to ship more to make a carload, let me know and give me the price of freight to Santa Cruz per car and in less than carload lots. <sup>^</sup>*also the flavor of flour, buddings & flavor & of amount*<sup>^</sup> I presume the wheat if shipped with mill stuff, will take the same rate.

Do these three receipts represent all the wheat we received for rent last summer. Just received your two letters of the 18th inst. Am satisfied to try Mr. Erdman for a while. I think Mr. Never might feel disposed to take all the wood pulled out at 75¢ a cord as it is very near the hotel and that would seem to be a better arrangement than as you state it. ^I mean he to cut it up.^

Your trade with Mrs. Smith allowing her \$25.00 for the fence approved, although I fail to see why she should have \$25.00 when she was willing to take \$20.

7¢ apiece for split body Posts I presume is right. I don't know anything about that kind of Posts. ^Martini^ Will put up the fence, I to furnish the material. All right. Let me know what is wanted.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 Feb 19**

Source: Letter No. 1681 Book 46, p. 809 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Edward James Wickson, Professor, University of California,  
Berkeley, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— It will be convenient for me to attend a meeting of the Polytechnical Board at the Palace Hotel, or elsewhere, on the 25th inst. at say 7:30 P.M. or during the day.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

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**1902 Feb 19**

Source: Letter No. 1688 Book 46, p. 812-813 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Sylvester C. Smith, (California State Senator,  
Kern & San Luis Obispo Counties) Bakersfield, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Replying to your favor of the 18th inst., beg leave to say that I shall be pleased to meet you and the other Trustees of the Polytechnical Institute at the Palace Hotel Saturday March 1st next at 10 A.M.

As prompt action is necessary, I suggest that you and those of the Trustees who advocated the establishment of the proposed Institute and assisted in the passage of the act, formulate a plan of action for the consideration of the Trustees at the proposed meeting, so that the Board may at the earliest practicable time adopt a plan and proceed with the work entrusted to its care.

With this end in view, but fully appreciating my lack of sufficient knowledge, I make the following suggestions which may, at least in part assist in the formulation of a plan of action.

FIRST — Organization of the Board, — election of a Chairman and Secretary. As the means available for the establishment of the Institute are small, I suggest that for the present and until work begins, one of the members of the Board might

be willing to act as Secretary without pay.

SECOND — Resolution setting forth the amount and quality of land required, also the number and dimensions of the several rooms required for the Institute; the number of stories in each building; the general character of each building and of what material to be constructed.

As the Institute is intended to educate young people in the lower  
[page 813] (Hon. S.C. Smith - 2) walks of life, including agriculture and mechanical pursuits, I suggest that the site selected should consist of say 100 acres of good farming land suitable for growing grain, summer crops, vegetables, fruit and berries and that a spring or water-right, furnishing sufficient good fresh water for domestic purposes and for irrigating say at least twenty acres of the land, be on or available for the site, also say not less than fifty acres of pasture land, with sufficient growing timber for fuel. The location of the land should be in a healthy neighborhood, free from malaria and strong winds, capable of satisfactory drainage and sewerage, and near a Railroad Station.

The School Building to be a two-story building designed to have a tower over the entrance, to be built later, floor about 6 feet above ground the foundation walls to be of brick, stone or concrete; the walls to be studded, the outer covering to be cement mortar put on wire netting.

The dining hall with a kitchen in the rear and bedrooms for servants in second story, outside wall cement mortar.

A two-story dormitory on each side of dining room, one for men, the other for women, outside walls cement mortar.

A workshop.

A stable for horses, hay, wagon shed.

A warehouse, the basement of school may do for the present.

I suggest that though we may not have sufficient means to erect all the buildings needed, a plan should be made showing all said buildings and their location and an estimate of the cost.

I trust you will find this rough sketch of use to formulate a plan of action.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

**1902 Feb 24**

Source: Letter No. 1733 Book 46, p. 832 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Edward James Wickson, Professor, University of California, College of Agriculture, Berkeley, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Have received a like advice from Senator Smith and expect to attend at the proposed meeting at the Palace next Saturday.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

**1902 Feb 25**

Source: Letter No. 1761.1-1761.2 Book 46, p. 850-851 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: C.M. Jackson, Stockton, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— THE UTICA TRESPASS — As the services of Judge Garber cannot be obtained, it would seem as if Mr. Walter R. Linforth backed by Mr. Baggett or perhaps Mr. Baggett alone might be available. The first thing to be determined is: What effect has our former suit, the pleadings, the trial and the judgment on our cause of action? If it constitutes a bar, that ends our contention. Any good lawyer ought to be able to determine that question.

If not a bar then our right to recover the actual value of the ore seems plain.

We might also be entitled to recover exemplary damages, as the Utica people have declared under oath that they have only taken ore within certain limits while subsequent disclosures prove that they have gone considerably beyond these limits. They cannot plead ignorance of these depredations, nor can they plead they were made by mistake.

As to the value of the ore taken, - I do not think it ought to be judged by the value of the ore which they did not take. I should say that the ore taken should be rated as high as any ore in the Utica or Lightner.

I should be pleased to have access to the records of the former trial, I refer to the pleadings, the testimony and the judgment entered. **Am going to the City next Friday** [Feb. 28th] and will be at the Palace Saturday morning, shall be engaged then at **a meeting of the Polytechnical School commission**, but as I could get those papers then, I would give them attention. ...

**1902 Feb 27**

Source: Letter No. 1812 Book 46, p. 870 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Delbert Arland LaPorte (Agent, So. Pacific R. R., Laurel, Santa Cruz Co.)

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn, per J. H. Routt

Dear Sir:— Our Mr. F. A. Hihn expects to pass through Laurel on tomorrow's train about 2:45 P.M. and if you can have the car report ready for him at that time and will be kind enough to give it to him, you will very much oblige.

Yours truly, F. A. HIHN COMPANY, per /s/ J. H. Routt

**1902 Feb 27**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

Letter from D.D. Barnard, Cashier, Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo  
1902 Feb 27 to E. J. Wickson, Member Polytechnic School Commission  
"for Pacific Land Co." owner of part of the Chorro Rancho.

[Letterhead provides lithograph of the Bank in San Luis Obispo, and its officers: Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo, Established 1888. Capital Paid Up \$200,000.

McD. R. Venable, Prest., H. Brunner, Vice Prest., D. D. Barnard, Cashier  
Directors: McD. R. Venable, H. Brunner, Jos. Edgar, D. D. Barnard,  
Peter Tognazzini, A. Tognazzini, W. T. Scott, B. Pezzoni, S. A. Dana.]

Dear Sir:

While there seems to have been no definite call for bids I understand that the Commission will soon be ready to consider propositions for a site for the Polytechnic School; also that they are looking for a property of 100 acres or more. If this is an indication that a dairy school or experimental agricultural station is included in the plans of the Commission, I wish to call your attention to a tract of land admirably adapted to its purpose. At the proper time we shall be pleased to have you and other members examine the land.

This tract consists of a part of the Chorro Ranch some five and a half miles from San Luis Obispo on the main road to Cayucos, and some two miles from Goldtree Station on the S.P.R.R. The land includes some of the finest level bottom in the county and carries with it facilities for irrigation. The character of the soil will be indicated by the fact that the McClure Seed Co. of Arroyo Grande is this year planting part of this same tract to flower and vegetable seeds. You are well aware that they must exercise the greatest care in selecting climate and soil for their class of farming. For an experimental station, for growing various fodders and grasses for dairying, there is scarcely a place in the county equal to this tract. A stream of water sufficient to irrigate all the flat rises within half a mile and flows through the middle of the ranch. Where it first reaches our land it is within some eight or ten feet of the surface so if required for alfalfa or other irrigated crops, can be put on the land with a minimum of cost. The climate is about the same as San Luis Obispo; the valley being protected by surrounding hills, is free from severe winds.

We can offer a tract of any desired size from ten to a thousand acres. I have in mind as suitable, a tract of 205 acres comprising about 1/3 flat bottom land, balance almost level except for about 50 acres running up into the hills. This includes the land now planted by the McClure Seed Co. to seeds. The price is \$80.00 per acre.

Telephone and telegraph lines are along the road upon which this tract fronts. The roadway is the chief thoroughfare to the northern coast towns and is always in fine repair. 35 minutes drive to the center of San Luis Obispo. If dairying or other agricultural work is planned no better place can be found.

We shall be pleased to learn something of the plans of the Commission as to general class of land and location desired, and if a place of this character is desired will make a formal proposition.

Very truly,

/s/ D. D. Barnard  
for Pacific Land Co, Owner.

**1902 Mar 1**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

First Report of Trustees to Governor (1902) E. J. Wickson, sect'y.  
[transcribed below, see 1902 Nov 1]

“... These, with ex-officio Trustee, Thomas [J.] Kirk [Superintendent of Public Instruction], met in San Francisco on March 1, 1902 .... “

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**1902 Mar 1**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[readers' advisory: Volume 1 uses only the odd-numbered pages for text]

[p. 5]

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.  
Meeting in San Francisco, March 1, 1902.

The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, in accordance with a call issued by Trustee S. C. Smith, on Saturday, March 1, at 10:00 A.M. There were present Trustees Kirk, Hihn, Graves, John and Wickson; absent Trustees [Governor Henry T.] Gage and [Senator Sylvester Clark] Smith.

A telegram was read from Trustee Smith, explaining the necessity which occasioned his absence.

Trustee Kirk [Superintendent of Public Instruction, Thomas J. Kirk] remarked upon the unavoidable absence of Trustee Gage and Smith and moved that the Board proceed to temporary organization. Seconded by Trustee Hihn and carried. Trustee Kirk then nominated Trustee John for temporary chairman and Trustee Wickson [sic] for temporary secretary and both were unanimously elected.

Secretary Wickson called the attention of the Board to certain defects in the law of March 1 [sic], 1901, creating the Board and defining its work. After discussion the following letter was drafted asking the Attorney General for his opinion and advice:-

“San Francisco, Mar. 1, 1902.

“Hon. Tirey L. For d,  
Attorney General of California,  
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir: The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School, duly appointed by the Governor of the State, in accordance with the terms of the Act approved March 8, 1901, to establish said Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo county, beg leave to ask your attention to certain clauses in the Act aforesaid and respectfully request your interpretation thereof to-wit:

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

1.- In Section 3 of the Act is the following provision: "Said Trustees shall within ninety days after the passage of the Act examine the different sites, etc." Does this provision actually require that the selection of the site be made within ninety days of the passage of the Act; that is, within ninety days of March 8, 1901?

2. If by any stable construction the date named in Section 3 can be held to be synchronous with the date "at which the Act goes into effect", as mentioned in Section 2, in connection with the appointment of Trustees, does the authorization to select a site expire at ninety days from January 1, 1902?

[end p. 5]

[p. 7]

We respectfully submit these point, but earnestly request also your examination of the Act as a whole that we may have the advantage of your advice as to our powers and the proper proceeding by which we may discharge the duties entrusted to us.

Our Board adjourns pending your consideration of these questions which seem to be fundamental in our transactions. The next meeting will be held in San Luis Obispo on March 8 prox. We would be grateful to you for whatever expedition can be granted without interference with your other duties.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) E. J. Wickson

Secretary pro tem

Trustees of California Polytechnic School"

The letter was approved and the Secretary instructed to transmit it at once to the Attorney General.

Trustee Hihn moved that, pending the receipt of advice of the Attorney General, the Board proceed with its work. The motion was approved by several members and carried.

A general discussion was had concerning the purposes, scope and methods of the institution to be established in which all Trustees participated.

On motion the Chairman was authorized to give general notice in San Luis Obispo that the Board was ready to receive tenders of sites for the location of the School and would hold a public meeting in San Luis Obispo on Saturday afternoon March 8, at which all interested were invited to submit propositions regarding the location of the school.

On motion the Board adjourned to meet in the Hotel Ramona\*, San Luis Obispo at 8:30 A.M. March 8.

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary-pro-tem.

\*[Transcriber's Note: However, Minutes of March 8th indicate that the meeting place was at the County Court House in San Luis Obispo.]

**1902 Mar 3**

Source: Letter No. 1859 Book 46, p. 890 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Henry Eastland Adams, Superintendent, Stockton Gas & Electric Co.,  
Stockton, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Yours of the 28th ult. with enclosures at hand. I return a receipt for \$250 for my February salary.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN WE MEET TO DISCUSS THE OIL GAS PROPOSITION? — I regret I did not know sooner of the necessity or desirability of the meeting. We might have met in the City last Saturday [March 1]. Next Thursday [March 6th] **I shall go to San Luis Obispo concerning the Polytechnical School** and will be absent until Sunday night [March 9th]. If you deem it advisable to meet me at once, I propose that you come here Wednesday noon, which you may be able to do by leaving Stockton by first Niles train and then change to the Narrow Gauge at San Jose, arriving here at 12 A.M. I could have a buggy at the Depot and bring you to me and you might leave again at 2:15 P.M. Will call you before to discuss that matter.

I fully concur that we might if possible reduce the cost of manufacture and the rate of M. Gas to our consumers.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: Based on the context given above, and Letter 2018 written on March 11th transcribed below, it appears that F. A. Hihn was in San Luis Obispo beyond Sunday night, March 9th. The content of Letter 2018 is insignificant, except in that it establishes the time-line. In Letter 2057, transcribed below, F. A. Hihn wrote Professor Wickson that he had been in San Luis Obispo, "Senator Smith having been called away, I wrestled with Mr. [Dawson] Lowe as best I could. He may be uneducated, but he has very decided views of what he wants. It was past midnight before the papers were signed and the \$10 paid." That scenario would have placed Hihn at the Ramona Hotel on Monday, March 10th. Letter 2063 also confirms his presence there on the 10th, but the context is only more of the dispute on the timing of when the telegram was sent.]

**1902 Mar 8**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

First Report of Trustees to Governor, E. J. Wickson, sect'y. [ see 1902 Nov 1 ]

"... These, with ex-officio Trustee, Thomas [J.] Kirk [Superintendent of Public Instruction], met in San Francisco on March 1, 1902 .... At a meeting one week later .... the Trustees held a public meeting in San Luis Obispo on March 8, 1902, at which all interested were invited to submit propositions regarding the location of the School. ...."

**1902 Mar 8**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

p. 1 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, County Court House, 10:00 A.M.  
 Present: Kirk, Hihn, Graves, John, Smith, Wickson  
 Absent: Gage

Trustee John presided. "After discussion it was moved and agreed to that the Board proceed to formal organization by the election of a president by ballot. Trustee Smith was nominated for president by Trustee Hihn, seconded by Trustee Kirk and others. The chairman called for other nominations and none being made, appointed Trustees Kirk and Hihn tellers. On motion ... [Smith was elected President]."

On motion an invitation was extended to citizens of San Luis Obispo and others to address the Board upon the scope, aims and objects of the School. The following gentlemen addressed the Board, an outline of their remarks being placed in the archives:

Messrs: Venable, Jack, Sandicott [Sandercock], Brooks, McAllister, Bellew, Whitcher, Chriddenden, Rickets, Wood, Hardy, Lowe, Wheeler, Palmer.

The Board adjourned for lunch.

p. 2 Discussion continued by Messrs. Barrett, Angell and Wickson.

16 properties listed for sale.

1. Edward Lowe
2. Dawson Lowe Westerly portion of Phil Reedy place [Phillip F. Ready, Blacksmith] and 40 acres adjoining - \$4,000 for 100 acres; or 40 acres at \$40 per acre, plus 80 or 100 acres at \$35 per acre.

Reexamination of sites was conducted early the following day, until 2 PM, at which time the Trustees conferred at the Ramona Hotel.

On motion of Trustee Hihn, duly seconded, Trustee Wickson was elected Secretary to serve without compensation.

Selection of the school site was postponed to the next meeting in San Francisco.

p. 17

Trustees Hihn and Graves were authorized to secure an executory contract covering the tracts of land offered by Mr. Dawson Lowe.

**1902 Mar 8-9**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 9] San Luis Obispo, March 8, 1902.

The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School assembled in San Luis Obispo, March 8, 1902, at 10:00 A. M. in the County Court House. This was in accordance with the terms of adjournment of the meeting of March 1, 1902, except as changed in hour and place to meet the arrangements provided by the citizens of San Luis Obispo. Trustee John in the chair. There were present Trustees Smith, Kirk, Hihn, Graves, John and Wickson. The minutes of the meeting of March 1 were read and approved.

The following letter from the Attorney General was read and placed on file:

“San Francisco, Cal., March 4, 1902.

“Prof. E. J. Wickson,  
State University,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir;

In your communication of March 1, 1902, in referring to the Act of March 8, 1901, to establish the California Polytechnic School in the County of San Luis Obispo, (Statutes 1901, p. 115-116) you state that by section 3 of the Act it is provided that the trustees shall within ninety days after the passage of the Act examine the different sites, etc. You ask:

Does this provision actually require that the selection of the site be made within thirty days of the passage of the Act, that is, within ninety days of March 8, 1901.

The Act referred to was passed March 8, 1901, but by section 8 thereof it did not go into effect or become a law until January 1, 1902.

Section 3 of the Act provides that the trustees shall, within ninety days after the passage of this Act, examine the different sites, etc.

To give this provision a literal construction would lead to an absurdity. For by the express terms of section 8 thereof the Act did not go into effect and become a law until January 1, 1902. Until the Act become [sic] a law in full force and effect there could be no legally constituted trustees with power to select a site.

The true interpretation of a Statute is that which adheres to the reason and intention of the law maker as gathered from the frame work of the whole of the Statute, and which avoids palpable injustice and absurdity.

Ex Parte Ellis, 11 Cal. 222;

Knowles vs. Yeates, 31 Cal. 82.

The construction of the Statutes must be reasonable, and where it is evident that the legislature could not have intended the consequence of a literal construction which leads to an absurdity, such literal construction cannot obtain.



On motion an invitation was extended to citizens of San Luis Obispo and others to address the Board upon the scope, aims and objects of the School. The following gentlemen addressed the Board, an outline of their remarks being placed in the archives:

Messrs: Venable, Jack, Sandicott [Wm. Sandercock?], Brooks, McAllister [Archibald McAlister?], Bellew (Stephen D. Ballou?), Whitcher (John Whicher?), Chriddenden (James L. Crittenden?), Rickets, Wood, Hardy, Lowe (Dawson Lowe?), Wheeler, Palmer.

At this point an adjournment was taken until the afternoon session, when the discussion was continued by Messrs. Barrett, Angell [Myron Angel] and Wickson.

After this discussion the Board went into executive session and canvassed the sites offered, as follows:

1. Edward Lowe            50 acres anywhere on the Fernandez Place for \$2,500 or 100 acres for \$10,000.
  2. Dawson Lowe            Westerly portion of Phil Reedy place [Phillip F. Ready, Blacksmith] and 40 acres adjoining - \$4,000 for 100 acres; or 40 acres at \$40 per acre, plus 80 or 100 acres at \$35 per acre.
  3. W. F. Wood              Agricultural Society Grounds 97.7 acres with all improvements for \$18,000
  4. D. D. Barnard            205 acres, more or less, on the Charro rancho at \$80 per acre.
  5. Goldtree Brothers      100 acres, more or less, near Southern Pacific depot at \$125 per acre.
  6. Goldtree Brothers      120 acres ten minutes from Court House, near City Water Company reservoir at \$100 per acre.
  7. J. H. Orcutt              100 acres adjoining city limits along Southern Pacific railway line, \$180 per acre for 100 acres; and more at the same rate.
  8. James L. Crittenden    Dr. Hay's ranch near town, 115 acres with good house, etc. \$13,000
  9. County Bank             Breed place adjoining city 70 acres for \$4,200 or 10 acres for \$1.
- [p. 15]
10. Grant and Vachell      15 acres free and 90 acres at \$100 per acre. Later offered to give 20 acres free.
  11. J. L. Crittenden        Gregory ranch 93 3/4 acres on road east and partly in the city \$9,000
  12. F. C. Cherry            Phillips addition, over 100 acres at \$100 per acre.
  13. McD. R. Venable        40 acres north of town known as Spinning Place; price \$10,000 perhaps for \$8,000.

14. Luigi Marré            5 acres free and 75 acres additional at a price to be fixed by Board.
15. A. McAllister        Carisso Cattle Company. Priest ranch 330 acres at \$15,000 - 100 acres without the spring at \$35 per acre.
16. Mr. Fillmore        no description.

After the bids were opened carriages were procured and the Board entered immediately upon the examination of the sites offered, continuing this examination until 5:00 P.M. **of the following day**, at which a meeting for conference was held at the Ramona Hotel. Upon motion the sites offered by Messrs. Goldtree, County Bank, Grant and Vaschell, F. C. Cherry, McD. R. Venable, Luigi Marré and A. McAllister were reserved for subsequent examination, the other sites being temporarily laid aside as for one reason or another undesirable. Reexamination of the reserved sites began early on the following day and continued until 2:00 P.M., at which time another meeting was held at the Ramona Hotel, with President Smith in the chair. On motion of Trustee Hihn, duly seconded, Trustee Wickson was elected Secretary to serve without compensation.

After discussion of several sites, it was moved that the selection of a site be postponed to the next meeting to be held in San Francisco, the date of the meeting to be determined by the President.

Owners of several sites were invited to submit fuller state-  
[p. 17]

ments and more definite bids to be considered at the next meeting. Trustees Hihn and Graves were authorized to secure an executory contract covering the tracts of land offered by Mr. Dawson Lowe.

Adjourned

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary

**1902 Mar 9**

Source:        San Luis Obispo *Tribune*    1902 Mar 9 1:3-4

### **The Board in Session.**

#### **Senator Smith Elected Permanent Chairman.**

#### **Many Citizens Gave Their Views Upon the Scope of the School.**

The board of trustees of the California Polytechnic School met at 10 o'clock a.m. in the chambers of the Board of Supervisors at the Court House.

The board was called to order by Trustee John as temporary chairman. There were present Trustees Hihn, Smith, Wickson, Graves, Kirk and John, absent, Governor Gage.

The minutes of the session of March 1 were read by temporary secretary Wickson and on motion of Mr. Hihn duly approved.

Nominations for permanent chairman were declared in order.

Mr. Hihn nominated Hon. S. C. Smith seconded by Mr. Kirk.

There being no further nominations the chairman named Messrs. Kirk and Hihn as tellers and the temporary secretary cast the ballot for Senator Smith and he was declared elected and at once took the chair. He thanked the board for the honor and pledged himself to do everything within his power for the success of the school.

Chairman Smith was authorized to prepare a set of by laws for the government of the board.

At this juncture the board invited the citizens to present their views upon the scope of instruction which they desire the school to adopt.

Judge Venable was called upon and favored instruction in dairying as one of the things much needed in this state. He cited the good work done by the New York dairy school and thought that the proposed institution could well take up this line. California will find in the years to come that instruction in this line will be much appreciated by the people. Judge Venable claimed that the agricultural and stock interests of the state need attention.

R. E. Jack endorsed the words spoken by Judge Venable, especially the instruction in dairying.

Wm. Sandercock thought that the scope of the school should reach out and afford instructions in the trades.

Trustee Hihn and Judge Venable entered into an interesting discussion. There is much to be learned about the propagation of crops, the best crops for food for animals, etc. If this be followed more profits can be realized by the agriculturist, the dairyman and others. Mr. Hihn spoke of providing instruction in domestic economy for the young women of the state.

Benj. Brooks was called upon. He said that the Polytechnic school was not an institution established for the benefit of San Luis Obispo county. It is to be an institution for the state and not the county alone. He endorsed the idea of instruction in dairying as advanced by Judge Venable. The board of trustees would no doubt be governed in the selection of a site by the character of land needed for the scope of education which the institution would adopt. The school should make such a start as would show immediate success, that the legislature of the state could be asked for future appropriations with an assurance that the request will be readily granted.

A. McAlister coincided with Judge Venable in his ideas advance in live stock. He thought that California is much behind in its cattle interests. Cattle are diseased. A vast amount of money is invested in dairying in California and this industry should be given every encouragement by the state. He thought the school should make a start in giving instruction in scientific dairying.

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**1902 Mar 9**

Source: San Luis Obispo *Tribune* 1902 Mar 9 4:3

**THE BOARD BANQUETED.**

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Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

### Board of Trade Entertains Visitors at the Ramona.

Last evening the trustees of the California Polytechnic school were guests at a banquet given at the Ramona hotel under the auspices of the Board of Trade. There were a few prominent citizens present to break bread with the distinguished visitors, all of whom responded to toasts along educational lines. The members of the school board addressed the gathering upon these subjects:

The State of California and Public Education, Hon. T. J. Kirk.

The California Polytechnic School, Hon. S. C. Smith.

The Business Interests of California and Its Relation to Schools, F. A. Hihn.

Technical Education in California, Prof. E. J. Wickson.

The Common People and the Common School, Hon. Warren M. John.

Benj. Brooks presided as toastmaster. T.T. Crittenden highly complimented Senator Smith. Rev. E. Bradley gave two vocal solos with fine effect. John Whicher was heard from in some timely remarks.

Host McHenry served a very fine banquet.

#### 1902 Mar 10

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[5 leaves, 14" x 8.5", typescript, with minor manuscript corrections]

San Luis Obispo, Cal., March 10th, 1902

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNICAL SCHOOL:—

Gentlemen:- Whereas the State of California proposes to establish a Polytechnical School at or near the City of San Luis Obispo in the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, I therefore propose to sell to you for that purpose the following land situated in said County:-

1st. That certain parcel of land bounded by a line beginning at a point on the East side of the right of way of the Southern Pacific Railroad on the Southwest corner of the land of C. H. Johnson, thence East about a quarter of a mile to the Southeast corner of said Johnson's land, thence continuing East about a quarter of a mile to the Northwest corner of the Hays tract, thence south about ten chains to a fence which runs Easterly and Westerly, thence Westerly about thirty-five chains to the Eastern boundary of said railroad right of way to the place of beginning, containing about forty acres of land, at the price of Forty Dollars per acre.

2nd. That certain other parcel of land bounded by a line beginning at said Southeast corner of said Johnson's land, thence north along said Johnson's Eastern boundary about forty chains to the North boundary of what was formerly known as the Brizzolara tract [Source: GNIS = Brizziolari Creek], on the Section line, thence East along said Section line and along the South boundary of said Johnson's land twenty chains, thence South forty chains to the Northwest corner of the Hays tract, thence West along the North boundary of the first described parcel twenty chains to the point of beginning at the price of Thirty-five Dollars per acre.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

3rd. That certain other parcel of land bounded by a line beginning on said Section line on the Southern boundary of said Johnson's land at the Northeast corner of said second described

[page 2:]

parcel of land and running thence East along the South boundary of said Johnson's land about ten chains to a point on the North side of the creek where said South boundary of said Johnson's land leaves said Section line, thence leaving said Section line and running thence Northeasterly along the said South boundary of said Johnson's land to a point where a line drawn North and South and Two Hundred feet East of where a spring rises on the side hill North of the Hays tract, intersects said South boundary of said Johnson's land, thence South and so as to include the watershed of the first little gulch which comes from the South and empties into the creek about ten chains East from the open land herein secondly described and so as to include said spring about Forty-five chains to the North boundary of the Hays tract, thence Westerly along the North boundary of said Hays tract to the Southeast corner of the parcel herein secondly described, at the price of Ten Dollars per acre.

Together with the following easements:- 1st. The right to construct and maintain a dam or dams on said creek above the third described parcel so as to make a pond for the storage of the water of said creek, and to overflow my land situated Easterly of said third described tract of land to a depth of Ten feet or to thus overflow my said land without building a dam or dams on my said land, also to construct and maintain one or more pipe lines and a flume over and through my said land East of said third described tract, also to divert and take and appropriate the water of said creek from said pond or from said creek and to conduct said water through said pipe line, pipe lines or flume to and on to the said land first, second and thirdly described herein, and wherever else the said State of California or you may want to use said water.

[page 3:]

2nd. The right of way for a wagon road one hundred feet wide on the East side of the right of way of the Southern Pacific Railroad and from a point where Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue or the produced line thereof crosses the track of said Railroad, and thence along said right of way Northerly to the South boundary of the first described parcel, with the right to use a part of said road for a single or double track street railroad, also for sidewalks and bicycle track.

The said easements to be granted for the sum of Ten Dollars. The above grants of land however to be subject to the following reservation, to wit: a right of way for a sixty foot wagon road to be located as follows, to wit: Beginning for the East side of said road at the Southeast corner of the first described parcel of land and running thence Northerly along the East line of said first parcel to the North line thereof, thence Northeasterly through the second and third described parcels at an ascending grade of three or more feet to the hundred feet to the Eastern boundary line of the third described parcel. The State of California and your Board to have the right to use the said road for travel, also for laying across and along said road so as not to interfere with or injure the ordinary use of said road for travel, one or more lines of

water pipes, and to conduct water through said pipes, also to plant and maintain ornamental and shade trees on said road so far as the same will not interfere with or injure the ordinary use of said road for travel. Reserving also to myself the right to lay and maintain along said road one or more water pipe lines and to conduct [sic] water through said last mentioned pipes.

[page 4:]

I also offer for the sum of Ten Dollars to grant to the State of California and to your Board for the construction and repair of buildings on said land and on such adjoining lands as may be acquired for the use of said School, and for the construction, maintenance [sic] and repair of roads and walks on said lands and for the construction of dams and reservoirs and water works for said school and other structures, the right to quarry and take rock from the rock deposit on the knoll northerly of and near my dwelling house, provided that said rock must not be quarried to a greater depth than ten feet below the highest point.

In addition to the above offers I also grant to the State of California or your Board the right to purchase from me at the rate of Seventy Dollars per acre that certain parcel of land bounded by a line beginning at the Southwest corner of the first described parcel and running thence Easterly along the South line of the first described parcel to a point where a line drawn North and South 100 feet East of said rock deposit will intersect the South boundary of the said first described parcel, thence South to a point, where a line running East and West and one hundred feet South of the center of the said rock deposit on the top of the knoll North of and near my house, intersects said last mentioned line and running from said point of intersection West to a point one hundred feet South of the center of said rock deposit and thence West to the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way and thence Northerly along said right of way to the place of beginning, containing above fifteen acres of land.

It should be understood that if you accept my offer you will continue said one hundred foot wide road to the North line of the first described parcel of land. Also that I will deduct from the purchase [sic] price of the land herein described the value of the land which will be required for the sixty foot wide

[page 5:]

right of way which I have reserved, at the same rate I charge you for the same.

For the sum of Ten Dollars to me in hand paid I hereby grant you the option within sixty days from date to purchase the said first, second and third described parcels of land, with said easements and subject to said reservations at the prices stated herein, and for said consideration I also grant you the option within sixty days from date to purchase the last described parcel of land containing about fifteen acres more or less at the said price of Seventy Dollars per acre.

(Signed) Dawson Lowe.

Received from Board of Trustees of California Polytechnic<sup>al</sup> School ten dollars in payment for the option granted for the purchase of land in the above instrument described.

San Luis Obispo, March 10th, 1902. (Signed) Dawson Lowe.

**1902 Mar 11**

Source: San Luis Obispo *Breeze* 1902 Mar 11 8:3-4 [Note: all of p. 5 on Cal Poly]

...

"...admitted to the bar. I sat in my office and waited for a client. At last he came, I took the case, worked on it for several weeks and then found out that my client had sold out for twenty dollars and skipped. I decided that I could make more money in other pursuits, and I gave up law then and there. But this college is not for the professions but for the trades, and the Committee will always have my hearty cooperation. And now I propose that we drink to the health of Senator Smith."

After the toast Senator Smith said, "I appreciate the compliment paid me by Mr. Crittenden. He certainly did try to defeat me and I was never more happy than when he failed."

Mr. Hihn was next asked to speak on the subject of business interest of California as affected by schools of this character.

Mr. Hihn said he had been too busy trying to decide upon a site for the school to give much thought to that subject.

Wicher [Whicher], — "I would say in behalf of Mr. Hihn that there are at least twelve people at this table who can tell him the identical spot on which that school will stand."

Hon. Warren M. John was next asked to speak on the subject of the common people and the common school. "The common people," said Mr. John, "are represented by the working classes of this country. They are divided from the other class by wealth or other influences, but they are the power of the country and so long as I have any influence whatever I shall work for those with whom I have worked on the farm. Those in the lowly walks of life are, in reality, as high as those who live in exalted positions, and we will all join in hearty accord to show that ....

... this bill was passed for the whole people."

Professor Wickson was introduced next and asked to speak on the subject of "Technical Education in California."

Mr. Wickson said, "There are two reasons why I shall not make an address on that subject this evening. First, —Senator Smith has already thoroughly covered that ground in his address, —and he spoke also in regard to the general industries. Second, —when I came back to the hotel this evening a friend said to me, 'I hear you have been doing very well. I understand that you have greatly pleased two persons, — an editor and another man. Now a man who can please an editor and another man in the same day is doing pretty well, and so I think I have done quite enough for one day. But I will say that it is a fact beyond controversy that technical education in California is well supplied, even beyond other States. Graduates from our University are occupying important positions throughout the country. They are teaching in other colleges; they are mining engineers in South Africa, one is in the Department of Agriculture in Washington, one is engaged in vine culture in South Africa, etc. We are well supplied in upper technical education but we lack in lower technical education, which we hope to supply in this institution. Europe is ahead of America in scientific research, but in the application we are well up. We are behind in the technical education which is below the college. In this Germany is

far ahead of us, and what we need is what Senator Smith has spoken of, — the education that is useful in the shop and on the farm, that is what we want in this country. I have had ...

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### 1902 Mar 11

Source: Letter No. 2018 Book 46, p. 962 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Ramona Hotel, San Luis Obispo, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Gentlemen:— Monday afternoon [March 10th] I delivered two telegraph messages to the call boy - one for Santa Cruz, the other for Los Angeles. The boy soon came back to the room to advise me that the telegraph had closed but would open at six P.M. and that then the dispatches would go forward. On my arriving here, I learned that the messages were not delivered to the telegraph office until this morning, and the one for Santa Cruz arrived here about half past ten this morning. The only actual loss in this case <sup>^to Santa Cruz^</sup> [is] the cost of sending the dispatch which I expect will be at your expense, but if the other message was not sent yesterday, which I fear it wasn't, the damages may be serious. The messages were to be sent prepaid [and] the cost to be charged to me. I am inclined to think that this charge was not included in my bill but this does not relieve you from liability.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: F. A. Hihn had business in Los Angeles and vicinity from time to time, in particular, he had been (for some twenty-five years) the Executor of the Estate of Sedgwick James Lynch. He managed Lynch properties in Spadra (Los Angeles County), and the City of Los Angeles; *see for example* Letter No. 2069 (1902 March 14) Book 46, p. 991-992, Letters of F. A. Hihn & The F. A. Hihn Co.]

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### 1902 Mar 12

Source: Letter No. 2058.1 - 2058.5 Book 46, p. 980-986 Letters of F. A. Hihn  
[A copy is also in the University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, Calif. Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo [7 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with one minor manuscript correction]

To: Henry T. Gage, Governor of California, Sacramento, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

[Wednesday] Santa Cruz, Cal., March 12, 1902.

To his Excellency  
Governor H. T. Gage,  
Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Sir:— Desiring to have your opinion as to the selection of the site for the California Polytechnical School, I take the liberty to make a report of the doings of the Trustees so far:

We decided that about 100 acres would be necessary. Mr. John notified the people of San Luis and vicinity of our wants. Upon arrival there, we were shown the following places which I have noted by numbers in red ink on enclosed map -

#1	Ed Lowe	100	acres	\$10,000.00
#2	Dawson Lowe	100	acres	4,000.00
#3	W. F. Wood	99 7/10	acres	18,000.00
#4	Goldtree Bros.	100	acres	12,500.00
#5	G. H. Orcutt	100	acres	8,000.00
#6	J. L. Crittenden	115	acres	13,000.00
#7	County Bank	70	acres	4,200.00
#8	Grant & Vachell	100	acres	9,000.00
#9	J. L. Crittenden	93 3/4	acres	9,000.00
#10	F. C. Cherry	110	acres	11,000.00
#11	D. R. Venable spining place -	40	acres	10,000.00
#12	Louis Maree	80	acres	at a reasonable price
#13	McAllister Priest Ranch			15,000.00

[Transcriber's Note: the copy of this letter in the University Archives at Cal Poly capitalizes "Spining place" in item #11 above.]

We were also offered the following places:

100 acres of the Fillmore land on the line of the road towards Templeton -  
no price given.

120 acres of the Goldtree land in the same locality at \$12000.

D. D. Bernard - part of the Chorro Ranch - 205 acres \$16000.

We did not visit the last three places, the first two are located in a narrow canyon and for that reason deemed unsuitable and too far from the Railroad. Mr. Fillmore has made no written offer and has not named a price. The same objections apply to the Goldtree 120 acre place.

The D. D. Bernard place - We deem it unsuitable owing to its distance from San Luis and from the Railroad and we deem the price too high.

After consideration, we eliminated the following places:

#1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16.

Our Second View — We deem #4 undesirable. The soil is too stiff, too many rocks and no visible sufficient water supply except by purchase from the owner at monthly rates. The price is too high. The owner offered to reduce the price but did not name a lower figure. The land is assessed at about \$ 70.00 per acre.

#7 - The price is too high, no visible supply of water and the quantity of land insufficient - assessed at \$40 per acre.

#8 - For purely agricultural purposes, this land is of choice quality, but too level for our purposes. The slight elevation on the land, claimed to be suitable for the location of the buildings, is not high enough. The outlet of the City sewer being between this land and the City, is an objection, also the distance from the Railroad. Assessed at from \$35 to \$40 per acre.

#10 - This place is suitable for our purposes but has been laid out and assessed in blocks and lots, with a fine wide avenue running through the middle leading to #6. It seems to be considered an open highway.

Five or six blocks or parcels of this land have been sold to others, the contracts or deeds to some of them at least describe the land sold by blocks and lots and refer to a map on which the blocks and lots are numbered and the streets named. Some of the land thus sold is near the center of the tract. The land belongs to the West Coast Land Company. Mr. Cherry, its agent, has promised to reduce the price and to try to have the owners of the blocks and lots sold release their right, if any, to the use of the streets as shown on the map except so far as necessary to reach the public highway, but I doubt the success of this undertaking.

There is no natural forest from which to obtain firewood, but a part of the trees along the main avenue can be cut out and used for fuel.

Water — There is none in sight. It is claimed there is an abundant supply under the surface about 20 feet deep. Connections can easily be made with the mains of the City Water Company. The lowest figure for this block has not been named but it may be as low as \$8000.00. Assessed at \$75 per acre.

#2 — The 100 acres originally offered are assessed at from \$45 to \$60 per acre and are a part of a larger tract located adjoining to the Northern limit of San Luis. We deem this land as most suitable and the price reasonable. We have taken an option for the purchase of about 275 acres fronting on the East side of the S.P.R.R. I enclose a copy of the agreement. **It was drawn by me**; it is far from artistic; I had to write as Mr. Lowe and I talked, without legal aid but Mr. Graves approved of it before it was executed. **I paid \$10 to secure an option for sixty days.** In case we locate here, we think a flag station will be established here, also a side track.

A broad Avenue is to be located there so as to connect with Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue which leads to the center of the town. The neighborhood is clean and so far as we can judge, less windy and less frosty than many of the other locations offered. We sampled some of the oranges which we picked from Mr. Lowe's grove on this land. They were the best we saw in the valley and though not equal to the best Riverside oranges, they are good marketable oranges.

The parcel of 40 acres and the last 15 acres parcel are good valley lands, and are assessed at \$60.00 per acre. The second parcel, containing about 80 acres is also valley land but the land between it and the R.R. is the better part of the valley. It is assessed at \$45 per acre. There is no waste land on either of the three parcels named except that a creek runs through the latter parcel which had quite a flow of water when we saw it but runs dry in the summer.

The third parcel contains about 140 acres, consisting of a mountain slope and a timbered gulch with the creek flowing through it, which as said before, runs dry in the summer but is said to have water all summer above this parcel on other lands of Mr. Lowe. A gulch supposed to have springs empties into this creek. This gulch has a good little body of oak timber growing on it. On the western slope of the hill opposite to where the buildings are to be located and about 250 feet above it, there is a spring <sup>^</sup>*which*<sup>^</sup> is said to and we believe does run the year around. It yields not more than 1000 gallons a day, but we believe that the flow can be materially in-

creased. The quality of the water seems to be very good. But a short distance from this spring, on the adjoining land, #6, there are similar springs which are yielding a sufficient amount of water for that place. We believe more water can be found along the same stratum further North, on the land on which we have an option. Besides the water, the land on this third parcel is suitable, a small part for raising hay and possibly vines and other fruit, a large part for pasture, nearly all of it for forestry. The price agreed upon, \$10 per acre, being low, we extended its boundaries so as to make sure that the visible spring and the water bearing stratum be included.

In addition to these four parcels and as an easement thereto, we have a right to dam the creek on Mr. Lowe's land which extends a quarter of a mile above the land on which we have an option and to appropriate this water to our use. This right is very desirable for the purpose of irrigating a considerable part of the valley land, also to serve for stock purposes, should the spring supply prove insufficient. In addition to the water of the spring and creek, we are informed and believe that a sufficient supply of water for domestic and steam purposes can be obtained from wells 25 feet or less deep.

On the highest part of the 15 acre parcel, there is a rock deposit suitable for roads and also for concrete work for the foundation of the buildings and for reservoirs.

We may or may not buy this 15 acre parcel. If we do not buy it, we can for the sum of \$10 acquire the right to take rock from this deposit to the depth of ten feet below the highest point. It would seem best to include these 15 acres in the purchase as it will give us a wider frontage on the Railroad. The price of this 15 acre parcel is considerably higher than the other land, but it is worth more as one-half of the \$40 per acre parcel is foothill land, the same as the \$35. per acre parcel while the \$70. per acre parcel extends less than half the distance from the Railroad to the foothills - besides this, the 15 acre tract is nearer the City. Assuming the total area of the land on which we have an option to be 275 acres, the total price including the water privilege figures up \$6860.00 or say \$25.00 per acre.

We are seeking to secure about 30 acres of the land which lies between the 2nd parcel and the Railroad and including the creek, at say \$50 per acre. It may however cost \$75 per acre. We deem it very desirable to purchase this land so as to square the tract and to further secure the water rights of the creek.

We have not decided yet to select the land offered by Dawson Lowe as the site for the school for several reasons:

First - We may be able to get better offers.

Second - We desire to submit our choice for your approval.

Third - We want to ascertain whether there is any flaw in the title

and

Fourth - The owner wishes that no publicity be given to the proposed purchase for the present so as to give him a better chance to have Hathaway [i.e., Hathaway] Avenue, which leads to his place, widened to the breadth of 100 feet.

We are brimful of projects as to the proposed school, but we have come to no conclusion so far, except that the foundation of the school is to be agriculture in all the branches carried on in this State, and domestic economy. From this, we pro-

pose to branch out into the mechanical branches and later on even sciences. We rely upon the Legislature supplying the means. It is suggested that as soon as the land is secured, we employ a Superintendent who has practical experience in such work and who we hope has a wife suitable to make the matron of the establishment.

We propose to give notice that we are ready to receive application for scholars. The first wanted are students in agriculture who will take an engineering course. They will assist in making a topographical map of the premises.

Next the Superintendent with said students will make floor plans for and locate the necessary buildings. These plans to be submitted to a competent architect for approval and for making plans for the elevations and for making specifications for all the buildings in detail; these plans and specifications to serve as text books for the instruction of the students.

Next we call for more students to make the necessary excavations and construct the foundations of the buildings, the first of which will probably be a work shop, a store house, a blacksmith shop, a residence for the Superintendent and his family with perhaps room enough for lodging the female students, a dining hall and kitchen, a stable for horses, also one for cows, sheep and chicken house, a school room and a social hall. Next we arrange for the construction of all these buildings, by contract if necessary or best, or by employing competent foremen and by taking in students who desire to learn the trade of mason, carpenter, plasterer or painter; the students who will thus make themselves useful to have the preference of being accepted as scholars.

We figure to provide for say 100 scholars, tuition to be free, the lodging and board to be paid for, except for such scholars who do enough work to pay for their board and lodging. The price of board and lodging be substantially at cost.

Until the necessary accommodations [sic] are provided, the Superintendent, students etc must board in town or elsewhere near by.

All these matters have been generally talked over - nothing has been determined on except that Senator Smith has been elected Chairman and Professor Wickson, Secretary. A meeting of the Board is to be held a week from next Saturday [March 22] at the Palace Hotel, at which I trust you will honor us by your presence.

I am addressing you at the suggestion of Senator Smith, our Chairman, who left today for Bakersfield[,] and at my own suggestion.

Respectfully yours, /s/ F A Hihn

**1902 Mar 13**

Source: Letter No. 2057 Book 46, p. 979-980 Letters of F. A. Hihn  
[also, photocopy from the University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, which bears F. A. Hihn's signature. Content conformed.]

To: Edward James Wickson, Professor, University of California, Berkeley, Cal.  
From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Santa Cruz, March 13, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:— I beg leave to present to you herewith:

- 1st — The offer of Dawson Lowe with his receipt for \$10 attached.
- 2nd — A map of the Goldtree tract.
- 3rd — A map of the Slack tract and a description of same tract.
- 4th — A map of Breed tract.
- 5th — A copy of my letter to Governor Gage.
- 6th — A sketch of the Dawson Lowe tract.

Senator Smith having been called away, I wrestled with Mr. Lowe as best I could. He may be uneducated, but he has very decided views of what he wants. It was past midnight before the papers were signed and the \$10 paid.

The dam, he would not have it higher than ten feet, I wanted it twenty feet. Nor would he allow us to excavate the rock in the knoll more than ten feet below the highest point. He may, of course, go lower should we buy.

He insisted that the 100 foot roadway should be laid out in the whole front of his land else he would not give it across the remainder of his land. I deemed it wise to yield, particularly as the land can be partly used for ornamental and shade trees and for shrubbery.

Mr. Graves read the option contract before it was signed and approved of it.  
[page 980]

Please advise me whether you approve the option. I may be able to have it changed if you deem best.

Our task was arduous, but being in good company I enjoyed the work.

Yours truly,

/s/ F. A. Hihn

**1902 Mar 13**

Source: Letter No. 2065 Book 46, p. 990 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Thomas J. Kirk, California Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
Sacramento, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Santa Cruz, Cal., March 13, 1902.

Honorable Thos. J. Kirk, Superintendent of Schools, Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Sir:— I beg leave to enclose a copy of the contract I made with Mr. Dawson Lowe, also a copy of my letter to Governor Gage, which states my views on the proposition before us.

Senator Smith having been called away, I wrestled with Mr. Lowe as best I could. He may be uneducated, but he has very decided views of what he wants. It was past midnight before the papers were signed and the \$10 paid.

The dam, he would not have it higher than ten feet, I wanted it twenty feet. Nor would he allow us to excavate the rock in the knoll more than ten feet below the highest point. We may, of course, go lower should we buy.

He insisted that the 100 foot roadway should be laid out in the whole front of his land else he would not give it across the remainder of his land. I deemed it wise to yield, particularly as the land can be partly used for ornamental and shade trees and for shrubbery.

Mr. Graves read the option contract before it was signed and approved of it.

Please advise me whether you approve the option. I may be able to have it changed if you deem best.

Our task was arduous, but being in good company I enjoyed the work.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: The same letter was sent to his fellow Trustee, the Honorable Warren M. John, who was also the Assemblyman who represented San Luis Obispo County in the 34th and 35th Sessions of the California Legislature (1901-1903).] [see Letter No. 2066, Book 46, p. 990 Letters of F. A. Hihn]

**1902 Mar 22**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Mar 22 3:3  
**County News.**

...

The Polytechnic school at San Luis Obispo is now a certainty and the people of that city are busy discussing the site.

...

**1902 Mar 22**

Source: Letter No. 2058.1 - 2058.5 Book 46, p. 980-986 Letters of F. A. Hihn  
[A copy is also contained in the University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.]  
[7 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with one minor manuscript correction]

To: Henry T. Gage, Governor of California, Sacramento, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

[Wednesday] Santa Cruz, Cal., March 12, 1902.

...

A meeting of the Board is to be held a week from next Saturday [March 22, 1902] at the Palace Hotel, at which I trust you will honor us by your presence.

...

**1902 Mar 25**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 17] The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, March 25, 1902; President Smith in the chair. There were present Trustees Smith, Hihn, Kirk, Graves, John and Wickson.

Trustee Smith submitted a list of By-laws for the regulation of the proceedings of the Board which were considered seriatim and with slight amendment were finally adopted, as follows:

**REGULAR MEETINGS.**

The Board shall hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday in May, August, November and February, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A. M. The place of meeting shall be San Luis Obispo, California, but the Board may, before adjournment, designate another place for the holding of the next meeting, in which event the absent members shall be notified in writing by the Secretary at least ten days before the date of the meeting.

[p. 19]

**SPECIAL MEETINGS.**

Special meetings shall be called by the Secretary at the written request of the President or of any three members. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed to each member at his last known place of residence, so that in the regular course of the mail it will reach him five days before the date of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that specified in the call.

**OFFICERS.**

The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Treasurer and Secretary may or may not be members of the Board.

**QUORUM.**

Four members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. But a less number may adjourn to another date in which event they shall notify the absentees by mail, telegraph or telephone at least eighteen hours before the hour adjourned to.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS.**

The order of business at each meeting shall be as follows, but may be changed or suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present.

1. Calling the roll.
2. Reading the minutes not theretofore read and approved.
3. Reading communications and petitions.
4. Reports of Special Committee.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Unfinished buisness [sic].
7. New Business.

**VOTING.**

Voting on any question may be vive voce, but at the request of one member, the

roll shall be called and the vote entered in the minutes; provided that on all questions authorizing the expenditure of money, the roll shall be called and the vote recorded.

At least four affirmative votes shall be required to elect a person to a position in this School or to other employment by this Board, or to authorize any expenditure of money.

#### RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS.

All resolutions shall be submitted in writing, and motions shall be reduced to writing at the request of one member.

#### RULES OF ORDER.

The Board shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except as provided in these rules.

#### AMENDMENTS.

Any rule of this Board may be amended or repealed at any regular meeting by an affirmative vote of four members, but notice of the proposed amendment or repeal must be given and filed in writing at a preceeding [sic] regular or special meeting.

As the By-laws provided for the election of a vice-president such election was declared in order. On motion Trustee Hihn was placed in nomination. On motion nominations were closed and the Secretary instructed to cast the ballot for Trustee Hihn. This having been done he [Hihn] **was declared** by the President duly **elected vice-president**.

[p. 23]

A letter from J. H. Orcutt modifying his offer of land for a site for the School was read and placed on file.

Trustee Hihn, from the special committee to promote arrangements for site, reported the securing of an option upon the lands of Mr. Dawson Lowe and submitted a copy of the same, which was ordered to be placed on file.

Opportunity was given for parties interested in offers of sites and Messrs. Sandicott [i.e., William Sandercock], Brooks and Johnson appeared and individually addressed the Board in favor of the tract offered for the purpose by Messrs. Grant and Vachel.

Upon reassembling [sic] in executive session, Trustee Hihn submitted letters, a map and abstract of title from Mr. Dawson Lowe (retaining them in his possession for future use of his committee). Trustee Hihn moved that the Board proceed to the selection of a site for the school by taking informal ballots to ascertain the preferences of the Board. Carried.

The President appointed Trustees Kirk and John to act as tellers. Ballots were collected as follows:-

First:	McAllister	site	1 vote
	Phillips Addition	"	1 vote
	Dawson Lowe	"	4 votes

Second:	Grant and Vachel	“	3 votes
	Dawson Lowe	“	3 votes
Third:	Grant and Vachel	“	2 votes
	Dawson Lowe	“	4 votes

The following resolution was offered by Trustee John: -

**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School in session March 25, 1902, herewith select as a site for the said institution the so called Lowe tract near the City of San Luis Obispo, provided the title to said land is good.**

Upon roll call the vote upon the resolution was as  
[p. 27]

follows: Ayes: Trustees Hihn, Kirk, John, Graves, Smith, Wickson.  
Noes: None. Adopted.

Trustee Kirk submitted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that as the Lowe property has been by action of this Board selected as the site of the Polytechnic School that a Committee consisting of Messrs. Graves, Hihn and John be appointed to see that the land is properly measured and described and that the site include fifteen or more acres adjoining the first optioned tract on the south and contiguous to the right of way of the Southern Pacific Railroad at a price not to exceed \$70.00 per acre, and see that a full and complete abstract of title to be approved by the Attorney General be furnished and submit all papers for final consumation [sic] of purchase at a meeting of the Board to be held on date to be suggested by the above named members to which meeting the present session on closing today to be adjourned.

Adopted.

Upon motion the Secretary was authorized to invite President Wheeler and Professors Hilgard and Anderson to address the Board at its next meeting upon the scope, purpose and methods of the California Polytechnic School. Upon motion of Trustee Hihn Trustees Kirk and Wickson were appointed a special committee to report upon a course of study and plan for school work.

Adjourned subject to the call of the President.

/s/ E J Wickson Secy.

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**1902 Mar 29**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Mar 29 1:3

### **Site for Polytechnic School Selected.**

The board of directors for the San Luis Polytechnic school met Tuesday at the Palace Hotel San Francisco and selected the Lowe tract for the school. Several tracts of land had been submitted as feasible sites. Among them were the Phillips

tract, Lowe tract, M. C. Allister [sic] tract. The land selected lies adjacent to San Luis Obispo and is considered well adapted to the purposes of the school. The board adjourned to meet again in May and in the mean time the proposed site will be surveyed [sic] and arrangements made incidental to the transfer of the property to the state.

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### 1902 Apr 4 & 5

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[4 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with a facsimile of F. A. Hihn's signature, by another hand] [Reproduced in full below, see 1902 Apr 8]

April 4th and 5th, the time when Hihn and other Trustees met in San Luis Obispo.

"... a meeting of the Committee was held at San Luis on the 4th inst. ..."

"... The next morning the Committee met on the ground, Mr. Woods the Surveyor was present. ...."

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### 1902 Apr 5

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Apr 5 3:2

#### Local Occurrences.

...

F. A. Hihn of the Paso Robles Hotel Company arrived yesterday afternoon.

...

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### 1902 Apr 5

Source: Inventory & Description of Younger Collection Box 52  
[UC-NRLF W 31 293] SPZ SPEC YOUNGER BOX 52  
[no envelope]; on letterhead of Hotel Ramona, F. J. McHenry, Prop.,  
San Luis Obispo, Cal.

To: "My dear Mr. Younger"  
[Charles Bruce Younger Jr. (F. A. Hihn's son-in-law)]

From: F. A. Hihn

April 5, 1902

"Your very interesting letters from San Juan to me and from Jolon to your father were read with great interest.

The account of the wanderings of **yourself & Agnes** through the streets (pardon me "street") of **San Juan**, the great City which has the distinction of being the most diminutive municipality in the State brought back vividly to my memory my wanderings through this street 52 years ago.

Yesterday I started from Santa Cruz, stopped at Watsonville, inspected the Loma Prieta Lumber yard, took the N. G [narrow gauge] train to Salinas inspected the

lumber yard at Moss Landing on the way and on arrival at Salinas the lumber yard and planing mill there, **then took the train to Paso Robles** and went out to view some clearing of land I am having done and on my return to the hotel inspected the boilers engine, elevator etc. and the new walks and other work in the grounds, and **then took the train to San Luis Obispo where I had a meeting with my Co trustees of the Polytechnic school, a conference with the party from whom we propose to buy the site of the school**, with the County Surveyor, and then I drew up a form for a deed for the site to the State - then I wrote a long letter to Supt. Adams of Stockton about an extension of our works to Lodi - etc etc - and finally about 12 MN. I tumbled into bed. This morning I got up early - have made a visit to the proposed site with the surveyor etc, settled all debatable questions and return this afternoon to Santa Cruz, where I shall be due at about 9 PM.

I heard of you at Paso Robles, you had to stay there two days, a good rest for the horses, possibly for you & Agnes - Have not heard from you here.

Sent the trunk to Santa Barbara by Express. Mailed the Key in a letter to Genl. Delivery at Santa Barbara directed to forward to San Diego if not called for at Santa Barbara.

Adios Don Carlos, best wishes & greetings to you and Agnes.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ F A Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: C. B. Younger Jr. and Agnes Hihn were married on January 1st, 1902, and this was their honeymoon trip. For the story of F. A. Hihn's sojourn at San Juan Bautista from Aug. 22, 1851 to Sept. 12, 1851, see F. A. Hihn's "How I came to Santa Cruz" in *Santa Cruz County History Journal*, Issue Number 1, 1994, pp. 73-81. With an Introduction to F. A. Hihn and Notes by Stanley D. Stevens.]

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### 1902 Apr 8

Source: University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo  
[4 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with a facsimile of F. A. Hihn's signature]

*Copy* Santa Cruz, Cal., April 8, 1902.

Honorable Thos. J. Kirk,  
Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
Sacramento.

Dear Sir:—

After having unsuccessfully attempted by letter to have Mr. Lowe consent to various changes of our option, of which letter I enclose a copy, a meeting of the Committee was held at San Luis on the 4th inst. Mr. Lowe who was present insisted strongly that the deed should contain a clause limiting the use of the ground for a Polytechnic School. He claimed the price named by him to be only half value and that for any other purpose the land could not be purchased at less than double

this price, that should the State propose to locate a State Prison or an Insane Asylum on that land, he would not sell it at any price. Against which we urged that the Act provided the purpose for which the land was bought and that no money should be expended on it until after the State had acquired a title in fee simple.

He declined to reduce the price of the 15 acre tract, to build any part of the road along the railroad or to make an allowance on the purchase price for the land required for said road, claiming that he has named \$75 per acre as the price, but had reduced it to 70 per acre on account of the opening of said road.

He was disinclined to allow the flooding of his land on the creek to the depth of 20 feet (instead 10) or to pay one half of the cost of the fences on the division lines unless it be provided that the line of fence running from the Railroad East should be a post and board fence and the fences in the hills to be post and wire fences.

THE FLOODING — Mr. Lowe consented to increase the depth to 15 feet [page 2:]

and he said he might make it 20 feet. This is important as 10 feet is insufficient for storage room for water.

THE FENCES ALONG HIS RIGHT OF WAY — He suggested that as the school would have the right to use this road, it ought to build half the fence, to which we agreed, as the Western line of the road will be substantially on the line between the cultivated and the pasture land, where a fence will be needed, even if no road be located.

It was agreed that this road should be located and built in a manner so as to prevent the storm water from injuring the land in the flat.

The next morning the Committee met on the ground, Mr. Woods the Surveyor was present.

THE 15 ACRE PARCEL — Mr. Lowe has staked out a new line enlarging the Railroad frontage and the space near the red rock deposit on the knoll. On inspection, the line was moved 75 feet further South and so as to run at right-angles with the Railroad, thus further increasing the R.R. frontage.

THE EAST BOUNDARY of the 15 acre lot was also moved further East so as to give us the slopes of the knoll. Mr. Lowe says he intended to continue Hathaway [sic] Avenue so as to run along the East boundary of the 15 acre tract thus giving us another [sic] desirable means of access.

THE RED ROCK DEPOSIT — There is an indication of a similar body further West on the 15 acre tract. Besides this we found but one small outcropping on the Northside of the creek near the North-east corner of our land. A street in San Luis Obispo macadamized with similar rock proves it to be well adapted for that purpose. I deem this rock deposit of considerable value.

The ground along the Railroad from Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue North is comparatively level requiring only a light expense for grading and bridging. [page 3:]

The 60 foot road is to be located and built at Mr. Lowe's expense.

Possession of the land — We are to have immediate possession of all the land we may require for building purposes, but Mr. Lowe reserves this year['s] crop on a part of the 80 acre tract which has grown up quite high since our first visit.

I arranged with Mr. Woods, the Surveyor, to notify Mr. Johnson [Charles H. Johnson] of the proposed survey of the line between him and Mr. Lowe. Mr. Graves, our Co-trustee, who is Mr. Johnson's attorney, fully approves of this course.

The survey is at Mr. Lowe's expense. If we want a map we will pay for it.

The house and barn on the land creek go with the land. Some of the chicken houses belong to the tenant. [Mattos?]

The East line of the tract was to run North and South, 200 feet East of the "Spring" and so as to include the water shed [i.e.; watershed] of the first little gulch. This water shed was found to extend to the top of the mountain. It was arranged to run the line straight from North to South along a line on the East side of the gulch where a fence can be conveniently built and maintained. This will exclude the land which extends to the top of the mountain which is of but little value to us.

We walked through the canyon along the creek. We were favorably impressed with the facility for building a dam at the upper end.

**Mr. Lowe's proposition to convey the land for a Polytechnic School only seemed difficult to dispose of. The matter was discussed by the Committee until a late hour without a solution. Later on, after burning some midnight oil, I drew a form for a deed which sets forth the provisions of the act under which we proceed,** relating to the organization of the  
[page 4:]

Board of Trustees etc and the selection of the site. Mr. Graves considers the form satisfactory, Mr. John approves it and Mr. Lowe is willing to adopt it. I enclose a copy. If approved by you, please submit it to the Attorney General for his approval and wire me the result so that I can stop the expense if unfavorable.

The survey is being made. When I get the field notes I will prepare the description of the land and the easements.

I have sought in the little time at my command to give you as full a report of our doings as possible.

Truly yours,

(signed) F. A. Hihn

[but it is not his signature]

**1902 Apr 9**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with F. A. Hihn's signature]

Santa Cruz, Cal. April 9, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

So that you may know what is going on, I enclose a copy of my letter to Mr. Kirk, also a copy of the form of the deed from Mr. Lowe to the State, the description of the land and easements to follow.

I do not think that the recitals will affect the title. The recitals simply state facts which, if material might be proven, if they had not been recited.

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

In viewing the site again, I have seen nothing to weaken my decided preference for the Lowe place.

The 15 acre tract will probably grow to 20 acres, the land that is to be added is worth fully 25% more than the average of the 15 acres as first selected and I am much pleased to have been able to arrange to have our South boundary run easterly at a right angle with the Railroad. I think it will materially improve the looks of the site coming by rail Northward.

The land is now being surveyed. Should you disapprove of anything in the form submitted or can suggest any improvement or alteration in same, I would thank you to advise me at an early day so that the form can be changed as you may suggest and the deed prepared.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

**1902 Apr 19**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Apr 19 3:2

#### **County News.**

The people of the county are taking a deep interest in the success of the proposed new polytechnic school. At the next meeting of the board of trustees the transfer of the land from Dawson Lowe to the State of California will be made. The survey has been furnished by County Surveyor Woods.

**1902 Apr 26**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Apr 26 1:3

#### **MONEY SECURED.**

— — —

#### **Everything Now Ready for Scenic Road.**

— — —

#### **F. A. Hihn Sends Check for \$100**

J. H. Ooley to be Foreman of Work.

— — —

By the receipt of a check for \$100 from F. A. Hihn the building of the scenic road is now assured. The total sum required is \$300 and nearly that amount has been raised. The balance can be raised by the asking.

The grade up the point near the city limits promises to be difficult grading on account of the rock. J. H. Ooley has been selected to take charge of the work in the absence of Supervisor Pfister. These two gentlemen went over the work thoroughly this week and are prepared to put a large force to work at once. It was planned to commence grading Friday but owing to the rain, active operations will not commence before next week.

The road will be the pride of Paso Robles. The many beautiful views to be seen from the higher points will give visitors an opportunity to see the vast expanse of territory surrounding Paso Robles to better advantage than in any other way. Thus more than mere pleasure will be derived from this road. The Paso Robles Scenic Drive will hereafter be a feature of important mention in literature and will have much to do in spreading the fame of our town and the enterprise of our citizens who have so generously lent their aid to the project.

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**1902 May 6**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript notations at upper left:  
"W. M. John, W. M. Graves, T. J. Kirk, F. A. Hihn" and one manuscript correction on p. 2]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to the above Trustees]

Sir:—

Berkeley, Cal. May 6, 1902.

I have been somewhat troubled about what to do with reference to the next meeting of the Board. According to the By-laws adopted at the last meeting a regular meeting would come due in San Luis Obispo on May 14th. At our last meeting we arranged that the next meeting should be in San Francisco and that we should listen to addresses by President Wheeler [Benjamin Ide Wheeler, President of the University of California, 1899-1919] and Professors Hilgard [Eugene Woldemar Hilgard] and Anderson [Leroy Anderson] as to the scope and methods of the School. The regular date of meeting in San Luis conflicts exactly with our Commencement Day and it would be impossible at that time to carry out the programme which we had already arranged. I wrote of this matter to President Smith [Senator Sylvester Clark Smith, President of the Cal Poly Board of Trustees] and received from him the following letter:

I note what you say about conflict of dates for the coming meeting of the Trustees of the Polytechnic School and realize the force of what you suggest. It is quite evident that the meeting should not be held on Commencement Day if we are to do the work which we outlined to do and which should be done at as early a date as possible. We can make no progress in planning buildings until we have in a measure outlined the work to be done, and therefore we should have a meeting with President Wheeler, Professors Hilgard and Anderson as soon as possible. I recommend that you correspond with the Trustees and agree upon a date satisfactory to them and yourself, and the University people, and that you then call a special meeting for that day, and we can then by adjournment pass over the regular day, if you arrange for an earlier one; or if you arrange for a later one we can all fail to attend at the date for the regular meeting. I find myself under imperative engagements for the whole week from the 5th to the 10th. I have some matters in Court for that week,

and on two or three other days we are to have some public demonstrations here in which I am to participate, and important business in Porterville one day that week. Would it not be better to have the meeting two or three days after your Commencement exercises, say Saturday, May 17th? I will leave this matter to you, however, and you have my consent for the meeting to be held at any date except the week mentioned. I think the meeting should be held in San Francisco, whenever it is called, as it will be much more convenient for the University people, and generally speaking more convenient for the members of the Board.

In compliance with the suggestions of the President I suggest that we allow the regular meeting on May 14th in San Luis to fail of a quorum and that we hold a special meeting in San Francisco

[page 2:]

on May 17th at 10:00 A.M., for the transaction of such business as may appear and to listen to addresses by the University people whom I will invite to be present at that time. If I do not hear from you I will understand that you accept this arrangement and that such special meeting is duly called by this notice.

I have not heard from the Special Committee as to whether the final transaction in the purchase of the site will be ready for consum<sup>m</sup>ation at that date or not, but if conditions are ready for such action it will be understood that it is included in the call for the special meeting.

Very respectfully,

[this copy not signed]

### 1902 May 13

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 29]

San Luis Obispo, May 13, 1902.

Regular meeting of the Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held in accordance with the By-law at San Luis Obispo May 13, 1902. Failing of a quorum, on motion of Trustee John adjournment was taken to meet in the Palace Hotel San Francisco May 17, 1902.

### 1902 May 13

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[5 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with F. A. Hihn's signature on first leaf]

Santa Cruz, Call [sic] May 13, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

I enclose copies of my letters to Attorney General, Victor H. Woods and Dawson Lowe and copy of form of deed. Mr. Kirk has been requested to forward to you tracing of map of land.

Kindly inform me whether you approve, if not state objections.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

**1902 May 13**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

*Copy*

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 13, 1902.

**TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
SACRAMENTO, CAL.**

Dear Sir:—

I take the liberty to present for your approval the form for a deed from Dawson Lowe and wife to State of California for the land selected by the Board of Trustees of the Polytechnic School for a site for said School.

Kindly suggest such alterations as you may seem desirable or necessary.

As there is to be a meeting of the Board of Trustees at an early day and as I desire at such meeting of the Trustees to present to the Trustees for thir [sic] approval a deed executed by the Grantors for the site of the Polytechnic School. I request action on your part at your earliest convenience and return of the deed to me with your answer, addressed to me at Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, if mailed Wednesday May 14th, 1902 or mailed later, addressed to me at Santa Cruz, Cal.

I beg leave to say that in drawing the deed, it became necessary ti [sic] conform to the wishes of the grantors as well as guard the interests of the Grantee. I trust I have succeeded in doing so.

I also enclose an abstract of the title to said land, which please retain until the deed shall have been executed and then submitted to you after which I request you return same to me.

Respectfully

*(signed) F. A. H.* [not F. A. Hihn's signed initials]

**1902 May 13**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 13, 1902.

Mr. Victor H. Woods,  
County Surveyor,  
San Luis Obispo Co.,

Dear Sir:—

I enclose herewith a copy of the form of the deed which we desire to obtain from Mr. Lowe. Please examine description carefully and have Mr. Lowe examine same also; as also as to thr [sic] corrections of the calculation of the purchase price which is as follows, to-wit-

Lot A	26 25/100	acres	at	\$70.00	- -	\$1837.50
" B	42 35/100	"	"	40.00		1694.00
" C	80	"	"	35.00		2800.00
" D	131 55/100	"	"	10.		<u>1315.50</u>
	[280.15 acres]					7647.00

Mr. Lowe marked some supposed errors as to the point of beginning of the 100 ft. right of way which did not agree with the <sup>^your^</sup> map. So as to avoid further discussion, I left out the posts in the description which I think you as well as Mr. Lowe will approve.

Mr. Lowe had marked on bottom of the 4th page "Sqid [i.e., said] right of way to extend to the railroad crossing North of C.P.S. -8". This I struch [i.e., struck] out because on the last page of the deed there is a clear reservation for Grantor, their heirs and assigns for the right to use for ingress and egress from their adjoining lands and their land on the West side of said Railroad [page 2:]

right of way on and across that part of the land herein described situated within 100 feet of said Railroad right of way.

I submit that this is a broader reservation than the one suggested by Mr. Lowe.

Please give this matter your immediate attention and return the deed to me with your report and suggestions thereon, signed officially; also of Mr. Lowe, as I must have the papers ready for the meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held at an early date.

Yours truly,

(Signed) F. A. Hihn

[this copy not signed]

C O P Y

**1902 May 13**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 13, 1902.

Mr. Dawson Lowe,  
San Luis Obispo, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

I sent corrected deed to Mr. Woods for his certificate. I enclose copy of letter to him. Please examine carefully and mark "O.K." if approved, if not, state objections. Your reservation, as stated in your late letter, of crops is all right.

Yours truly,

(Signed) F. A. Hihn

[this copy not signed]

Copy

**1902 May 17**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 29] San Francisco, May 17, 1902.

Adjourned Meeting, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, May 17, 1902. President Smith in the chair.

Present, Trustees Smith, Kirk, John and Wickson.

The minutes of the meeting of March 25, 1902 were read and approved.

Letters from Trustee Hihn to the Secretary and from Dawson Lowe to Trustee Hihn with reference to an error in the computation of acreage of one of his pieces of land was read, the latter being referred to Mr. Hihn's committee for adjustment. Upon invitation addresses on the scope and purpose of the School were delivered by Professor Hilgard and Mr. Leroy Anderson of the University of California.

Upon motion of Trustee Kirk, seconded by Trustee John thanks were tendered to the speakers for their valuable addresses. The meeting adjourned to reconvene at the Palace Hotel May 26, 1902.

/s/ E J Wickson Secy.

**1902 May 17**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with F. A. Hihn's signature]

[manuscript notation, top left, on diagonal:]

*Ans May 19*

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 17, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

On further inspection of the form of the deed and on advice of Mr. Woods, the County Surveyor of San Luis Obispo County, I deemed it necessary to make several changes in the form of which I have sent this day an amended form to the Attorney General.

My progress may seem slow, but I know of no way that I could have hastened it unless I had gone to San Luis and made the survey and field notes myself.

I enclose a copy of the amended form which I beg you to examine and return with such suggestions as you may deem advisable. If the form be approved by the Attorney General and yourself, I shall submit it to Mr. Graves and if approved by him, also <sup>I</sup> propose to have the deed executed by Mr. Lowe and his wife. I shall then resubmit it to the Attorney General for his final approval and it will then be ready for acceptance by the Board of Trustees.

I regret my inability to have been present at the meeting today. It would have been very interesting to me to have listened to the remarks of the gentlemen who were invited to be present.

Kindly advise me what arrangements have been made for the acceptance of the deed for the site.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 May 19**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[6 leaves, 14" x 8.5", typescript; with 6 leaves, 14" x 8.5" - in draft form]

**-COPY-**

THIS INDENTURE entered into this, the 19th day of May, A. D. 1902, by and between DAWSON LOWE and MARY JANE LOWE, the wife of said Dawson Lowe and Edward Lowe of the county of San Luis Obispo, in the State of California, parties of the first part, and THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, party of the second part.

Witnesseth:- That whereas the Legislature of said state by an Act entitled "An Act to establish the California Polytechnic School in the County of San Luis Obispo and making an appropriation therefor, approved March 8th, 1901, provided for the establishment, in the County of San Luis Obispo at or near the City of San Luis Obispo, of a school to be known as the California Polytechnic School and for the appointment by the Governor of said State of five persons who with the Governor and the Superintendent of Public Instruction of said State shall constitute the Board of Trustees of said school, and

Whereas said Act provides that said Board of Trustees shall have full power and authority to select a site for the permanent location of said School and that the site selected by it shall be and remain the permanent site for said school, and

Whereas in pursuance of said Act, the Governor of said State did within the time provided for in said Act appoint the following five [sic] persons, to-wit: S. C. Smith of the City of Bakersfield, in said State; William Graves of the City of San Luis Obispo, in said State; F. A. Hihn of the City of Santa Cruz, in said State and E. J. Wickson of the City of Berkeley in said State, as such Trustees, and

Whereas said last mention five [sic] persons have duly qualified as such Trustees and with H. T. Gage, the Governor of said State, and Thomas J. Kirk, the Superintendent of Public Instruction of said State, constitute the Board of Trustees of said school, and

[Transcriber's Note: the Draft of this document, cited above, contains the name of the fifth Trustee, "Warren M. John of the City of San Luis Obispo in said State." I have no clue as to why it was omitted from the final edition.]

[page 2:]

Whereas, said Board of Trustees have full power and authority under the provision of the aforesaid Act to purchase the land with its appurtenances hereinafter described for the permanent site of the California Polytechnic School out of the moneys provided by said Act.

Whereas the said Trustees did within the time prescribed by Law examine the different sites offered by the people of San Luis Obispo County for the location of

said school, and by a resolution duly passed at a regular meeting of the said Board of Trustees on the 26th Day of March, 1902, did select the land, with the appurtenances hereinafter described, as a permanent site for said school,

Now, therefore, said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINE and 30/100 (\$7709.30) DOLLARS to them in hand paid by said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and conveyed and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said party of the second part:

All that certain tract of land situate near the northern boundary line of the City of San Luis Obispo, within the said County of San Luis Obispo, in said State, bounded by a line:

Beginning at a post marked C.P.S. [California Polytechnic School?] No. 1 at the southwest corner of the south-east quarter of the south-west quarter of Section No. Fourteen (14) Township thirty (30) South Range twelve (12) East Mount Diablo Meridian, on the boundary line between John [i.e., Johnson, as in Draft] and Lowe,

Thence east along Section line thirty-two and 40/100 (32.40) chains to post L. No. 5,

Thence north twenty-nine (29) degrees east, Variation 15° 30' east, five and 80/100 (5.80) chains,

Thence north forty-nine (49) degrees fifteen minutes east three and 65/100 (3.65) chains to Live Oak tree marked C.P.S. No. 2,  
[page 3:]

Thence leaving said boundary line south twenty-eight (28) degrees forty-five (45) minutes east sixteen and 60/100 (16.60) chains,

Thence south nineteen (19) degrees east fourteen and 90/100 (14.90) chains,

Thence south eight (8) degrees east nineteen and 70/100 (19.70) chains to Post C.P.S. No. 3 on north line of Hays place.

Thence west along said Hays line thirty-three and 43/100 (33.43) chains to Post C.P.S. No. 4,

Thence south along said Hays line eight and 76/100 (8.76) chains to Post C.P.S. No. 5,

Thence leaving said Hays line south eighty-one (81) degrees twenty (20) minutes west nineteen and 74/100 (19.24) chains to Station 6.

Thence South twenty (20) degrees forty (40) minutes east nine and 83/100 (9.83) chains to Station 7,

Thence south Sixty-five (65) degrees twenty (20) minutes west twenty-one and 60/100 (21.60) chains to intersection with the fence of the eastern line of the right of way of the Southern Pacific Railroad,

Thence following said right of way fence northerly fifteen and 70/100 (15.70) chains to Station 8,

Thence continuing along said right of way fence northerly fourteen and 6/100 (15.06) chains to Post C.P.S. No. 10 on Johnson line,

Thence east along Johnson line seventeen and 24/100 (17.24) chains to Post C.P.S. No. 11,

Thence north along Johnson line forty (40) chains to point of beginning, con-

taining two hundred and eighty-one and 4/100 (281.04) acres.

[page 4:]

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and together with the following easements as appurtenances to the land hereby conveyed to-wit:-

1st:- As a means of ingress to and egress from the land hereby conveyed, the construction, maintenance and use of paths, sidewalks a wagon-road, street railroads, pipe and wire lines, fountains, seats and other conveniences and for seeding, planting, raising and maintaining shade and other ornamental trees, shrubs, plants and lawns; said parties of the first part hereby grant to said party of the second part:

The free use of that certain parcel of land situated in said County of San Luis Obispo, adjoining southerly to said tract of land hereinabove described within the exterior lines of the southwest quarter of the south-west quarter of the north-west quarter of Section Twenty-six (26) Township (30) South Range Twelve (12) East Mount Diablo Meridian and bounded by a line:

Beginning at Post C. P. S. No. 12 at the intersection of the west line of Hath[a]way Avenue with the fence on the easterly line of the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way;

Thence northerly along said right of way fence twenty-four and 65/100 (24.65) chains to post C.P.S. No. 8;

Thence north sixty-five (65) degrees thirty (30) minutes east one and 51/100 (1.51) chains;

Thence southerly and parallel to said right of way fence and one hundred (100) feet distant therefrom to post C.P.S. No. 13 on the west line of Hath[a]way Avenue;

Thence south two and 50/100 (2.50) chains to the point of beginning.

2nd:- Said parties of the first part hereby also grant to said party of the second part the right:

To construct, maintain and operate east of the land hereby conveyed, a dam or dams across the creek which passes through said last mentioned land known as Brizzolero creek [Brizziolari Creek = Source: U.S.G.S., GNIS].

[page 5:]

To retain the water of said creek.

To flood the land of said parties of the first part along and near the banks of said creek with the water of said creek, to a depth of fifteen feet above the bed of said creek.

To appropriate and divert said water.

To construct, maintain and operate on and through said last mentioned land ditches, flumes and pipe lines for the purpose of diverting, carrying and appropriating said water for use on the land hereby conveyed and other land.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said first described tract of land with said appurtenances forever; and the parties of the first part hereby bind themselves, their executors, administrators successors and assigns to the aforesaid covenants for the benefit of the land hereinabove described, and hereby conveyed.

Said parties of the first part reserving, however, for themselves and for their heirs and assigns:

The right to locate, construct and use a sixty foot wide road over and across the first described tract of land, the middle line of said road beginning at a point thirty (30) feet west of said post C.P.S. No. 5 and running thence north eight and 76/100 (8.76) chains to a point thirty (30) feet west of said post C.P.S. No. 4; thence northerly and north-easterly on an ascending grade of not less than two feet to the hundred feet, except where crossing water courses or other depressions, to the easterly line of said first described tract of land; said parties of the first part to construct and maintain a good and substantial fence along the easterly line of said road; said party of the second part to have the right:

1st:- To cross said road at places convenient to it.

2nd:- To construct, maintain and use across said road other roads or paths for ingress to and egress from the land conveyed by these presents situated on the easterly side of said road.

[page 6:]

3rd:- Without interfering with the use of said road for travel to conduct, maintain and use along and across said road pipe and wire lines for the transportation of water, electric current and other commodities.

4th:- To travel on said road.

5th:- To plant and maintain thereon shade and other ornamental trees and to remove such trees at pleasure, provided the party of the second part shall protect said trees from all damage.

6th:- To construct and maintain ditches on the inside of said road for the conveyance of stormwater.

Reserving also for the use of the parties of the first part, their heirs and assigns, the right to use for ingress to and egress from their adjoining lands and their land on the west side of said Railroad right of way over and across that part of the land herein described situated within one hundred (100) feet of said Railroad right of way.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals this the day and year herein first mentioned.

(signed)

Dawson Lowe (Seal)

Mary Jane Lowe (Seal)

Edward Lowe (Seal)

**-COPY-**

**1902 May 19**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, pp. 5-7 [3 leaves, 11" x 8.5",  
typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson on 2d p.]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

[Berkeley, Cal.] May 19, 1902.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Trustee California Polytechnic School,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dear Sir,

We were exceedingly sorry that you could not be present on Saturday last. Professor Hilgard and Mr. Anderson gave us very interesting discussions of the purposes and methods of the proposed school and at my request Mr. Anderson supplied copies of his paper, one of which I send you, herewith. I hope you may have opportunity to look it over carefully. I ask special attention to it for the reason that I propose to nominate Mr. Anderson for election to the Directorship of the new school. This matter was talked informally at our last meeting, but no action was taken because of the fact that barely a quorum was present. We decided to call a special meeting at the Palace Hotel at 10:00 A.M. Monday, May 26, hoping by that time the final transfer of the property can be arranged and possibly the election of a superintendent, in order that he may go to work at once in the preparation of details, so that we may proceed with the buildings as rapidly as possible.

I enclose, herewith, a communication addressed to you by Mr. Dawson Lowe with reference to an error in the survey made by Mr. Woods and a modification of the description which should go in the deed in view of the error made by the first survey. Mr. John said that as he understood it this computation by Mr. Story is correct and that if this modification of the description should be made the whole transaction would be ready for consummation. That is the reason why the next meeting was called so soon, May 26, trusting

F.A.H. [page] - 2-

that it could be all in readiness for transfer at that time. If you find that to be true would you write to Mr. Lowe to be present at that meeting.

I have taken the liberty of advising Mr. Anderson to call upon you before the next meeting of the Board, in order that you might have opportunity to judge of him from personal interview. He expects to be in Santa Cruz on Thursday afternoon of this week. If it would not be convenient for you to see him at that time will you kindly telegraph me on Wednesday?

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson

P.S. Your favor of May 17th just at hand. Word came at our meeting that Mr. Graves was quite ill, was in fact at a Sanitarium at some point not mentioned, so it may be desirable for you to ascertain where you could reach him with a copy of the deed which you wish to submit, or else further delay might occur. President Smith agreed to take up the matter of payment with the Controller so that the necessary warrant, or whatever the form may be which is to be handed to Mr. Lowe as payment for his deed will be in due shape for signatures at the next meeting. This is the matter to which I presume you refer when you ask me "what arrangements have been made for the acceptance of the deed for the site". If it seems to you not possible to get the documents in final shape for the meeting of May 26, please advise

me as soon as possible so that that [sic] meeting may be postponed. It is desirable to have it on that date if other things can be arranged, because supposing for a moment that Mr. Anderson might be chosen for the Directorship, he

F.A.H. [page] - 3-

plans to start east on the first of June to visit similar institutions at the east and secure data as soon as possible upon which we may proceed for intelligently in planning and providing for our Institution. He can send us plans and pictures of existing buildings which may be suggested. Please talk with him about that if you should arrange a meeting for Thursday. I have nothing to add to the amended form of deed which you submit. It seems to me wonderfully accurate and clear.

Sincerely yours, [P.S. not signed]

### 1902 May 22

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[6 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript corrections and signature of F. A. Hihn (on p. 4) and two geographical sketches, labeled: "Mr. Story's survey" [p. 5] and "Mr. Wood's" [p. 6]

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 22, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Sickness, death and a funeral have occupied my time since the date of the receipt of yours of the 19th inst. On my return last evening from a funeral at Watsonville I found your favor of the 19th inst. at hand enclosing a copy of Mr. Anderson's letter.

I was reading the letter when Mr. Anderson called [at Hihn's home]. I am favorably impressed with him and shall be pleased to second his nomination. He stayed only a short time as he intended to take the late train for Paso Robles.

I fear that I shall not be able to get the deed from Lowe ready for the meeting next Monday morning, but I consider the appointment of a Superintendent and the securing the services of Mr. Anderson for that purpose of such great importance, <sup>^that^</sup> even though the deed from Mr. Lowe may not be secured in time for consideration at the proposed meeting, I am ready to attend the meeting set for next Monday [May 26th 1902] at the Palace Hotel [San Francisco], though I suggest that the meeting be held at 11:00 A.M. instead of 10 A.M. so as to enable me to be in time by leaving here early Monday morning. If instead of Monday, the meeting can be postponed to a later date next week, the probability of obtaining the deed from Mr. Lowe would be greater; even one day's delay might accomplish the desired result.

Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I shall deem that the meeting will be held at 11 A.M. the 26th inst. at the Palace. Please leave word at the office in what room.  
[page 2:]

The principal difference between Mr. Story's survey [George Story, County Surveyor, San Luis Obispo] and Mr. Wood's [sic] is the course from Post No. 6 and 7. Mr. Woods runs this course S. 20° 40' West 9.85 chains, while Mr. Story runs it S. 20° 40' E. 9.83 chains. If the latter course be adopted, the course from Post 5 to Post 6

must be lengthened say 6 chains and Post 6 must be moved say 6 chains Westwardly the distance between Post 6 and 9, and Post 9 will be reduced from 26 chains as scaled in the Woods map to approximately 20 chains.

On scaling Mr. Wood's [sic] map I find the distance from Post 5 to Post 6, 15 chains, while his field notes and map call it 13.74 chains. It follows that a re-survey should be made from Post 5 to Post 7. At first I was inclined to believe Mr. Story's survey to be wrong, but the error in the distance from post 5 to 6 incline[s] me to think that Mr. Woods is wrong. Mr. Woods was absent last week and may not have returned yet.

In order to obtain a deed within the desired time, I shall prepare and send you a new form for the deed from Mr. Lowe with the description altered so as to run from Post 5 S. 81° 20' W. 19.74 chains instead of 13.74 chains as Mr. Woods has it, thence S. 20° 40' E. 9.83 chains; thence S. 20° W. 21. 50 [Note: there is a diagonal strikeout across the "0" and it isn't clear if that is meant to change "50" to "51" or "5"] chains to Post #8 and make the area of Lot A 27.14 acres (Story) instead [of] 26.25 (Woods) and the area of the whole tract 281.04 acres instead [of] 280.15 acres and the total consideration \$<sup>^</sup>7709.30<sup>^</sup> instead [of] \$7647.00 as in the form sent you.

I omitted [sic] to mention in posts #6 and 7 in the form of the deed for the reason that such mention would tend to make the description uncertain. Post #6 can certainly not be located where Mr. Story locates it and where Mr. Woods located it; the two locations must necessarily be a considerable distance apart.

[page 3:]

There is no certainty [sic] whether the description as altered will ~~will~~ be accurate, and whether the area given will be correct, but that is the best that can be done within the time at my disposal.

I believe the State will not suffer by the new description, in my opinion it will convey the land contracted for with Mr. Lowe and if there be any difference in the quantity it is apt to be of greater [insert here not decipherable] than smaller area than calculated by Mr. Woods.

The abstract of title and form of deed was sent to the Attorney General for examination and approval. Since then I have requested him to reserve his approval as some changes in the description would probably be necessary. It follows that his opinion as to the correctness of the deed will not be ready for our consideration at the meeting next week. The deed may be accepted by us subject to the approval of the Attorney General.

Kindly bring with you to the meeting the plan and description of the building I suggested might answer our purpose to begin with.

As to Mr. Lowe's presence at the meeting, I spoke to him as to how he proposed to arrange about the delivery of the deed. He replied that he was willing to trust us with it, feeling assured that we would do what was right. If he still thinks so, it would not be necessary for him to come up unless you or other Trustees desire to confer with him personally before accepting the deed.

I will try to get the form of the deed off by mail to him tonight and I will tell him that if the Trustees desire him to attend the meeting, I will wire him to that effect.

After consideration of the foregoing, I request you to telephone or wire me whether the time for the meeting stands for 11 A.M. the 26th inst.

[page 4:]

and whether Mr. Lowe's presence is deemed advisable.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

*^I enclose a tracing of the Woods survey and of the Storey survey.^* [i.e., Story]

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**1902 May 26**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 29] San Francisco, May 26, 1902.

Adjourned meeting - Palace Hotel, May 26, 1902.

Present Trustees Hihn, Kirk, John, Smith and Wickson: absent Trustees Gage and Graves.

[p. 31]

President Smith in the chair.

Trustee Hihn special committee on site reported a deed executed by Dawson Lowe and his wife [Mary Jane Lowe] and Edward Lowe [Dawson's brother] for the tract of land selected for a site for a consideration of \$7,709.30 and recommended acceptance by the Board. Trustee Kirk moved that the report be adopted, the deed be accepted, and a warrant drawn for the amount of \$7,709.30 to be delivered to the grantors named above on the approval of title and conveyance of the Attorney General.

The motion was carried on roll call as follows: Hihn, aye; John, aye; Smith, aye; Kirk, aye; Wickson, aye: Noes - none.

Trustee Hihn reported action with reference to local owners as to the opening and widening of Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue and in opening approaches to the school.

Trustee Wickson offered the following resolutions:

RESOLVED that the management of the institution in accordance with rules and policies approved by the Board of Trustees shall be vested in a principal officer whose title shall be "Director of the California Polytechnic School", to hold office during the pleasure of the Board. It shall be the duty of said Director to maintain discipline, to supervise instruction and to participate therein so far as found practicable, to keep accurate accounts of receipts and expenditures and conduct the business of the School in accordance with the methods prescribed by the Board; to examine into the qualifications, characters and suitability of applicants for election as instructors and other employes [sic] of the Board, to nominate persons for election to the various positions created by the Board, to temporarily suspend and immediately report to the Board any incumbent of such position guilty of gross dereliction of duty or wilful insubordination; to submit to the Board

[p. 33]

at each regular meeting a detailed report on the operations of the institution and to make recommendations for its future operation; in short to do everything within his power for the promotion of the work and interests of the School.

RESOLVED that the compensation of said Director shall be \$200.00 per month, beginning with the date of his acceptance of the position unless otherwise specified by resolution of the Board.

The Resolutions were adopted by the following vote: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Smith, Kirk, Wickson. Noes, none.

Trustee Kirk moved that Leory [sic] Anderson be elected to the directorship - his services to date from June 1, 1902, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast the ballot of the Board. The motion was carried upon roll call as follows: Ayes: Trustees Hihn, Kirk, John, Smith and Wickson. Noes: none.

In accordance with this motion the Secretary cast the ballot for Mr. Leroy Anderson for Director and the President declared him duly elected to the office in accordance with the terms of the resolutions previously adopted.

The Committee on the site for the school was authorized to have a topographic survey made of certain parts of the site as they think necessary.

Upon motion of Trustee Kirk duly carried Mr. Frank Miller, of D. O. Mills Bank, Sacramento, was elected Treasurer and the President and Secretary empowered to execute a power of attorney to the Treasurer to receive funds from the Controller of the State.

On motion the Board adjourned.

/s/ E J Wickson      Secy.

### 1902 May 27

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript on letterhead of "Attorney General's Office, State of California, Tiry L. Ford, Attorney General. Room 1206 Claus Spreckels Building, San Francisco"]

San Francisco, May 27, 1902.

Mr. E. J. Wickson,  
Sec'y College of Agriculture,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Your communication of May 27, 1902, has been received and will have the early attention of this office.

Very truly yours,  
TIREY L. FORD, Attorney-General,  
By /s/ Wm M Abbott  
Deputy.

**1902 May 31**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

C O P Y

San Francisco, Cal. May 31, 1902.

Mr. F. A. Hihn,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Your faovrs [sic] of May 13th, 1902, enclosing proposed form of deed from Dawson Lowe and wife to the State of Cal. for the land selected by the Board of Trustees of the Polytechnic School for a site for said school, and May 11th 1902, requesting this office to ~~preserve~~ serve its opinion in so far as the description contained in said deed is concerned, received. We have also received a letter from E. J. Wickson, Secretary, dated May 27th, enclosing an executed deed from Dawson Lowe and wife, and Edward Lowe, to the State of California.

In reply permit me to say that in a letter to Thomas J. Kirk, Sup't. of Public Instruction, dated April 11, 1902, this office approved the form of deed referred to in your letter of May 13, 1902. We desire at this time, however, to suggest a slight modification of the form of the deed, as follows:-

In lieu of the first paragraph on page 2 of the deed as executed, and commencing with the words "Whereas, etc" to "Now therefore",

"Whereas the said Trustees die [i.e., did] within the time proscribed by law examine the different sites offered by the people of San Luis Obispo County for the location of said School, and by a resolution duly passed at a regular meeting of the said Board of Trustees on the ..... day of ..... 1902, did select the land with appurtenances hereinafter particularly described as a permanent site for said school and

Whereas, said Board of Trustees have full powers and authority under the provision of the aforesaid Act to purchase the land with its appurtenances hereinafter described for the permanant [sic] site of the California Polytechnic School out of the money provided by said Act"

And also insert after the habendum et tenendum clause found on page 5 of said deed, the following:-

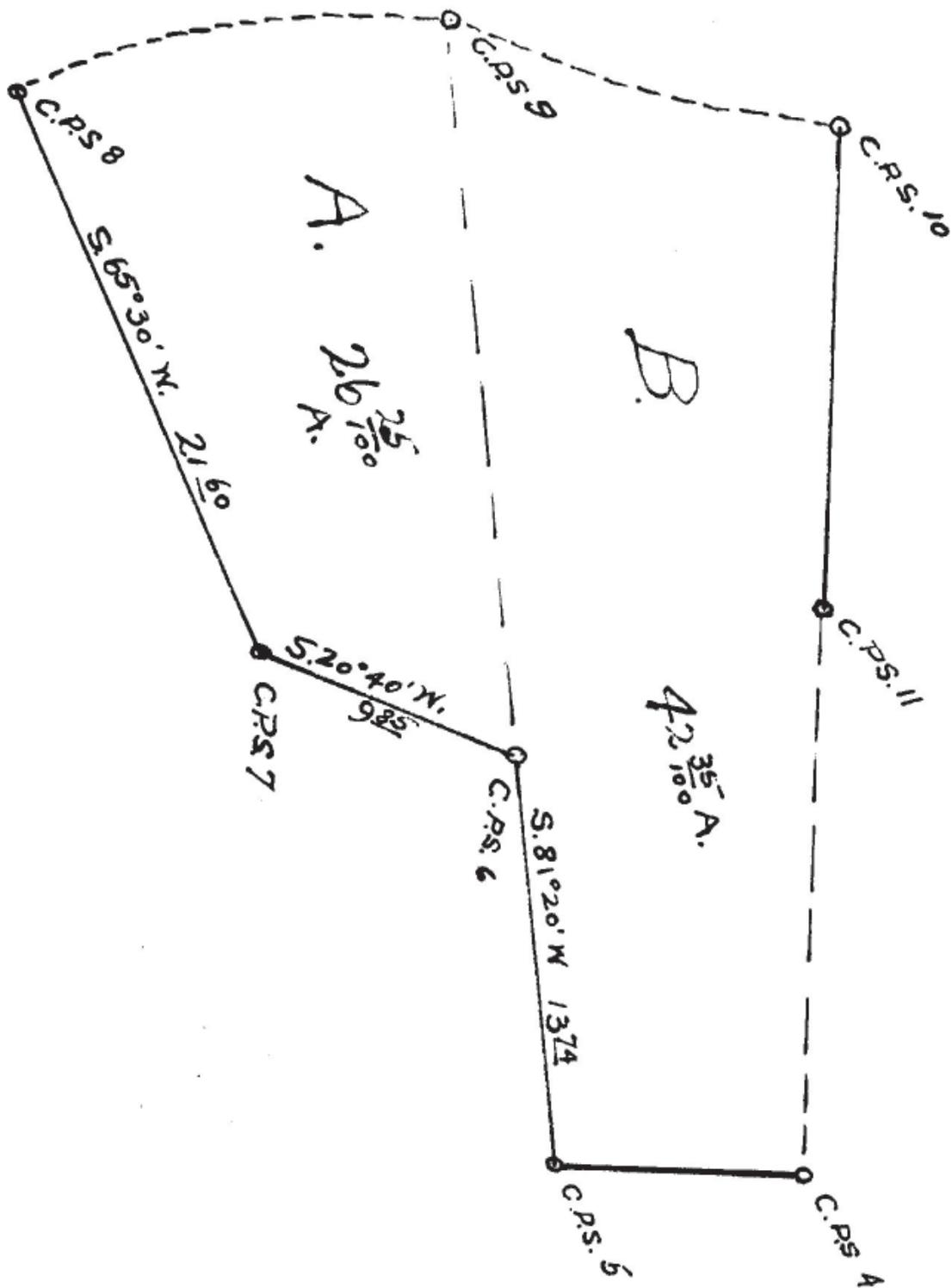
"And the parties of the first 7art [i.e., part] hereby bind themselves, their executors, administrators, successors and assigns to the aforesaid covenants for the benefit of the land hereinabove described, and hereby conveyed".

We have not been further advised as to the description, and are unable at this time to pass upon this question.

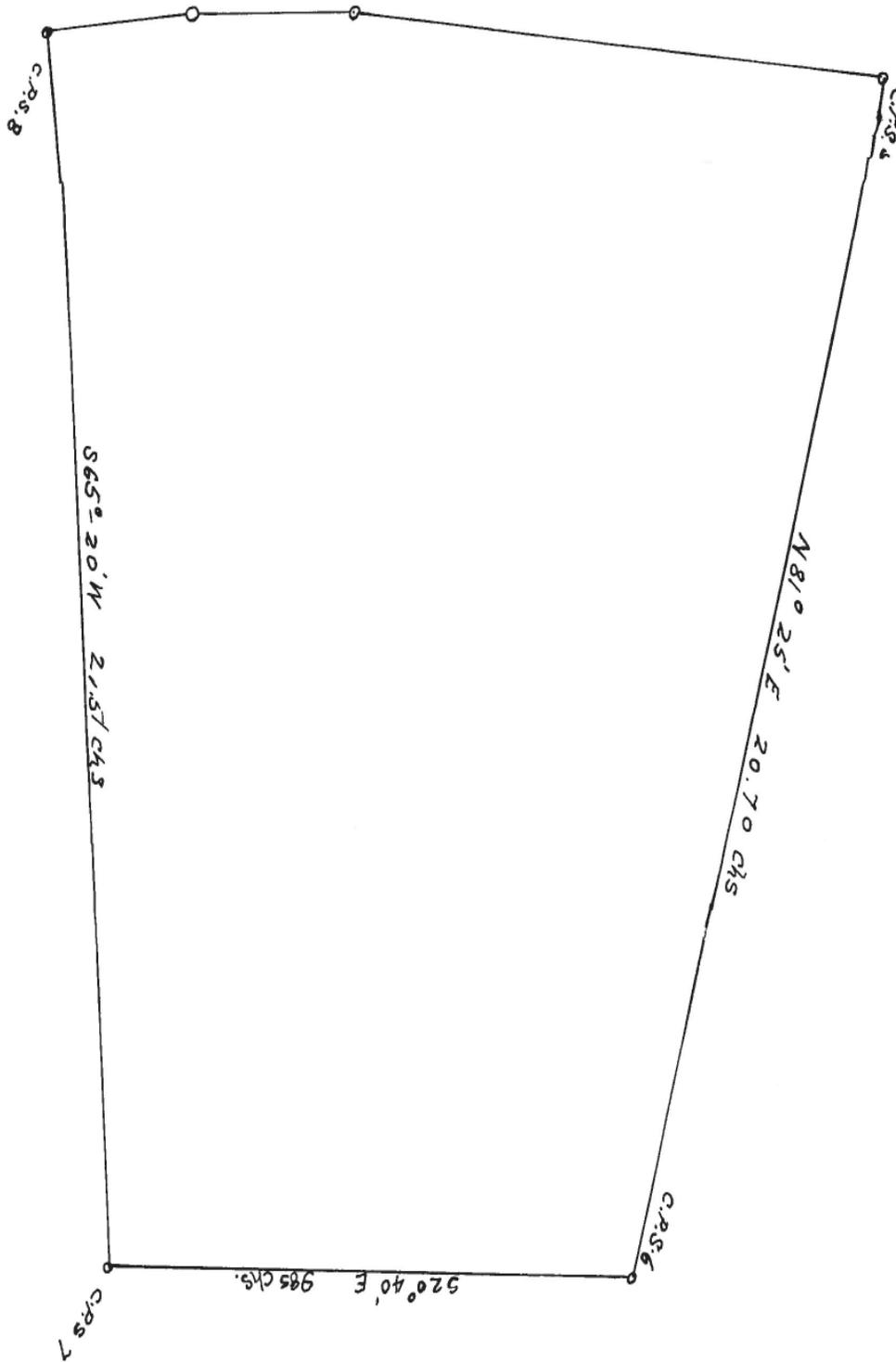
Very truly yours,

(Signed) Terry [i.e., Tirey] L. Ford,  
Attorney General.

Mr. Wood's



*Mr. Stoups survey*



**1902 May 31**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [1 leaf, 14" x 8.5", typescript with manuscript notation at top right, at diagonal angle: "Ack Sent deed to Hihn June 2"]  
 [letterhead of "Attorney General's Office, State of California, Tirey L. Ford, Attorney General. Room 1206 Claus Spreckels Building, San Francisco"]

Mr. E. J. Wickson  
 Secretary,  
 Berkeley, Cal.

San Francisco, Cal. May 31, 1902.,

Dear Sir:—

Your favor of May 27th, 1902 received. You enclose deed from Dawson Lowe and wife, and Edward Lowe, to the State of California, dated May 19, 1902, to certain lands for the California Polytechnic School.

In reply permit me to say, that this office has heretofore received several communications from Mr. F. H. [sic] Hihn, of Santa Cruz, with reference to this deed. We herewith enclose you copy of communication this day sent to Mr. Hihn, which explains itself.

With this slight modification the deed is approved. We enclose you herewith the deed in question.

Very truly yours,

TIREY L. FORD, Attorney-General,

By /s/ Wm M Abbott

Deputy Attorney-General.

2 Enc.-

**1902 Jun 2**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]

Santa Cruz, Cal. June 2, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
 Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

I enclose a copy of the Attorney General's letter [see May 31, above] and my answer [June 2d, below]. In case the maps were retained by you, I request that you send or take them to him so that the examination of title may not be delayed.

What I very much desire now is for the Attorney General to pass upon the title and the deed, supposing the latter to be amended as proposed, so that if a new deed be offered, amended as proposed, we can accept it and count upon the Attorney General's approval, otherwise another meeting would have to be held after our acceptance which might seriously delay the beginning of actual work of construction.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

**1902 Jun 2**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[3 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript notations at top: "Copy"]

Mr. Tirey L. Ford,  
Attorney General,  
San Francisco, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. June 2, 1902.

Dear Sir:—

Replying to your favor of the 31st ult, I beg leave to request that as I do not have a copy of the deed from Lowe to the State, you transmit said deed to me so that I may draw a new one containing the amendments proposed by you.

So that I may be more certain, oblige me by striking out the words you propose to have eliminated.

The description of the land conveyed is contained in the abstract which has been transmitted to you sometime ago at Sacramento. There is, however, a variance between the description in the deed and in the contract, which has been caused by an alleged error in the course which the grantor says should run South [blank]° East instead of South [blank]° West. If I remember right, it is the course between Stations 6 and 7. The grantor procured [sic] a new survey to be made by another surveyor (Storey) [i.e., George Story] which satisfied me that the course given in the survey by County Surveyor Woods was wrong. This compelled the course next previous to be longer.

As the posts sets [sic] at these stations would not conform with the new distance and new course and as Mr. Woods was absent from the County and the time for the meeting of the Trustees of the Polytechnic School, at which the deed was to be presented, was near at hand I was compelled to make the changes in the description without changing the posts set. For that reason in making the deed I omitted to mention those posts which I deemed to be in doubt.

When the deed was received by the Grantor he changed the deed by add-  
[page 2:]

ing to the deed of the description of the courses where the posts were omitted the numbers of the posts so omitted, without stating that these numbers represented posts. The deed thus amended was executed and returned to me. Although I deemed the mention of the numbers undesirable, I concluded that the text of the deed showed that the numbers were not intended to represent post No. so and so (6 and 7 I believe). I explained all this to by ColTrustees [sic; i.e. co-Trustees?] at the time of the presentation of the deed and it was concluded by the Board that the deed did describe the land we bargained for and therefore the deed was accepted.

I regret to say that in my opinion Mr. Wood's [i.e., Victor H. Woods] survey from the Northwest corner of the Hays tract to the South-west corner of Johnson's land on the eastern line of the S.P.R.R. right of way was not made very careful, but I suggest that the calls in the deed for physical objects, to-wit:- the N. W. corner of the Hays tract which is fenced and the easterly line of the R.R. right of way which is also fenced, with the courses and distances given make the description sufficiently certain so that it can be located without difficulty by a surveyor.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees has been set to be held [i.e.; held] on the 14th inst. at which meeting it is proposed to take steps to select plans for the necessary buildings and the employment of an Architect; a topographical survey of the land where the buildings are to be located is now being made.

I take the liberty to state the strenuous circumstances under which the Committee of the Trustees in charge of procuring [sic] a survey and conveyance are laboring, so that you may give this matter your attention at an early a time as possible.  
[page 3:]

If in your opinion a new deed approved by you cannot be obtained in time for the proposed meeting, then I will advise the other Trustees of the necessity of an adjournment for say one week. Unfortunately for the sake of convenience the Trustees are living far apart one from the other and are all very busy men. For that reason a timely notice of an adjournment is necessary.

Concerning the abstract of title, permit me to add that Mr. John Graves, [sic]\* one of the Trustees and Chairman of the Committee on the purchase of site, a prominent lawyer residing and engaged in business at San Luis Obispo and acquainted with the title to the lands in question, informed me after having examined the abstract, tha [sic] Dawson Lowe had a good title to the land proposed to be conveyed to the State. Mr. Graves has lately been in ill health. If he has recovered sufficiently to attend to business, he may address or personally call on you.

Apologizing for the many details which I have presented to hasten accomplishment of the subject at hand, I remain

Truly yours, [not signed]

\* [Transcriber's Note: Trustees from San Luis Obispo were Warren M. John, and William Graves. From the context of the balance of the paragraph, it is clear that Hihn meant to write "Mr. William Graves." Mr. Graves died on September 9, 1902, accounting for the expression of condolence in the November 1, 1902, First Report of the Trustees to Governor Gage.]

## 1902 Jun 2

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California  
Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 11 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript;  
with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

[Berkeley, Cal.] June 2, 1902.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

I have read with great interest your excellent outline of our probable requirements in the way of buildings. It seems to me that it manifests much insight and is very clear in its suggestions. I have taken the liberty of showing it to Mr. Stone, the

F. A. Hihn and the Founding of California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo 115  
architect of our High School Building, who is doing much now with cement constructions and told him if he desired to take a shy[\*] at the proposition the Board would be pleased to consider any sketches he might present. He had worked largely in school buildings and will be glad to have his designs considered. I take it that is what you had in mind in sending us the copies of the letter which you wrote to the Watsonville architect.

I shall wait before issuing the special notice for the next meeting as long as possible in the hopes of hearing something from you or Mr. John, if the postponement seems desirable.

Sincerely yours, /s/ E J Wickson

P.S. Since dictating the above I have received from the Attorney General the Lowe deed and copy of letter which he has already sent to you suggesting amendments thereto. In view of this fact I enclose, herewith, the Lowe deed, in order that it may be in your hands for such modification as you deem best to meet the suggestions of the Attorney General.

\*[Transcriber's Note: *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* provides a definition of "shy":  
<sup>5</sup>shy - the act of shying : Toss, Throw - a verbal fling - an experimental attempt]

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### 1902 Jun 3

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 12 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

[Berkeley, Cal.] June 3, 1902.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

You have doubtless already received the copy of the Lowe deed which I mailed to you yesterday. As it has passed out of my hands into yours I do not see that I can help you in the renewed reference to the Attorney General, which you describe in your letter to him, of which you send a copy. I presume that having the document yourself you can proceed with it according to your own judgment. I am very sorry that the maps which you sent to Mr. Kirk were never brought to me and Mr. Kirk still has them in his possession. He stated that at the two meetings lately held that they were in his office in Sacramento and he had forgotten to bring them. As Mr. Kirk is now travelling in Plumas and other distant counties it may be a few days before these maps can be secured from his office. I will write, however, by this mail, asking that the maps in question be sent to the Attorney General, at once if possible.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson

**1902 Jun 3**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 13 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Atty. Gen. Tirey L. Ford]

Hon. Tirey L. Ford, [Berkeley, Cal.] June 3, 1902.  
Attorney-General,  
Call Building, San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir,

Mr. F. A. Hihn sends me a copy of a letter which he addresses to you dated June 2nd. He asks me to send you certain maps upon which the description of the property was made. These maps have never been in my possession. They were sent to Mr. Kirk with the request that he bring them to the meeting, but having been absent from his office for some time previous to the meeting he came without them and they are, I believe, in his office at Sacramento. I am writing to Mr. Kirk by this mail, requesting him to forward to your office these maps as soon as possible. Mr. Kirk himself is our [sic] of reach for the balance of this week in the course of travelling through Plumas and adjoining counties. I have advised Mr. Hihn that before receiving his letter I had returned the deed to him, so I presume you will hear from him again with reference to the embodiment [sic] of the amendments which you suggest.

Very respectfully,

Secretary. [not signed]

**1902 Jun 3**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 14 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript letter to F. A. Hihn at lower half of p.]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Supt. Pub. Inst. T. J. Kirk]

Hon. T. J. Kirk, [Berkeley, Cal.] June 3, 1902.  
Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Sir,

I have a letter from Mr. Hihn, asking that the maps of the Lowe property, which were sent to you sometime ago and which you intended to bring to our recent meetings, be forwarded as soon as possible to the Attorney General in San Francisco, as there are necessary modifications of the deed which Mr. Hihn thinks can best be made by reference to the map.

Very respectfully, [not signed]

[manuscript letter from E. J. Wickson to F. A. Hihn, at lower half of page:]

[Berkeley, Cal.] June 5, 1902 Yesterday.

I send herewith the copy of the attorney general's letter to you as requested.

In his official letter to me he says: "With this slight modification" (referring to the suggested amendment described in his letter to you) "the deed is approved." I think I did not tell you this explicitly before.

I just receive [sic] a letter from Mr. Kirk's clerk saying that the map will be sent at once to the attorney general.

I shall wait final advice from you before issuing notices of next meeting.

Sincerely

/s/ E J Wickson

F. A. Hihn Esq.

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**1902 Jun 4**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 14" x 8.5", manuscript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]  
[manuscript notation at top right at diagonal angle: "Sent copy of letter as requested June 5" — this is perhaps Professor Wickson's note]

Prof. E. J. Wickson  
Berkeley

Santa Cruz, Cal. June 4, 1902.

Dear Sir Kindly favor me by sending me your copy of the letter of Attorney General to me. I have received the deed and want to reform the deed from Lowe, but cannot lay my hand on Mr. Ford's letter. I will return the copy. Hope yet to get the deed reexecuted in time for meeting.

Truly yours

/s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 Jun 6**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 14" x 8.5", typescript] [letterhead of "Attorney General's Office, State of California, Terey L. Ford, Attorney General. Room 1206 Claus Spreckels Building, San Francisco"]

San Francisco, Cal. June 6, 1902.

Mr. E. J. Wickson, Sec'y,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Your favor of June 3, 1902 received. You refer to certain maps showing description of the Lowe property which as been selected as a site for the California Polytechnic School, and say that the map is in the possession of Mr. Thomas J. Kirk, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

In reply, permit me to say that we have received the map referred to in your communication from Mr. Kirk, and have communicated with Mr. Hihn, of Santa Cruz, in reference thereto.

Very truly yours,

TIREY L. FORD, Attorney-General,

By /s/ Wm M Abbott Deputy Attorney-General.

### 1902 Jun 6

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. June 6, 1902.

Dear Sir:—

Your favor of the 5th inst. at hand.

The deed will be ready in a few hours and ready to go forward to San Luis Obispo as soon as I receive from you the date at which the selection of the site took place, which I presume was at the last meeting held at San Luis Obispo. I am much pleased that my plans are of service to you. Mr. Weeks the Architect from Watsonville called lately and told me that he would present rough plans. Mr. John contracted with a Mr. Dittrick [Henry Dittrich] to make a topographical survey for \$150.00. This being far in excess of my ideas, I asked him if possible to reduce the work and bill to say \$50.00.

“With this slight modification, the deed approved” This announcement is agreeable news indeed. I am still of the opinion if I can get the deed off this afternoon that I will get it back in time for the meeting on the 14th inst.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: The phrase quoted by Hihn appears to be from paragraph three of the May 31, 1902, letter from the California Attorney General Tirey L. Ford, by William M. Abbott, Deputy Attorney-General.]

### 1902 Jun 19

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 21  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Warren M. John]

Hon. Warren M. John,  
San Luis Obispo, Cal.

[Berkeley, Cal.] June 19, 1902.

Dear Mr. John,

I am waiting to be notified by Mr. Hihn that everything is ready for the next meeting before issuing a call. He agreed to notify me as soon as possible and to suggest a date which would give ample time for members to receive notification. I was in hopes that a meeting might be held on Saturday and apprehend it may not be too late to send out notification of the Saturday meeting. I suppose the new deed is still in the hands of the Attorney General and as the legal machinery of the State is now actively at work on grasshopper problems there may be some few days delay with our affairs. I will notify you at the earliest possible moment.

I am glad that you have succeeded in capturing the stationery that has been so long under cover.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary.

**1902 Jun 20**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

[from F. A. Hihn to Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees]

Santa Cruz, Cal. June 20, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

I am still at work trying to make the deed for the site satisfactory to the Attorney General. He struch [sic] a snag in the abstract in the shape of a declaration of homestead by one Mattos a former occupant of the Lowe land. Mrs. Mattos did not sign the deed nor was there any abandonment of the homestead filed, but if I am correctly advised, Mattos had no title and therefore naything [i.e., anything] he did or omitted to do could not affect the title. I regret the delay but it cannot be helped.

Yours truly,

[not signed]

**1902 Jul 12**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. July 12, 1902.

Dear Sir:—

Enclosed copy is to advise you of the present condition of the examination of

the Lowe title. It has been impossible to make faster progress. I hope to succeed within a week or so.

Yours truly,

/s/ F A Hihn

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### 1902 Jul 12

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with minor manuscript corrections; with facsimile of signature of F. A. Hihn, but it is not his signature]

### Copy

Hon. Tiry L. Ford, Santa Cruz, Cal. July 12, 1902.  
Attorney General,  
Mr. Walter M. Abbott [i.e., William M. Abbott]  
Dep. Attorney General.  
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

When I opened Mr. Lowe's letter and glanced at the document it contained, I concluded that I had succeeded in overcoming all difficulties to the approval of the title to the site for the Polytechnic School, but on reading his letter I found that Edward Lowe had not signed the instrument. I enclose it and Mr. Lowe's letter.

Mr. Lowe, though a man without much education, has quite a mind of his own and doubt whether he can be prevailed upon to have his brother join him in warranty or whether his brother would join him. As I understand it, his brother has an interest in a small portion of the right of way granted by Lowe's deed.

I trust you will see your way clear to accept the warranty as it is, but if you do not, then please return the enclosed papers to me with such directions or suggestions you may <sup>as</sup> deem appropriate.

If you conclude that you should have Edward Lowe's signature, if possible to obtain, I will try to get it. If on the other hand you conclude to dispense with it, I suggest that his name be omitted in the third and fifteenth lines.

As the time for action is at hand, I beg you to favor me by an early answer.

Yours truly,

(signed) F. A. Hihn

[this copy not signed by F. A. Hihn]

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### 1902 Jul 13

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]  
[with manuscript notation of Prof. Wickson in upper left corner: "Ack W"]

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. July 18, 1902.

Dear Sir:—

I regret to say that I am hung up again in the Lowe title question. I had Lowe  
The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

sign a warranty as Mr. Abbott and the Attorney General proposed. Unfortunately he did not get Edward Lowe, his brother, to sign, as he deemed it unnecessary, the brother not having any interest in the land conveyed. I forwarded the paper to the Attorney General a week ago, no answer yet. May I ask you to call at the office in the Claus Spreckles [i.e., Spreckels] building and try to expedite the business [i.e., the office of the Attorney General in San Francisco].

Have just received a letter from Mr. Leroy Anderson, in which he tells me that owing to an intendent [sic] visit to and conference with the State Superintendent of Wisconsin, his arrival here will be delayed and that he could not be counted on as being present at a meeting of our Board until the regular meeting the second Tuesday in August next.

Where is the meeting to be held, in San Francisco or San Luis Obispo? It hardly seems necessary to hold a meeting at a prior time, but we should get the Lowe deed approved prior to it.

Yours truly,                      /s/ F A Hihn

### 1902 Jul 19

Source:            University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 25-26  
[2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

[Berkeley, Cal.] July 19, 1902.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

I have received your letter of July 13th, which I understand has been mailed to all members to call at the office of the Attorney General and see if the business can be expedited. I fear that if such calls are made by members of the Board when you should have had all the correspondence in hand, the effect might be to induce the Attorney General to decide speedily that Edward Lowe's signature was essential, so that his decision might be perfectly safe. Perhaps if you personally conducted all the negotiations with him he may be more favorable and be content to dispense with Edward Lowe's signature. For this reason I think that the negotiations with the Attorney General should be carried on by yourself exclusively. That, though by importuning him we might get a decision quickly, it would be possibly such a decision which we above all things do not desire; so I would suggest that you write, when you think best, reminding the Attorney General of the situation and hastening his answer by suggestion of the need for haste on our part.

I presume for the purpose of conferring with the architects, who have been requested to submit plans, our next meeting should be in San Francisco. The regular meeting,

F.A.H. -2-

according to the By-laws, will come the second Wednesday in August at San Luis Obispo. It would be very desirable indeed that Mr. Anderson should be present at the next meeting in view of the fact that he will just return from examination of eastern buildings for the same purpose. It seems to be then that our next meeting should be held as soon as he can return if it is not later than the date of the regular quarterly meeting and that the meeting be held in San Francisco. It was the understanding that the time of the next adjourned meeting should be fixed by the President of the Board whenever you notified him that the things were in readiness. Would it not be desirable then to let the date of the next meeting rest with you and that you notify President Smith at once of your readiness, requesting him to call a meeting in San Francisco for the purpose of reading your report and such other business as may be ready at that time, and that the date be fixed so that Mr. Anderson will be present?

I send, herewith, duplicate copies of the minutes of our meetings up to date. The minutes are entered in the regular minute book in this way and it proved to be easy to get duplicate copies; for this reason it seemed to me that each member of the Board should have a record of transactions to which he could readily refer. It will be my practice then so long as I occupy the Secretaryship to transmit duplicate copies of the minutes in advance of each meeting, so that members may be ready for amendment or approval, as the record may merit.

Sincerely yours

/s/ E J Wickson

**1902 Jul 21**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn on second leaf]  
[with manuscript notation of Prof. Wickson in upper left corner: "Ans"]

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. July 21, 1902.

Dear Sir:—

Replying to yours of the 19th inst., I beg leave to say that my letter of the 13th inst., which was sent to you and Mr. Kirk, was inspired by my inability, owing to illness, to expedite the action of the Attorney General by a personal call.

My health is slowly improving and as I have not heard yet from the Attorney General, I shall try to call upon him within a few days and hope then to be able to arrange for a final settlement of the objection to the Lowe title.

I concur that it would be desirable to hold our next meeting in San Francisco and that Director Anderson be present, but according to his late letter, his return will be retarded owing to a visit to the State School Superintendent of Wisconsin [sic], but he expects to return in time for the Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday in August [the 13th]. Under these circumstances I suggest that no meeting be held until the last mentioned date and that it be held then at San Francisco.

After my call on the Attorney General, I will advise you of the result and of my final conclusions on the subject of the meeting.

I have carefully read the copy of the minutes and take pleasure in saying that the record is very exact and quite satisfactory. Please

[page 2:]

accept my thanks for your careful and thorough work.

Sincerely yours, /s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 Jul 30**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with signature of F. A. Hihn]

Hon. S. C. Smith, Santa Cruz, Cal. July 30, 1902.  
Echo Block, Bakersfield, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 28th inst. is at hand.

After a long and tedious pull was advised this morning by the Attorney General that with the exception of a few unimportant changes, which he proposes to have made, the deed and agreement of warranty of title of Dawson Lowe and wife and Edward Lowe is satisfactory and these changes having been made, he will certify that the title to the site is correct.

I wired to him at once for a map which he promised to send tomorrow. As soon as this has been received, I shall prepare the required changes and send the deed and warranty to San Luis Obispo to be changed and then filed for record and have the abstract continued to date of filing and I shall then be ready for the meeting and my final report.

It affords me pleasure to be able to give you such good tidings.

Yours truly, /s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 Aug 5**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript]  
[Copy, in manuscript, diagonally across face of first leaf]  
[from F. A. Hihn to Professor Leroy Anderson, Director designate, Cal Poly]

Mr. Leroy Anderson, Santa Cruz, Cal. Aug. 5, 1902.  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 24th ult. [i.e., July 24th] reached me in due time. Owing to illness, I have of late been unable to give as close attention to Polytechnic School matters as I would have liked, but I am getting better and expect to attend the meeting of the Trustees at the Palace Hotel Wednesday the 13th inst. at 10 A.M.

There is however so much to devise and design that I had intended to meet you and, if possible, Professor Wickson before the next meeting takes place. As I cannot

very well go to the City or Berkeley this week, may I enquire [sic] whether you could conveniently arrange to come to Santa Cruz. The particular object in view for discussion is the shape, size and mode of construction of the several buildings and the grouping and locating of same.

I hold now a map of the land purchased for the site, which is to be transmitted to the Attorney General as soon as the deed shall be returned, which was sent to San Luis Obispo for correction and recording. The Attorney General will then need the map to verify the corrections<sup>ness</sup> of the courses and distances in the description. For this reason I cannot send it to you.

As no topographical survey of the land has been made so far, it is difficult, owing to the uneven surface of the ground, to properly locate the different buildings, but having been over the ground, I have with the [page 2:]

assistance of an Architect formulated a plan which I would like to adapt to the mode of construction and arrangement of modern establishments such as you have inspected.

Should you conclude to come down, I would like with your approval to have this Architect meet us. In this manner we might come to a definite conclusions [sic] which you could then impart to the other Trustees and the Architects invited by them and thus materially hasten the commencement and completion of the work before us.

As to the expenses of the trip to Santa Cruz, I presume it could be arranged to make it a part of the necessary expenses of our work.

Hoping you are enjoying good health and hoping that I will hear from you at your early convenience, I remain

I remain

[not signed]

**1902 Aug 5**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with signature of F. A. Hihn]

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Santa Cruz, Cal. Aug. 5, 1902.

My dear Professor:-

I am glad that the long suspense in the progress of the Polytechnic School, caused by the flaws in the Lowe title, is coming to, I hope, a successful conclusion.

Last week I sent the title papers to San Luis Obispo to be corrected so as to conform to the wishes of the Attorney General and then to be recorded and the abstract to be extended to the time of filing for record and then to be returned to me for examination and then to be transmitted to the Attorney General for his final approval and issuance of a certificate to that effect.

Mr. Graves has acknowledged the receipt of the papers and promises prompt attention. As he had not made any objection, I presume that the course proposed

by me and the papers themselves meet with his and Mr. John's approval and that the papers will be returned in due time.

I have concurred in Mr. Smith's proposition for the meeting on the 13th inst. to be held at the Palace Hotel at 10 A.M., at which meeting the Architect friends of the several Trustees are to be invited to come with their plans.

It would be difficult for anyone to prepare such plans without some advice on the views of the Trustees and wants of the School. Owing to unstable health, I have of late got behind with my work and find it hard to catch up, thereby preventing me from going to the City or Berkeley to consult with you and Mr. Anderson, who is I understand expected to

[page 2:]

return from the East today or tomorrow. I have therefore concluded to ask him to come down here sometime this week, the sooner the better. I enclose a copy of my letter so that you may be advised of my thoughts in this matter.

I am strongly impressed with the idea that Mr. Anderson's examination of Eastern Agricultural and Polytechnic Schools will be of great benefit to us.

As to the time and place of our next meeting, I have serious doubt whether suitable rooms can be had at the Palace Hotel owing to the Advent of the Pythians. I believe I can secure a room which can be utilized for the meeting, but if such a room cannot be had at the Palace, I suggest that the meeting be held at Room 612 and 613 Safe Deposit Building San Francisco, the office of the Oakland Gas & Electric Co. and of the Stockton Gas & Electric Co., at 10:50 A.M. The <sup>size of the</sup> room is limited, but I think ~~there~~ <sup>it</sup> is sufficient<sup>ly</sup> ~~room~~ <sup>large</sup> for our purposes and there is a large table for spreading maps and plans. I name 10:50 instead of 10 A.M. as the time of meeting so as to give me time in case I cannot secure a room to come the same morning from Santa Cruz on the train which is due in the City at 10:30 A.M.

Trusting that you are enjoying good health, I remain

Yours truly, /s/ F A Hihn

Transcriber's Note: Room 612 of the Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, was one of the usual meeting places for the Trustees, the other being the Palace Hotel (a frequent stopping place for F. A. Hihn). F. A. Hihn was President of the Stockton Gas and Electric Company at this period, so it was through his courtesy that the Trustees were able to meet at the Safe Deposit Building. *see entry for 1902:*  
Source: Crocker-Langley San Francisco Directory 1902

### 1902 Aug 6

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[*from* Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees *to* Governor Henry T. Gage]

[Berkeley, Cal.] August 6, 1902.

Hon. Henry T. Gage,  
 Governor of California,  
 Trustee of the California Polytechnic School,  
 Sacramento, Cal.

Sir,

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School will be the regular meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 1902, at 11:00 A.M., and will be held in Rooms 612 and 613 Safe Deposit Building, corner Montgomery and California Streets, San Francisco.

It is expected that Director Anderson, who has just returned from the east, will submit a report of his observations, that the deed for the land will be ready for final approval, that proposed plans for buildings will be submitted by architects, and that a good strong start may now be made in the work which we have at hand.

Very respectfully,

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary

California Polytechnic School.

### 1902 Aug 7

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript] [*Copy in manuscript, diagonally across face of first leaf*] [evidently this letter was addressed to Professor Wickson by Leroy Anderson]

Aug. 7, 1902.

Dear Sir:-

At the coming meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School on August 13th, it is desirable that a general plan of the school buildings be decided upon. To this end it is suggested that a number of architects submit general plans of all the main buildings which it is now thought the school may need at the time of its full development [sic], and also a more or less detailed plan of the two buildings which are needed for immediate use. If you have an architect in mind to whom you would wish to present the matter and who can have his plans ready for the consideration of the Board on the 13th, the Committee would deem it a favor to have you do so.

At the suggestion of Mr. Hihn, I submit herewith the list of buildings and specifications for the guidance of the architect.

SITE:- The school site is in an area of about 27 acres as indicated on the accompanying sketch. The ground slopes back gradually from the railroad until it reaches an altitude of about forty feet about 800 ft to the eastward of the railroad. The ground rolls into a depression both to the right and left of the building site so that the space available for building is probably not more than 500 feet in width.

#### LIST OF BUILDINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS:-

No. I - ADMINISTRATION:-

To contain office, library, etc.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

[page 2:]

No.

I - RECITATION (School)

To be divided into recitations and laboratory [sic] rooms.

I - ASSEMBLY & GYMNASIUM

To contain a large hall of floor capacity to seat about 600 with gallery extra and dressing, bath and lavatory rooms.

I - DOMESTIC SCIENCE

To contain work and recitation rooms and dining room and kitchen.

4 - DORMITORIES

To accomodate [sic] 200 students in all

I - House for DIRECTOR of School (10 rooms)

6 - Cottages for Faculty (6 rooms)

Buildings marked with an "X" are to be two stories in height and with or without well lighted basement and to measure about 40 X 100 ft.

The buildings are to be of frame construction with foundation of stone or concrete and in general about two stories high.

Two of these buildings are to be built immediately viz, the recitation and dormitory. Each of these should have a well lighted basement (1/2 or more above ground) under at least one half of building.

Give general design of whole number of buildings grouped upon the school site. Total cost of all buildings not to exceed \$120,000.

Give 1/8" scale drawings comprising floor plans and elevations of the two buildings which are to be erected immediately viz, one dormitory and one recitation building. The cost of these two not to exceed \$25,000.

Very Truly yours,

(Signed) Leroy Anderson. Director.  
[this copy not signed]

**1902 Aug 12** [sic; meeting was called for August 13th, but Minutes use 12th]

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 35]

San Francisco, August 12 [sic], 1902.

The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in regular quarterly meeting in the Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, President S. C. Smith in the chair. There were present: - Trustees Smith, Hihn, Graves, John, Kirk, and Wickson; absent Trustee Gage. The minutes of the meeting of May 13th and its adjourned sessions of May 17th and 26th were approved.

Letters from Leroy Anderson, accepting the Directorship of the School, and from Frank Miller, of ~~San Francisco~~ ^Sacramento^ acknowledging receipt of power of attorney to act as Treasurer of the Board, were read and placed on file.

Trustee Hihn, of the special committee on the selection of a site, reported a letter

from the Attorney General announcing the deed, from Dawson Lowe et al, satisfactory. Trustee Hihn also made a verbal statement that one Mattos had made a home-stead filing upon a portion of the site about twenty-five years ago, but had proceeded no further. At the present time, the party could not be found, but to guard against any contingency Dawson Lowe and Mary Jane Lowe had executed a warranty of their title and made this a part of the deed. Trustee Hihn then submitted the deed and warranty duly recorded in San Luis Obispo county. Trustee Graves moved that the deed be accepted by the Board. On roll call the vote stood: Ayes, Trustees Smith, Hihn, Graves, John, Kirk and Wickson; noes, none. Trustee Hihn moved that the Secretary be instructed to transmit the deed and the letter from the Attorney General, approving the title, to the State Board of Examiners for filing in the State Capitol.

Trustee John, of the Committee on site submitted a  
[p. 37]

topographical survey of the building site, by H. Dittrick, which was accepted and placed on file.

An invitation was extended to several architects, present by invitation, to submit and explain plans for proposed buildings for the use of the School, and the Trustees were addressed by Messrs. Weeks, McDougal and Tobey, after which an adjournment was taken until afternoon.

On reassembling at 2:00 o'clock, the following list of claims was submitted and the several claims approved and ordered paid, viz:-

Wm. Graves, travelling expenses	\$ 51.90
Leroy Anderson, salary as Director for June and July, 1902	400.00
Leroy Anderson, travelling expenses	7.50
S. C. Smith, travelling expenses	88.10
Warren M. John, travelling expenses	84.00
D.L. Bunnell, stenographer	62.50
Payot, Upham & Company, stationery	27.69
H. Dittrich, surveying (assigned to L. F. Sinsheimer)	213.12
Thomas Rowan, livery hire	24.00
E.H. Crawford, livery hire	2.00
Salinas Valley Lumber Company, lumber for stakes and markers	19.00
R.S. Brown, livery hire	4.00
	<u>\$ 983.81</u>

The foregoing claims were ordered paid by the following vote: Ayes, Hihn, Smith, John, Kirk, Graves and Wickson; noes, none.

[p. 39]

Director Anderson submitted a written report outlining his observations at eastern institutions and submitting several specific recommendations. The report was ordered filed. General discussion ensued upon the Director's recommendation that the dormitory system be adopted, after which Trustee Hihn presented the following resolutions: -

RESOLVED that we proceed to erect a building for the accommodation of thirty persons, including dormitory, kitchen and dining room.

Also a school building sufficient to accommodate 100 pupils.

Carried.

On motion of Trustee Hihn, W. H. Weeks, of Watsonville, was employed as architect to serve during the pleasure of the Board. Trustee Kirk moved to amend by inserting terms of compensation, viz.: three and one half (3 1/2) per cent. for plans, specifications and details, and one and a half (1 1/2) per cent. additional if employed as superintendent of construction. The motion, as amended, was carried on roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Smith, Kirk, Hihn, John, Graves and Wickson; noes, none.

Upon motion the Director was instructed to proceed with the architect in planning the two buildings provided for by the resolution already adopted. Trustee Hihn moved that the materials be as follows: Foundation of concrete; walls of plaster or cement; roof of metal tiles; inside plastered, two stories high; basement, cement. Carried.

Trustee Kirk moved to buy five Ayrshire cattle for \$325.00 and one Shorthorn bull for \$75.00, as recommended in the report of Director Anderson. The vote upon roll call was as follows: Ayes, Trustees Kirk, Hihn, John, Graves, Smith and Wickson; noes, none.

With reference to the recommendation of the Director's  
[p. 41]

report concerning the development of water, Trustee Wickson moved that the matter be referred to Trustee Hihn and Director Anderson with power to act. Carried.

Upon motion an adjourned session was provided for to be called by the President as near to the date of September 1st as found feasible, to which date the meeting adjourned.

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary.

### 1902 Aug 13

Source: see letter above of Aug. 5, 1902

"... I expect to attend the meeting of the Trustees at the Palace Hotel Wednesday the 13th inst. at 10 A.M."

### 1902 Aug 16

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Aug 16 4:1

**Transactions of the Superior Court for  
the Week Ending Friday.  
E. P. Unangst, Judge.**

**Recorder's Office**

Deeds —

...

Dawson Lowe, et ux and E. Lowe to State of California for Polytechnic school. \$7709.30. 281.04 acres of sec 14 & 23 [Township] 30 [Range] 12 & free use of sw 1/4 of sw 1/4 of sec 23 and nw 1/4 of nw 1/4 of sec 26 [Township] 30 [Range] 12 for certain pupposes [sic].

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### 1902 Aug 23

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Aug 23 3:2

#### LOCAL OCCURRENCES.

#### Notes of Interest In and Around Paso Robles.

The trustees of the Polytechnic school have appointed W. H. Weeks, an architect of Watsonville, to prepare the plans for the construction of the school buildings. Two buildings will be erected at a cost of \$25,000 which will furnish ample accommodations for the present, and others will be added as needed.

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### 1902 Sep 5

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 36  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Supt. Pub. Inst. T. J. Kirk]

[Berkeley, Cal.] September 5, 1902.

Hon. T. J. Kirk,  
Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
Berkeley, Cal. [sic]

My dear Mr. Kirk,

I am exceedingly sorry that I cannot be here this afternoon to meet you. I have to start Sunday morning for two weeks Institute work in southern California and have preparations for absence, which I must be making today and to-morrow. I have asked Professor Anderson to watch for you at the President's office at 4:00 o'clock and to be of any service that he can.

I am sorry that I cannot be at the meeting next Monday, nor at any other meeting until after the 20th. This arrangement was made long ago and cannot be broken. I had that in mind when I agreed to an arrangement for a meeting of the Polytechnic Board "about September 1st", for I knew I would not be available much later than that. I have this morning received a letter from Mr. Hihn, in which he says that he can meet the first part of next week, but not the last part, nor the following week. There is danger of lack of a quorum at the meeting of the 8th. Would it be possible for you by any arrangement to be present at that time? I am exceedingly sorry for the position in which things are in but do not see how I can individually do anything to help it.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

**1902 Sep 23**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 43] San Francisco, Cal. Sept. 23, 1902

The Board met in accordance with the call of the president in Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, September 23rd at 1:00 P.M.; President Smith in the chair.

Mr. R. M. Shackelford, of Paso Robles, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late William Graves, took his seat on the Board. Roll Call showed the following Trustees present, viz., Smith, Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson; absent Trustees, Gage and Kirk.

The minutes of the meeting of September 12th were approved.

President Smith submitted a communication from Hon. U. S. Webb, Attorney General, explaining the law regulating proceedings in the erection of public buildings for the State. The communication was read and placed on file.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Daniel Kevane, Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, asking concerning [sic] the progress in establishment of the School. On motion the Secretary was instructed to answer the questions and to explain the action of the Board in the election of a Director.

Trustee Hihn introduced and moved the adoption of the following:

Resolved that this Board deems it necessary and advisable to erect a two story and basement recitation building and a two story and basement dormitory building on the School site near San Luis Obispo; and that for the construction of the two buildings there be set aside \$35,000 from the sum appropriated by the legislature "for the purchase of a site, the construction and furnishing of the necessary buildings and the maintenance of said School".

Adopted on roll call: Ayes, Trustees Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson; noes, none.

Trustee Smith introduced and moved the adoption of the following:

[p. 45]

Resolved that the Secretary of this Board be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to advertise for plans and specifications for the buildings heretofore determined by the Board to be erected, such advertisement to be published in the San Luis Obispo *Tribune* and San Luis Obispo *Breeze* in each of their respective publications from September 24th to October 3rd, 1902, such advertisement to contain the information required by law, stating also that the Board will meet at 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, for the purpose of examining such plans and specifications as may be presented and that a premium <sup>^of ten dollars^</sup> will be paid to the successful competitor.

Adopted on roll call; Ayes, Trustees Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson; noes, none.

Trustee Hihn introduced and moved the adoption of the following:

Resolved that all bills against the State for services rendered and materials furnished to the California Polytechnic School shall be presented to this Board in duplicate; thereupon the action of this Board and the date thereof shall be stated on the face of each bill over the signature of the Secretary, the bills shall then be numbered consecutively, giving the same number to the original and the duplicate, the original bill shall be returned to the claimant and the duplicate shall be placed on file pasted in a book kept by the Secretary for that purpose.

Adopted on roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustee Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson; Noes, none.

Trustee Smith proposed the following amendment to the By-laws of this Board:

Strike our [sic] of line 6, of Rule I the word "ten" and insert the word "three".

Also add to Section I the following:

"In calling special meetings, as provided in the next Section, the President may designate the place of meeting".

The propositions were laid over under the rule for amendments to By-laws.

Director Anderson presented a draft of a report of progress to be submitted by the Board to the Governor of the State. The report was informally discussed and finally, on motion, consideration of the report was made a special order for the next meeting.

On motion the Secretary and Director were authorized to ascertain from the Attorney General his opinion as to whether live  
[p. 47]

stock for the equipment of the School can be purchased under the provisions of the Act of March 8, 1901 and, if the opinion be adverse, to cancel the orders already placed for breeding animals.

Trustee John moved the appointment of a Committee to prepare fitting record of the loss sustained by the Board in the death of Trustee William Graves and of respect to his memory. Carried. The president appointed Trustees John, Wickson and Shackleford [sic].

On motion the Board adjourned to meet at Room 612, Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, Cal., on Saturday, October 4th at 1:00 P.M.

/s/ E J Wickson Secretary.

### 1902 Sep 26

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library. 1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 11", on blank sheet. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at foot of letter.]

Santa Cruz, Cal. Sept. 26, 1902.

Hon. George C. Pardee,  
Oakland, Cal.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

Dear Sir:-

I am not only wearing one of your badges, but I take great pleasure in advocating your election. My influence is probably less than you imagine, but whatever it be, you may rest assured will be exerted in your behalf.

With best wishes for the result, I remain

Yours truly,

/s/ F. A. Hihn

*Letter of Thanks. Sign my name.*

**1902 Oct 4**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 49]

San Francisco, October 4, 1902

Pursuant to adjournment the Board met at Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, at 1:00 o'clock P.M.

Present, Trustees Hihn, Kirk, Shackelford and Wickson; absent, Trustees Gage, Smith and John. **Vice-president Hihn occupied the Chair.**

The minutes of the meeting of September 23rd were approved.

Letters from Mr. Daniel Kevane, Secretary State Board of Examiners, and Mr. E. P. Colgan, State Controller, were read and placed on file.

The special order, the reception of plans and specifications for two buildings, as per advertisement to architects duly inserted in the *Tribune* and *Breeze*, newspapers of San Luis Obispo, was taken up.

Plans and specifications, covering the requirements of the advertisement aforesaid, were submitted by Mr. W. H. Weeks, of Watsonville, and examined in detail by the Board.

Trustee Kirk offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolved that the plans and specifications of Mr. W. H. Weeks, of Watsonville, for a recitation building and for a dormitory building be adopted by the Board; that the premium of \$10 be awarded to him; that he be employed to proceed with the preparation of papers involved in the advertisement for proposals for the construction of buildings and to prepare detail drawings and supervise the construction of the same if the Board should enter into contract therefor.

Trustee Shackelford seconded the resolution, which was adopted by roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson, Hihn; noes, none.

Trustee Shackelford addressed the Board upon the desirability of construction with more lasting material, presenting samples of several excellent building stones available in the locality, and moved that the architect be instructed

[p. 51]

to insert an alternative proposition for the use of stone with real tile roof in the

advertisement for proposals and to submit to the Board at its next meeting an estimate of the cost of construction with such materials. Adopted.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to transmit the plans and specifications adopted by the Board to the Governor, the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer for their approval, as required by law.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to proceed, such approval having been secured, with advertising for proposals for the construction of the two buildings included in the plans and specifications already adopted - such advertising to be inserted for the period required by law in the following newspapers: The San Francisco Chronicle; the Sacramento *Record Union*; the Los Angeles *Herald* and the San Luis *Tribune*.

Director Anderson reported that since doubt had arisen as to whether the State Board of Examiners would approve the bill for the purchase of the cattle ordered by the Board at its meeting of August 12, he had telegraphed to the eastern breeders to hold the stock until farther [sic] orders. Since then, as **Trustee Hihn had generously made himself personally responsible for the advancement of the funds**, he had ordered the shipment to proceed as originally contemplated.

Director Anderson also reported that the following items were urgently needed for the prosecution of work in development of water and in other necessary undertakings, viz.:

[p. 53]	2 work horses -----	\$250.00
	1 wagon -----	100.00
	1 set harness -----	30.00
	1 plow -----	25.00
	1 harrow -----	15.00
	Shovels, picks, etc. -----	20.00
	Feed for horses -----	50.00
	Seed -----	50.00
	Fence material -----	<u>50.00</u>
		\$590.00
	One laborer at \$50.00 per month.	
	One typewriter and desk -----	135.00
	Office rent at San Luis Obispo —	5.00 per month

[Transcriber's Note: The office was rented from F. J. McHenry. See p. 57 list of claims.]

On motion the requisition of Director Anderson for the foregoing supplies, etc., was approved and the expenditure authorized, on roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Kirk, Shackelford, Hihn and Wickson; noes, none.

Trustee Hihn and Director Anderson reported in detail the progress made in developing the hillside springs on the school site and were, on motion, authorized to proceed with the work and to procure the necessary labor and supplies for the delivery of the water on the building site.

The following bills were received, approved and ordered paid, by the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees Kirk, Shackelford, Hihn, Wickson; noes, none.:

D. L. Bunnell, stenographer —————	\$ 35.00
Leroy Anderson, Director's salary, Aug. & Sept. ———	400.00
Leroy Anderson, traveling expenses —————	22.65
S. J. Mudd, Livery hire —————	<u>4.00</u>
	\$461.65

On motion the Board adjourned.

/s/ E J Wickson      Secy.

### 1902 Oct 6

Source:           University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 48 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Governor Henry T. Gage, & Charles F. Curry, Secretary of State, & Truman Reeves, State Treasurer]

Berkeley, Oct. 6, 1902.

Hon. Henry T. Gage, Governor, State of California,  
Hon. Chas. F. Curry, Secretary of State,  
Hon. Truman Reeves, State Treasurer,  
Sacramento, Cal.

Gentlemen:-

In accordance with the provision of the law for the construction of public buildings, we submit to you, herewith, the plans and specifications of buildings for the California Polytechnic School for your approval.

These plans were submitted by Architect W. H. Weeks, of Watsonville, in accordance with an advertisement duly made by this Board inviting plans and specifications for two buildings described in the advertisement. The date set for the submission of such plans was October 4th, 1902, and the place of meeting, Room 612, Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco. The plans submitted by Mr. Weeks and which accompany this communication were formally approved and accepted by the Board and the premium of \$10.00 for such plans was awarded to him.

We respectfully request that they receive approval at your earliest convenience in order that we may proceed under the law to advertise for bids for the construction of the same.

Very respectfully,  
Trustees California Polytechnic School,  
Per   /s/ E J Wickson  
Secretary.

**1902 Oct 11**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 55-56 [2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

Berkeley, Oct. 11, 1902.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Trustee California Polytechnic School,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

I beg leave to transmit to you the following copy of a letter just received from Mr. Kirk, in order that you may see just how our various enterprises stand:

“My dear Professor,

The Governor being out of his office, his Secretary has just informed me that not knowing either yesterday or to-day just where a telegram would reach him he has delayed making effort to get consent to place signature on plans and specifications. I am given to hope that communication will be had with the Governor tomorrow and that very little longer delay will be incurred on that point.

I have just had a lengthy conversation with Mr. Daniel Kevane, the Secretary and principal man of the Board of Examiners, and have endeavored to make very clear to his mind the wisdom of our Board, first in employing director Anderson as an expert and adviser in our proceedings toward the establishment of the Polytechnic School; and secondly, in references to the items of expense, list of which you have submitted to me, for equipment and work on the grounds. I am not altogether sure that I have convinced him as to our wisdom and the law on the first matter and the bill for Mr. Anderson's salary still hangs, but I am satisfied that on the second point there will be no trouble. We can go ahead and purchase these necessary supplies and fixtures and I am promised that there will be no question about allowing the claim out of the appropriation. In due time, I think, the claim for Mr. Anderson's salary will also be allowed. I don't think we have need of any anxiety on any of these matters, and hoping that I may be able to report to you tomorrow that the plans and specifications have been signed as required by law, and that you may proceed with advertisements for construction, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Thos. J. Kirk”

[page 2:] F.A.H. -2-

The Secretary of State and the State Treasurer have already signed our plans and, as you will see by the letter, Mr. Kirk is on the track of the Governor and hopes to catch him very soon. Mr. Weeks has sent us the proper form for the advertisement, so that I shall proceed with that as soon as the Governor's signature is se-

cured. It seems to me that you would be safe in proceeding with such purchases as are contemplated in the resolutions passed at our last meeting, the bills to be submitted, so far as possible, in time for approval at our next meeting.

Very respectfully,

[this copy not signed]

Secretary.

**1902 Oct 16**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 61-63 [3 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Sylvester C. Smith, President of the Board of Trustees, California Polytechnic School]

Hon. S. C. Smith,  
President Board of Trustees,  
California Polytechnic School,  
Bakersfield, Cal.

Berkeley, Oct. 16, 1902.

Dear Sir,

I regret exceedingly to report to you that I have just received information from the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, Mr. Daniel Kevane, that the bill of Leroy Anderson for salary is deducted from the total covering the bills passed by the Board, at the meeting on October 4th, "pending further investigation by the Board of Examiners". This seems to indicate that our presentation of motives and policies in the appointment of Mr. Anderson, which was adopted at our meeting of September 23rd and duly transmitted to the Board of Examiners has been of no avail so far. Believing that this engagement of expert service lies at the very foundation of our work, I respectfully suggest that the members of the Board undertake individually whatever seems to them calculated to make our point of view acceptable to the Board of Examiners. I beg leave to include in this communication a portion of a letter just received from Trustee Hihn bearing upon this point:

As to Mr. Anderson's salary. It seems to me nothing can be clearer than that we needed and are entitled to have the services of Director Anderson for visiting and examining eastern school of a similar character, for designing the buildings required and for designing plans for the conduct of the school. With the small appropriation of \$50,000 for

S.C.S. -2-

purchasing a site and for the construction and maintenance of the School, it was very necessary that the Trustees be well informed as to the wants of the school so as to enable them to build what it wanted with proper economy. There being no school on the Pacific slope where agriculture and domestic science and other occupations in the lower walks of life are taught, it became necessary to examine

the methods employed in schools of that kind in the east and no one can be as well qualified to make such examination and apply the experience gained thereby as the future Director of our school. If one or more of the Trustees had gone East to make an examination, I venture to say that the travelling expenses would have been fully equal to the salary of Director Anderson. I submit these points trusting you may find an opportunity to utilize them in your correspondence or interview with Mr. Kevane.

This statement of Mr. Hihn may be suggestive to other members of the Board in efforts they may make for the allowance of our claim. I can but add, what is already known to you, that Professor Anderson gave up a very promising University career for the purpose of devoting his life to secondary education in practical arts, because he conceived progress in this direction to be of such great public importance. It seems to me also that we are justified in appealing to the members of this administration to do everything they can to promote the enterprise in which we are engaged and to which we are all of us giving, without stint, time and strenuous effort without thought of compensation because we believe the effort is of such importance to the State. Personally, it seems to me that the beginning of systematic training in the practical arts of <sup>^country^</sup> life will be looked upon in the future as one of the great accomplishments of Governor Gage's administration and will reflect lasting honor upon it. I do not see, however, how it is going to be possible for us

S.C.S. -3-

to proceed with the very important undertakings we now have in progress without the constant service of our devoted expert and is it not quite clear that this Act of the legislature, expressly stating in its text that its provisions are to be construed liberally for the accomplishment of the end in view, fully authorizes us to proceed in the way which we have chosen.

I am sending copies of this letter to all members of the Board and respectfully urge the subject upon their attention because it seems quite necessary that if there is any justice in our claim it should be strongly promoted without delay.

Very respectfully,

/s/ E. J. Wickson

Secretary.

**1902 Oct 21**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 64 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to all Trustees, California Polytechnic School]

Berkeley, Oct. 21, 1902.

Dear Sir,

It is anticipated that the regular quarterly meeting of the Board, which should be held at San Luis Obispo on November 12th, may fail of a quorum, because of the necessity of meeting on the 22nd to open the bids in accordance with the advertisement now being published. I have the authorization of President Smith to call a special meeting at Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, on November 22nd, providing the regular meeting of November 12th fails of a quorum and due notice will be sent you of the meeting of November 22nd, in accordance with the By-laws.

Please find enclosed copy of minutes of the meeting of October 4th for your file.

Very respectfully,

/s/ E. J. Wickson Secretary.

**1902 Nov 1**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Nov 1 3:2

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.**

**Notes of Interest In and Around  
Paso Robles.  
County News.**

Prof. Anderson has the specifications and plans for the Polytechnich [sic] school, which can be examined by local contractors.

**1902 Nov 1**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[on last leaf:] San Luis Obispo, California November 1, 1902.  
[on cover sheet, 1 leaf, 11" x 8.5": "First Report of Trustees to Governor (1902)  
E. J. Wickson, Sect'y" [13 leaves, 14" x 8.5", typescript with manuscript  
annotations.]

**TO HIS EXCELLENCY, HENRY T. GAGE,  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Sir: The Trustees of the California Polytechnic School, duly appointed by your Excellency in accordance with the terms of the Act approved March 8, 1901, to establish said Polytechnic School in the County of San Luis Obispo and making an appropriation therefor, have the honor to submit, herewith, their first report.

**Organization of the Board of Trustees.**

The Trustees appointed by your Excellency according to Section 2 of the Act establishing the California Polytechnic School were:- For one year, ~~W. M. John and William Graves~~ ^S. C. Smith of Bakersfield and Wm. Graves^, of San Luis Obispo; for two years, ~~S. C. Smith~~ ^W. M. John^, of Bakersfield [sic]; for three years, F. A. Hihn, of Santa Cruz; and for four years, E. J. Wickson, of Berkeley. These, with ex-officio Trustee, Thomas A. [i.e., J.] Kirk, not in San Francisco on March 1, 1902 and

affected a temporary organization with Trustee John as chairman and Trustee Wickson as secretary. At a meeting one week later, the Board was formally organized with Trustee Smith as President and Trustee Wickson as Secretary. At a [page 2:]

subsequent meeting the Board adopted a set of By-laws which call for regular meetings of the Trustees on the second Wednesday in February, May, August and November. The By-laws also provide that the officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Trustee Hihn was elected Vice-President; Mr. Frank Miller, of the National Bank of D. O. Mills in Sacramento, was elected Treasurer with the power of attorney to receive the funds of the School from the Controller of the State.

The Trustees are grieved to record the loss of Trustee Graves, who died on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1902. ~~Resolutions expressing the sentiment of the Board will be found on a inter page.~~ The vacancy left by the death of Mr. Graves has been filled by your Excellency in the appointment of R. M. Shackelford, of Paso Robles.

### Selection of School Site.

Due notice having been given in the county of San Luis Obispo that the Board was ready to receive tenders of sites for the School, the Trustees held a public meeting in San Luis Obispo on March 8, 1902, at which all interested were invited to submit propositions regarding the location of the School. Sixteen sites in or about the city of San Luis Obispo were offered by various parties, ~~the descriptions of which follows:~~

~~(This list is given in full of the meeting of March 8, 1902, which you already have copy)~~

The several sites were carefully examined by the Board and after a thorough consideration of each, the tract of land offered by Dawson Lowe was selected on the site best suited for the purpose of the proposed School. Some additions were made to the original offer of Mr. Lowe so that the area [page 3:]

finally purchased consisted of 261.04. The price paid varied from \$10 to \$70 per acre, according to kind of soil and the total cost was \$7,709.30. Considerable delay was experienced in making surveys and in securing a satisfactory deed and it was not until the middle of August that the transfer was finally constructed.

The School tract is situated outside of the city limits of San Luis Obispo and about one mile in a north easterly direction from the business portion of the city. It lies on the eastern side of the Southern Pacific railway and has a frontage thereon of 29.76 chains [Transcriber's Note: one chain = 66 feet ; 29.76 chains = 1,964.16 feet]. From the railway the tract extends easterly about three-fourths of a mile nearly to the summit of the first range of hills. The soil consists chiefly of rolling land suitable for hay, grain, or fruit. About one hundred acres are occupied by hillside, which will provide pasturage, while a small amount in rich bottom land. The portion which has been selected as the site of the school buildings is a rise of ground some fifteen hundred feet from the Southern Pacific railway, commanding a full view of the city and valley of San Luis Obispo.

The deed conveying the above tract to the State of California also grants the free use of a parcel of land one hundred feet wide and extending from Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue (the main street leading from the city to the School site) along the east side of the Southern Pacific railway to the School lands. This land is to be used for a road for the School also by the Lowe estate in passing to and from their lands on either side of the railway. A right of way sixty feet wide is ~~granted the Lowe estate~~ ^reserved to the grantor^ through the upper portion of the School tract for the construction of a road to afford passage to their lands lying to the eastward of the School tract. This roadway is to be constructed by the ~~Lowe estate~~ ^grantor^, but may also be used by the School ^for^ travel, drainage and pipe and wire lines and, so far as can be without interfering with travel, for planting and maintaining shade and ornamental trees. Also the right to construct a damn or damns on the Brissolero\*

\*[Transcriber's Note: The U.S. Board on Geographic Names identifies, in its Geographic Names Information System, the officially approved name for this stream: Brizzolari Creek. On some maps it appears with variant spellings; e.g., Brizzolara.]

[page 4:]

~~Valuable water rights are conveyed to the School by the Lowe estate in Brizzolero Creek, which is a creek rising in the mountains to the eastward and passing through the School lands. The School is granted the right to construct dams and reservoirs for collecting and storing the waters of the creek and to appropriate the water for its several needs.~~

Creek, a living stream rising in the mountains to the eastward and passing through the School lands; to flood the land of the grantor above said damn to a depth of twenty feet; to divert and appropriate the water of said creek for its several needs.

The hill land purchased contains several springs which, upon indications found by the present development, promise to afford a supply of water for domestic purposes. Taken as a whole the tract secured appears to have been a most wise choice for the location of the School.

### **Election of Director.**

Much discussion as to the aim and scope of the School had taken place at the various meetings of the Trustees and it was thought best to select a man as head of the School who had had experience in such institutions and who could devote his time and energies to plan for the necessary buildings and for the course of study and regulations best suited to meet the needs of the State. It was deemed advisable also that such a man be selected as soon as possible so that he could have a wider opportunity to inspect similar institutions and give the Board the immediate results of his experience and study. The School to be established is of such a nature that this step seemed necessary for the best good of the State. Accordingly at an adjourned meeting of the Trustees held in San Francisco, May 26, 1902, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

(See resolutions in copy of minutes of meeting of May 26, 1902, now in your possession.) ^ (Resolution ... from minutes ...) ^ [photocopy of original not readable]

The choice of the Trustees for Director fell upon Leroy Anderson of Berkeley, ~~He was declared duly elected~~ and it was decided that his services should date from June 1, 1902. Mr. Anderson later signified his acceptance of the

[unnumbered page inserted before page 5:]

(To be inserted on p. 6 [i.e., page 5 within this document] before "aim and scope of School" and this with all that follows to be the abridged report for general distribution).

## THE CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL

### Outline of its Proposed Work

During the 1901 session of the Legislature a bill was introduced appropriation [sic] \$50,000 to establish a Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo county near the City of San Luis Obispo. The bill was passed, and approved by Governor Henry [sic] T. Gage on March 8, 1901, to take effect Jan. 1, 1902. Upon the latter date the Governor appointed as trustees, S. C. Smith, Bakersfield, F. A. Hihn, Santa Cruz, E. J. Wickson, Berkeley and W. M. John and Wm. Graves of San Luis Obispo, who, together with the Governor of the State and the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State as ex-officio members, form the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees have purchased 280 acres of land outside the city limits of San Luis Obispo for the site of the School. In May, 1901, they chose as head of the School Mr. Leroy Anderson, then an Instructor in the University of California. He has since resigned the latter position and taken up a residence in San Luis Obispo to have charge of the various details in putting the School into running order. Correspondence concerning the School may be addressed to him.

A brief outline of the work of the School follows:

[page 5:]

office in accordance with the terms of the above resolutions. He immediately started on a two months trip to the eastern States to make as extended a study as possible of schools similar in character to the proposed institution.

Mr. Anderson is a graduate of Cornell University of the class of 1896 and took his degree in Science. After one year of graduate work as Fellow in Agriculture he received the degree of Master of Science in Agriculture. He was soon after appointed assistant in Dairy Husbandry, which position he held until July 1900. At this date he came to California as Instructor in Animal and Dairy Husbandry in the State University and was holding that position when elected to the Directorship of the California Polytechnic School. In June 1902 he was granted the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Cornell University.

### **Aim and scope of the School.**

Section 1 of the Act establishing the California Polytechnic School says - "the purpose of this school is to furnish to young people of both sexes mental and manual training in the arts and sciences including agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economy and such other branches as will fit the students for the non-professional walks of life". The Trustees have made a careful survey of the educational institutions of the State and of the training needed in the different vocations. They find that students of the high school grade are well provided for in the mechanical trades and engineering by such polytechnic schools as the Lick, Cogswell and Throop and that students of the University grade can find complete and fully equipped departments in all lines of engineering and mechanics at the University of California and Stanford University. A course in agriculture of similar high grade is also provided at the State University.

[Transcriber's Note: James Lick "bequeathed some of his wealth to establish a technical school with practical workshops for boys and girls, which later merged with one founded by J.C. Wilmerding and now bears both their names." (p. 236, James D. Hart, *A Companion to California*). JillisClute Wilmerding ... bequeathed \$400,000 to the Regents of the University of California to establish a school of industrial arts to teach trades to boys. In 1915 the San Francisco school (est. 1900) became affiliated with the similar but more professionally academic one founded by the will of James Lick. ... Lick-Wilmerding was separated from the university (1961), but had long since become a college preparatory academic institution." (p. 481, *ibid.*)]

There is no course of study, however, of a high  
[page 6:]

school grade offered anywhere in the State where agriculture is made a principal feature. The Trustees have, therefore, deemed it wise to establish this institution in such a manner that the courses of study will appeal more particularly to those boys and girls who expect to reside in country communities. They wish to plan the work of the School in a way that will give a more thorough understanding of the principles and practices of the multitude of activities in which life in the country abounds and thus to enhance the beauty and enlarge the comforts of such a life. In a school of this kind nothing will be lost sight of which will tend to develop and broaden the mind and make the eye and hand more skillful. The chief effort will be, as it should be in all schools, to teach men to be men, and second to help them to become masters of their particular vocation. In planning an institution which will appeal to the industries of the country rather than of the city, the Trustees believe that they are fully complying with the letter and spirit of the law and that they are providing for a school that will be eminently useful in rearing generations of efficient and industrious citizens.

### **Course of Study.**

The time is yet rather early to give a complete detail of the courses of study to be offered. It is the hope of the Board to eventually have a full four year course. For the beginning, however, we do not see our way clear to offer more than a two year course with a possible third year for specializing in the particular subject which the student may wish to pursue as his life work. A list of proposed subjects under their several heads is here given:

[page 8:] [page numbers from here forward are assigned by hand]

### **COURSE OF STUDY**

A more detailed outline of the work of the School, than given in the paragraph just preceding, will be beneficial in showing what the Trustees are contemplating in their preparations. It may be too much to say that the following separate departments will be established, but there will be instruction given in the several branches of work which may be designated as Academic branches, Agriculture, Domestic Science and Mechanics. All of these will, however, be closely interwoven so that the student may secure as well rounded a training as possible during the progress of his course of study.

Academic. Under this head will be included those subjects usually taught in high schools which are essential in making good citizens and which bear more or less closely upon the industries of the country. There will thus be taught English, history, economic, mathematics, business methods and special emphasis be laid upon the sciences of chemistry, physics, botany, entomology [i.e., entomology], physiology, zoology and physical geography.

Agriculture. The plan of the Trustees in purchasing a farm of 280 acres for the site of the School was that agriculture should receive a large degree of attention, both in class room and in field demonstration. The farm possesses a variety of soils which admits of the culture of all sorts of fruits, vines and field crops. The topography of the land with the indicated water supply provides considerable illustration of irrigation methods.

Since live stock and dairy interests have always been so prominent in the coast counties and since field work in animal and dairy industry is so much in need of demonstration in some State School, we have decided to devote considerable attention to these branches of agriculture. We have already purchased five head of thoroughbred Ayrshire cattle from Canada and one thoroughbred Shorthorn bull of the dairy type from the University of Wisconsin. It is our intention to add other breeds as our means will

[page 9:]

permit and also to purchase some of the common cows of the country and give an object lesson in ~~which~~ <sup>^what^</sup> can be done in improving such stock by the continual use of thoroughbred sires. It is our aim to have all other kinds of domestic animals upon the farm, such as sheep, swine and poultry. All the work with live stock will be done as nearly as possible according to scientific principles. Careful records of food and of production will be kept and included in our reports.

In-as-much as it may not be possible to keep sufficient cattle upon the school farm to furnish the milk needed for school purposes, it is our desire to establish a regular creamery and cheese factory. We would thus purchase milk from neighboring dairymen and manufacturer and sell the product. The factory would be run on strict business lines and would be thus self-supporting and possibly return a profit to the school. Moreover it would provide the best kind of practical instruction to all students who desired to perfect themselves as creamery operators.

The site selected for the School affords good opportunities for horticultural demonstration. The temperature is such that citrus fruits may be readily grown and judging from surrounding farms all kinds of fruits and vines may be expected to thrive. Orchards of all kinds are a necessity in the teaching of horticulture and it is our intention to have as many varieties of trees and vines as can be grown upon the farm.

Other branches of agriculture, equally important, to receive due attention are gardening, forestry, irrigation, farm engineering and farm management.

**Domestic Science.** The rapid development of modern science has shown that it has an intimate relation to the management of the home and especially to the preparation of the food and to the health of the individual. In making a place for the study of domestic economy in this school the legislature acted wisely and it is our desire to carry out the provisions of the law

[page inserted here:]

(To be substituted for Mechanics on p. 10 if Board approve.)

*^See following page^*

### **MECHANICS & ENGINEERING.**

It is presumed that this School will in time be equipped to give instruction in the various lines of mechanics and engineering as are usually found in schools of a similar grade. The expense of a suitable engineering equipment is so great that we do not feel justified in offering courses therein for the first few years. We prefer to do a few things well rather than try to do many things and not have sufficient means to do anything well.

As introductory to these two subjects freehand and mechanical drawing will receive considerable attention from the opening of the School, which will give a training in sketching perspective and some experience in designing and planning buildings.

The School will open with instruction in carpentry and forge-work and endeavor to give a good training in these subjects including joinery, turning, cabinet making, construction of frame buildings and all lines of blacksmithing. It is likely that these two trades only will be offered at the opening of the School, but additional trades may be expected from time to time.

[p. 10:]

to the fullest possible extent. Similar courses in schools and colleges of the sort are among the most popular offered [sic] and are looked upon as one of the means of solving some of the serious difficulties surrounding domestic life. Such schools

in California as have introduced this study find it among the most useful of their departments of work.

The courses followed are a study of food principles with reference to their source, composition, cooking, nutritive value and cost; the principles and practice of cooking of all kinds of dishes in various ways; the preparation and serving of luncheons and dinners; the home, its construction, sanitation, heating, lighting and care; the administration of household affairs; sewing and dressmaking; millinery; music; and in fact everything which goes to make up the house useful and the home beautiful. The aim of the course is to help girls to a more thorough understanding of the science and art of cooking and of the many duties required of a housekeeper.

^See page preceding^

~~Mechanics. A number of the mechanical trades are useful for every agriculturist to know something of. He needs to be handy with carpenter and blacksmith tools and with the tongs and trowel. He needs to be thoroughly acquainted with the more fundamental principles of mechanics and to be able to apply them to the tools and machines which he is continually using. To this end a large portion of the mechanical work of the school will be devoted. It will be used to supplement and round out the other courses which the student takes who desires to fit himself for an active and useful life in the country. There will be nothing, however, to prevent any student from devoting most of his time to one of a few more elementary trades and perfect himself therein so far as our equipment shall make such perfection possible.~~

Definite plans regarding the requirements for admission to the School have not yet been furnished ^formulated^. Being of a High School grade, students who have completed the usual Grammar school course will have had sufficient school training to enter.

[page 11:]

But since students often complete the grammar school at the age of fourteen years it is a serious question as to whether or not an age requirement should not also be imposed, for it is doubtful if a child of fourteen years is able to do work of so serious a character as is being planned in this School. Better and more efficient work could be done if no student were admitted under sixteen years of age.

### BUILDING PLANS

Pursuant to an advertisement for competitive [sic] plans for the construction of buildings for the Polytechnic School, the Trustees met in San Francisco on October 4th to receive such plans. The plans presented by Mr. W. H. Weeks, of Watsonville, were adopted and he was elected to be the architect of the School.

[Transcriber's Note: William Henry Weeks of Watsonville was not only personally known by F. A. Hihn [see Book 50, Letters of F. A. Hihn and the F. A. Hihn Company], he was the premier architect of schools throughout California. For a biography and history of his achievements, see *W. H. Weeks, Architect* by Betty Lewis. Fresno: Panorama West Books, 1985.

Mrs. Lewis notes that "during the 1905-1906 period Weeks was extremely busy throughout the state of California — in Watsonville alone he was either planning

or had just completed the following: a bandstand in the city plaza, the Brewington Block, Green Block, IOOF dance hall, San Monte packing house, Carnegie Library, the Weeks building, and a dozen homes. In other cities he had designed the following: a high school in Boulder Creek; the Paso Robles Bath House; a Carnegie Library and the State Polytechnic School buildings in San Luis Obispo; a high school in Susanville; the Hall of Records, Hollister; the Opera House, the Roderick Building and the Goldstine Building in Monterey; and several buildings in Santa Cruz and Pacific Grove, as well as numerous structures in San Francisco designed and built after the big quake and fire in 1906." (p. 16, *ibid.*)

Among the list (p. 55, *ibid.*) of his designed buildings in San Luis Obispo, are the Carnegie Library (now the museum); State Polytechnic School buildings ... demolished; French Hotel; Professor Smith's residence; Naylor residence; Payne residence; High School ... demolished; Dr. Stover Sanitarium - French Sanitarium, Marsh near Toro - now an office building.]

The plans, as at present suggested, call for two buildings - one a recitation and administrative building to contain recitation and lecture room, laboratories, offices and an assembly room. It is 45 x 100 feet and two stories in height with a basement which will serve temporarily for carpenter shop and dairy room. The second building is of a size similar to the first and is to be used for a dormitory. It contains rooms for about thirty students, kitchen, dining room and parlor. The basement is for laundry and storage purposes.

At the present date the advertisement for bids for construction of the buildings is in progress. The original plans call for a frame structure covered with a metal lathing and cement, the general style being after a modified mission type. Alternative bids are also asked for to construct the recitation building of brick [sic] and stone. Should this material be used, only the recitation building could be erected, since the appropriation is not sufficiently large to pay for two buildings when composed of the more expensive materials.

It is to be hoped that the coming legislature will provide ample appropriations for the School. The immediate needs

[page 12:]

are a building for Domestic Science and home for girls; carpenter shop; blacksmith and plumbing shop, dairy building and central ^heating plant, ^ stables for horses, cattle, sheep and swine; silos; poultry houses and reservoirs for water supply.

Other items of expense in the way of permanent equipment are the necessary horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry to stock the farm and the machinery and tools to carry on the farm work. The internal equipment of the various buildings is implied in the specifications of the need of the building. Other buildings than those named will undoubtedly be needed as the school progresses, for we firmly believe the work here offered will so appeal to the laboring youth of the State that they will come to us in large numbers. ^Our absolute need is a minimum appropriation of \$100,000, - 50,000 to be used for permanent improvements and \$25,000 appropriated for salaries and operating expenses. ^

S. C. Smith, President  
 F. A. Hihn, Vice-President  
 E. J. Wickson, Secretary

Thos. J. Kirk  
 W. M. John  
 R. M. Shackelford

San Luis Obispo, California November 1, 1902.

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**1902 Nov 11**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
 Trustee Cal. Polytechnic School,  
 Santa Cruz, Cal.

Berkeley, Nov. 11, 1902.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

I take the liberty of transmitting to you a document from Mr. Johnson concerning his boundary line. I have written Mr. Johnson that it will be presented to the Board at its next meeting, November 22nd. I thought, however, that you would like to look it over in advance. You may keep it and bring it to the meeting with you, or return to me sooner, as you see fit.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary.

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**1902 Nov 22**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* and Independent 1902 Nov 22 3:2  
**County News.**

Bids for the construction of buildings for the Polytechnic school at San Luis will be opened to-day at San Luis [i.e., San Francisco]. The school has already received several fine cattle from the east.

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**1902 Nov 22**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 55]

San Francisco, November 22, 1902

In accordance with call duly authorized by the President of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School a meeting was held at Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, at 1:00 P. M., November 22nd, 1902, to open bids for

construction of buildings, which had been duly advertised in accordance with the law, and for such other business as might come before the meeting. There were present: Trustees Shackelford, John, Kirk, Hihn, Smith and Wickson; Trustee Smith in the Chair.

Minutes of the meeting of October 4th read and approved.

The Board then proceeded to open bids received in accordance with its advertisement, as follows:

	Name	Recitation Building	Recitation & Dormitory	Alternative Plan
1:	For Masonry work: No bids received.			
2.	For iron work: W. E. Green, Watsonville, Cal.	\$ 95.	\$ 145.	
3.	Carpenter work, etc: W. E. Green, Watsonville, Cal.	14,520.	25,997.*	\$14,545
	J. H. Stevens & Jos. Mainot, San Luis Obispo	12,956.	24,223.**	11,011. <sup>f</sup>
	F. W. Hickox, Bakersfield, Cal.	14,400.	25,900.***	13,300.
4.	Plumbing, etc. Byrne Bros., Santa Cruz, Cal. (material only)	1,375.	2,725.	1,375.
	Byrne Bros., Santa Cruz, Cal. (material and labor)	1,825.	3,600.	1,950.
	Vetterline & Butcher, San Luis Obispo (material & labor)	1,838.	3,801.	1,838.
	E.M. Payne, San Luis Obispo, (material & labor)	1,627.64	3,340.	1,727.64
5.	Heating. W. Morgan & Co., San Francisco	1,648.	1,183. <u>1,648</u> \$2,831.	1,740.
6.	Tinning, galvanized iron work and roofing. Vetterline & Butcher, San Luis Obispo,	1,846.	3,427.	3,196.
7.	Painting, tinting, etc. E. N. Williams, San Luis Obispo	1,967.70	3,280.20***	1,370.50
	J. P. Lynch, San Luis Obispo	2,127.	3,922.***	1,795. \$
8.	Alternative Plan. E. W. Davis, San Luis Obispo (Mason work complete)			20,354.

\* Or with fir \$950 additional

\*\* With fir \$619 additional

\*\*\* With fir \$650 additional

\*\*\* With fir finish \$3,170.90

\*\*\* If fir is used \$3,400

\$ If fir is used \$1,681.

<sup>f</sup> With iron work \$600 additional

[p. 57]

It was moved by Trustee Hihn, seconded by Trustee Shackelford, that final action on the bids presented be postponed until the next meeting. Carried.

Moved by Trustee Hihn, seconded by Trustee Wickson, that the Board proceed with the construction of two buildings, according to the plans and specifications adopted by the Board at its meeting of October 4th. Adopted by the following vote: Ayes, Hihn, Kirk, Smith and Wickson; noes, Shackelford and John.

The report of the Board to the Governor was adopted and the Secretary was instructed to forward the same.

It was moved by Trustee Hihn, seconded by Trustee Kirk, that Trustees Shackelford and John confer with the Director concerning the progress of work upon the site and report recommendations.

The following duly authenticated claims were presented for payment:

[of 26 claims, as high as \$367.50 (advertising in *San Francisco Chronicle*), none were from Trustee Hihn]

Moved by Trustee Shackelford, seconded by Trustee Hihn, that the claims be approved and ordered paid. Motion was carried by the following vote: Ayes, Trustees Shackelford, John, Hihn, Kirk, Smith, Wickson.

On motion the Board adjourned to meet at 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, November 29, 1902.

/s/ E J Wickson  
Secy.

### 1902 Nov 29

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

p. 59 Meeting Site: San Francisco, Room 612, Safe Deposit Building, Nov. 29, 1902.  
Present Trustees: Hihn, Kirk, John, Smith and Wickson  
Absent: Trustees Gage, Shackelford  
President Smith occupied the Chair.

Several references made to Hihn.

### 1902 Dec 5

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 90-91 [2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to F. A. Hihn]

Berkeley, Dec. 5, 1902.

F. A. Hihn, Esq., Santa Cruz, Cal.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

I have your favor of December 3rd with the corrected bid of Lease Brothers. I will keep the original, as you suggest.

Mr. Weeks writes me December 5th as follows: "I am proceeding with the contracts and bonds and expect within a few days to have them all signed up ready for the signature of the Trustees, after which there will be nothing to hinder us from proceeding with the work". Mr. Weeks went to see the Attorney General in San Francisco and got some information apparently, but not all that he desired. He says he finds that the Trustees will have to sign all the contracts but it will not be necessary for the Governor, Treasurer or State Secretary to sign them. I suppose after the signatures are all secured they must be submitted to the Attorney General but this can be done in San Francisco, so that the trip which you proposed to Sacramento will not be necessary at this time. Mr. Weeks wrote me December 3rd that he would send me revised estimates to be submitted for the estimates already on file at Sacramento and if this substitution of the revised estimates for the original estimates can be made it will not appear that

[page 2:] F.A.H. -2-

the contracts are over-running the estimates. This seems to be the easiest way to reach that matter and I have received to-day from Mr. Weeks these revised estimates and will send them at once to Mr. Kirk to make the substitution if it is possible to do so.

Very respectfully,  
/s/ E J Wickson Secretary.

**1902 Nov 29**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Nov 29 3:2  
**County News.**

The members of the Polytechnic school board met in San Francisco last Saturday [Nov. 22d] and decided to construct two buildings for the new school of wood frame with steel lath and cement.

**1902 Dec 4**

Source: Watsonville *Pajaronian* 1902 Dec 4 3:3

Architect W. H. Weeks, of this city, has let the contracts for two of the buildings of the new Polytechnic school at San Luis Obispo. The carpenter work was awarded to San Luis Obispo contractors and the brick and stone work to a Santa Cruz firm. The institution, as outlined, will comprise ten buildings when completed, but all of the buildings will not be erected at present. Architect Weeks will furnish all of the necessary plans.

**1902 Dec 6**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Dec 6 3:2  
**County News.**

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Victor H. Woods, Surveyor general elect, and wife will soon move from San Luis to San Francisco where they will make their home.

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**1902 Dec 13**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Dec 13 3:2  
**County News.**

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Work upon the buildings for the Polytechnic school at San Luis will commence on the 20th, inst.

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**1902 Dec 15**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript]

[from Edward James Wickson, Secretary of the Trustees to Governor Gage]

December 15, 1902.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY HENRY T. GAGE,  
 GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA  
 Sacramento, Cal.

SIR,-

I beg leave to submit, herewith, from the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School, their report of operations for the current year. A duplicate copy is also enclosed, herewith, in case it might seem to you proper to transmit the same to the printer for publication, in order that the progress and purposes of the institution may be more widely understood.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,  
 [this copy not signed]  
 Secretary.

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**1902 Dec 20**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Dec 20 3:2  
**County News.**

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San Luis is planning to celebrate the occasion of the laying of the corner stone for the Polytechnic School building. The event will take place in January.

**1902 Dec 31**

Source: Letter No. 2177 Book 50, p. 51 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: W. A. Junker, Paso Robles, Cal.  
From: F. A. Hihn

Dear Sir: — I will go to the City Friday night by Broad Gauge train arriving there about eleven. Hope to meet you and Mr. Weeks on train or at Palace [Hotel].  
Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

[Transcriber's Note: W. A. Junker was the Lessee/Manager of the El Paso de Robles Hotel, of which F. A. Hihn was one of the corporate officers.]

**1903****1903**Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1903. p. 102

## CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

George C. Pardee	Governor, and ex officio member of Board.
Thomas J. Kirk	Superintendent of Public Instruction, and ex officio member of Board.
S. C. Smith (R.), of Bakersfield, <i>President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1907.
<b>F. A. Hihn (R.), of Santa Cruz, <i>Vice President</i></b>	<b>Term expires January 31, 1905.</b>
R. M. Shackelford (R.), of Paso Robles	Term expires January 31, 1907.
Warren M. John (R.), of San Luis Obispo	Term expires January 31, 1904.
E. J. Wickson (R.), of Alameda County	Term expires January 31, 1906.

**1903 Jan 2**

Source: Letter No. 2200 Book 50, p. 66 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Henry Eastland Adams, Superintendent, Stockton Gas & Electric Co.  
Stockton, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

...

I have your telegram of the first stating that you will submit my proposition to electrical workers Saturday. I can't leave here until Friday night and if I cannot come up Saturday, I will be very busy, if my cold does not prevent me - **there will be an important meeting of the Polytechni [sic] School Board.** I do not see my way clear to go to Stockton this week owing to my cold and lack of time.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

**1903 Jan 3**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 61]

San Francisco, January 3, 1903

In accordance with call duly authorized by the President of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School, a meeting of the Board was held at Room 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, at 10:00 A. M., President Smith in the chair. Present Trustees Hihn, John, Smith, Shackelford and Wickson

The minutes of November 29th were read and approved.

Letters of the Attorney General and the State Controller about filing contracts, bonds, etc., were read and placed on file.

The following was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED that the bonds of Lease Brothers, Stevne [i.e., Stevens] & Maino, Vetterline & Butcher and W. H. Payne, in each case for fifty per cent of the amount of the bids of the parties, accepted at the meeting of November 29th, and duly filed with the Secretary of the Board, be and are hereby approved.

It was moved by Trustee Shackelford and seconded by Trustee Hihn that the Legislature be asked for \$12,500 to be available immediately and the President and Vice-President were requested to prepare a schedule of items of pressing need.

A recess was taken until 1:30 P. M.

The following bills were approved and ordered paid by the following vote:

Trustees Hihn, Shackelford, John, Smith and Wickson:

W. H. Weeks	Architects fees	\$925.00
D. L. Bunnell	Stenographer, Nov. & Dec.	45.00
Leroy Anderson	Director's salary, Nov. & December	400.00
Leroy Anderson	Expenses	27.15
Dawson Lowe	Hay and straw	22.22
Salinas Valley Lumber Co.	Lumber and supplied [sic]	121.29
F. J. McHenry	Office rent, Nov.	5.00
Thos. Rowan	Livery	4.50
A. W. Pullen	Roofing adobe house	10.00
Robert Reford	Ayrshire bull calf	50.00
University of Wisconsin	Shorthorn bull	75.00
W. A. McKowen	Freight & expenses on cattle	136.26
O. E. Blaine	Labor, carpenter	39.00
Allen Blaine (assigned to Leroy Anderson)	Labor 1 mo. with team	60.00
Payot, Upham & Co.	Office supplies	49.00
R. M. Shackelford	Expenses	14.20
Warren M. John	Expenses	22.95
		\$2,006.57

[p. 63]

The action of the Committee, consisting of Trustees Shackelford, Hihn, John and Architect Weeks, in preparing contracts and bonds of Lease Brothers, Stevens & Maino, Vetterline & Butcher and W. H. Payne was formally approved.

Moved by Trustee Hihn, seconded by Trustee Shackelford that President Smith and Trustee John be authorized to draft bills to provide for the needs of the School and to bring the same to the attention of the legislature - Passed unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Hihn and seconded by Trustee Shackelford that one bill provide for \$12,500 for immediate improvements and that a second bill provide for \$87,500 for buildings and equipments [sic], salaries, supplies, etc. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Trustee John and seconded by Trustee Hihn that President Smith, Trustee Shackelford, and Director Anderson arrange for the corner-stone laying at whatever date seems practicable.

On motion President Wheeler, and President Jordan and Superintendent Kirk were invited to speak at the corner-stone laying. Carried.

The meeting adjourned to meet at the call of the President of the Board.

/s/ E J Wickson

Secretary.

### 1903 Jan 5

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

Hon. Henry T. Gage,  
Governor of California,  
Sacramento, Cal.

Berkeley, January 5, 1903. [\*]

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find schedule of needs of the California Polytechnic School for the fiscal years of 1903-4 and 1905-6, amounting to \$87,500; followed by schedule of funds needed immediately for the various purposes stated. This schedule was adopted after most careful discussion at our meeting of January 3 and is commended to the members of the Board as a basis upon which to solicit the appropriation of funds for the promotion of the interests of the institution.

Very respectfully, /s/ E J Wickson Secretary

\*[The very next day, George C. Pardee was Inaugurated as Governor of California, replacing Henry T. Gage as Governor and Ex-officio Member of the Trustees.

Source: *California Blue Book*, 1958, p. 705.]

### 1903 Jan 14

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Berkeley, January 14, 1903.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

The approval of the contracts by the Attorney General has not yet been secured, although the matter has been kept constantly in motion and I have been quite actively engaged with furnishing him with information on different points as they arose. I send, herewith, a copy of a letter which shows that he has had serious doubts as to whether we had money enough to cover the contracts. This letter satisfied his mind on that point; then he wished to know whether the plans had been approved by the State officers and I had to hunt up the exact information on that point, because my general statement was not enough; then I had to certify that no contracts had been issued except those which had been filed with him. All this has taken much writing and some traveling. I have unofficial assurance now that he has all the points that he needs and I am daily expecting his official communication that the contracts are duly approved and authorized. This is the way the matter stands this morning and I haste to send you the latest information about it. I will follow at once with notice that the approval has been finally secured as soon as I am informed of the fact.

Sincerely yours,      /s/ E. J. Wickson      Secretary.

**1903 Jan 23**

Source:      University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 145  
[1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

Berkeley, January 23, 1903.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Trustee California Polytechnic School,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

In haste to catch a mail I will simply say that I have just returned from a few days absence from the University and find your letter of the 21st. Immediately upon receipt of the Attorney General's advices of the defects in the contracts I sent the Attorney General's letter and the contracts, bonds, etc., to the architect [W. H. Weeks] at Watsonville, thinking that he would at once advise with you about the amendments. I hope you have already received word from him that he has the documents which must be revised. If not, will you summon him to counsel with you on the subject?

Very respectfully,  
/s/ E J Wickson  
Secretary.

**1903 Jan 31**

Source: Website of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo — <http://www.calpoly.edu/>

Cornerstone laid at Cal Poly.

[Editor's Note: F. A. Hihn had been in San Francisco and returned to Santa Cruz on January 29th, so it is doubtful that he rushed off to San Luis Obispo for the event. I have not located a detailed account of that event. ]

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**1903 Feb 13**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library. 1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 11", on 2 blank sheets. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at head of letter.] [stamped with receipt date:] FEB 14 1903 [filing number "169" at left-head of letter]

*Am not "disinclined to grant the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo the desired appropriation of \$28,500 for the erection up of a domestic Science Hall." On the contrary, I should like very much to see the school have it, for think it needs it. But the finances of the State will not, in my judgement, permit it. \$1,000,000 in the hole, 50 cts tax levy, etc. Too late I am afraid, to amend law, as you suggest, this session.*

Santa Cruz, Cal. Feb. 13, '03.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

Governor Geo. C. Pardee, Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Ex-Senator [sic] S. C. Smith writes that you are disinclined to grant to the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo the desired appropriation of \$28,500 for the erection of a domestic Science Hall. Fully appreciating the great amount of work imposed upon you, I would not intrude, did I not deem it my duty as your co-trustee of this institution to give my view on the subject.

We have purchased a site of 281 acres at a cost of say \$8000 and we are expending the remainder of a \$50,000 appropriation in the erection of a recitation building and a dormitory, a part of which is to be temporarily used for a dining hall and kitchen. The utmost care and economy has been and is being used to make the money go as far as possible. There is some attempt at embellishment in the Recitation building, it being intended as the principal building of the school. The foundation is of concrete, the remainder of wood - the walls being covered with metal laths and covered with cement. The roof is covered with metal tile shingles. The cost is say 25% above rustic walls and and [sic] wooden shingles. It is proposed to

make agriculture the basis of our work and such instruction in mechanics and domestic science as will fit the students for the lower walks of life.

Though my time is very much occupied, considering that I am in my seventy fourth year and though I have no individual interests in San Luis Obispo or vicinity, I was so much attracted towards the noble pur-

[page 2:]

#2

pose of the proposed school that I did not hesitate to accept the tendered position as trustee and have ever since given it as close attention as if the school was all my own. I want to see it started and become a success, but I do not see my way clear to make a fair beginning without being able to take care of and instruct young women in domestic science and that cannot be done in a practical way without the rproposed [sic] additional building.

I know you would gladly grant the desired appropriation and I trust you will see your way clear to do so for the sake of the maney [the "e" in the preceding word shows a diagonal strikethrough] poor girls who now are struggling in ignorance for an existence.

If the whole appropriation cannot possibly be granted, permit me to suggest that it be made \$15,000. With that amount we might erect the rear part of the building, to-wit: the kitchen, pantry, stroerooms [i.e., storerooms], laundry etc and perhaps a temporary dining room.

In this connection, I beg leave to suggest that if it be not too late, the law be amended so that the trustees may buy under proper restrictions material and employ suitable mechanics to instruct the scholars in erecting necessary buildings on the school site.

Trusting you will pardon this extended intrusion, I remain,

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

### 1903 Feb 14

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 157 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signature of E. J. Wickson]

Berkeley, February 14, 1903.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

Dear Mr. Hihn,

I have just sent you another bundle of contracts for signing, accompanied by President Smith's letter, which, I trust, will be sufficiently explicit. It is really to be hoped that this is the last group of signatures that will be called for.

I have just read your letter to Governor Pardee and it seems to me that it is most admirable, both in spirit and in the line of argument pursued. I have admired from the beginning your devoted work for this Institution and I fully believe that others appreciate it also. I think we can succeed even if we should fail to get equipment

for domestic science which is so desirable. My proposition is to begin that branch even under great difficulties and embarrassment and demonstrate fully the desirability and popularity of it.

Very sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson

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**1903 Mar 13**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School,  
San Luis Obispo, p. 169-170 [2 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript  
signature of E. J. Wickson]

Berkeley, March 13, 1903.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Vice-President Board of Trustees, Cal. Polytechnic School,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

Again we hardly know whether we are afoot or horseback in this Polytechnic School matter. The enclosed duplicate of a letter which I am sending to the State Board of Examiners will explain to you the situation which we seem to be in. At least one payment is now due Lease Brothers. The Board of Examiners returned me the bill of Lease Brothers which I submitted to them, accompanied by the certificate of the architect, with the statement that the claim must be sworn to upon a certain blank and must be regularly certified to by the Trustees of the Institution. The architect is evidently somewhat at fault at not advising Lease Brothers as to their form of affidavit, but that particular will be soon arranged. Now the question discussed in my letter to Mr. Melick [W.S. Melick, Secretary, State Board of Examiners] comes in and, as I intimated to him, it seems a great burden to have all those bills of all the contractors certified to be the Board, because they will come due at different times in the progress of the work and there will be from sixteen to twenty of them, I presume, during the next six months. I send you this copy and make this statement in order that you may be informed of the situation things are in. I do not see how the Board can meet to advantage, except for

[page 2:] F.A.H. -2-

for [sic] the approval of such a claim, until we know what money we are to have, for until we know what money we are to have we cannot tell what teachers to engage, nor what other expenditures to provide for. If you have any suggestions to make in the premises I shall be under deep obligations for them.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson  
Secretary.

**1903 Mar 19**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
[March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytechnic School,  
San Luis Obispo, p. 182 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manuscript signa-  
ture of E. J. Wickson]

Berkeley, March 19, 1903.

Hon. W. S. Melick,  
Secretary State Board of Examiners,  
Sacramento, Cal.

Dear Mr. Melick,

Please accept thanks for your letter of March 17th. We will endeavor to comply with the requirements of the law in the most expeditious and economical manner possible.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ E J Wickson  
Secretary.

**1903 Mar 19**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
Correspondence [March 20] 1902 [— March 27, 1903], California Polytech-  
nic School, San Luis Obispo, p. 182 [1 leaf, 11" x 8.5", typescript, with manu-  
script signature of E. J. Wickson]

Berkeley, March 19, 1903.

F. A. Hihn, Esq.,  
Santa Cruz, Cal.

My dear Mr. Hihn,

Please find enclosed copy of a letter just received from Mr. Melick in answer to my letter to him on the payment of partial payments under our contract. I have sent a like copy to Mr. Smith and Professor Anderson.

Very respectfully,  
/s/ E J Wickson

**1903 Apr 6**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[p. 67]

San Luis Obispo, April 6, 1903

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School

was held in the Ramona Hotel at 9:30 A.M. Vice-President Hihn in the chair. Present.- Trustees [Governor] Pardee, Kirk, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson. The minutes of the meeting of January 3rd were read and approved.

The Secretary reported receipt of a check from D. O. Mills & Co. [Bank], Treasurer, for \$1073.80 payable to Lease Bros. This being 10% less than the amount due them for the first payment, it was ordered paid to Lease Bros. on account thereof.

Director Anderson submitted a financial statement of the income of the School from the recent appropriations and estimates of the expenditure thereof. The report was ordered on file.

Director Anderson reported profile and estimates of the cost of making road from Hathaway [i.e., Hathway] Avenue to the grounds of the School. On motion the subject was referred to the Committee on Site and Improvements for further consideration.

Director Anderson submitted reports upon fencing, road building and development of water supply which were referred on motion to the Committee on Site and Improvements with power to act.

Director Anderson described needed changes in the plans of the buildings and they were on motion referred to the same committee in connection with the Architect with power to act.

Director Anderson asked permission to engage teams as needed at 50 cts. per day for haying; to engage telephone service to the buildings at \$5.00 per month after September 1; to buy tools for haying, etc. at not to exceed \$100; all of which, by separate motions duly carried, were authorized.

Director Anderson stated the necessity of proceeding in regard to furnishing the buildings and the matter was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Site and Improvements with power to act.

[p. 69]

After discussion of provisions for painting the buildings the matter was referred to the same committee with power to act.

Trustee Wickson introduced the following resolution:-

Resolved that Director Leroy Anderson and Trustees John, Shackelford, Wickson and Hihn be and the same are hereby authorized to certify bills on account of construction of School buildings under contract, approved by Architect W. H. Weeks, and that in case of absence or disability of either of said Trustees, Trustees Smith and Kirk, or either of them, be and the same are hereby authorized to act on said committee.

Upon motion the resolution was adopted.

Director Anderson submitted several courses of study which were carefully discussed. Upon motion the Director and Trustees Shackelford and Wickson were appointed to prepare a pamphlet for publication describing the purposes and plans of the School, the course of study, terms of admission, attendance, etc.

Recess was taken until 1:30 P.M. Upon reassembling the following bills were reported favorably from the committee consisting of Trustees Hihn, Shackelford and John and ordered paid on roll call by the following vote:- Ayes, [Governor] Pardee, Kirk, Hihn, Shackelford, John and Wickson. Noes, none. The following is the schedule:-

[p. 71]

Dawson Lowe	Building east boundary fence	\$69.73
Dawson Lowe	Stock feed, - hay and straw	34.16
Anholm Bros.	Barley, - feed	32.25
Ind. Commercial Union	Seed oats and squirrel poison	53.20
Sinsheimer Bros.	Seed oats and corn	29.55
Jeff Johnson	Plowing, assigned to Commercial Bank	70.00
Allen Blaine	Wages 3 mos. Dec. 18 to Mar. 18 assigned to Commercial Bank	180.00
H. Dittrick,	Survey for buildings “ “	30.00
H. Dittrick	Taking levels for excavations assigned to Commercial Bank	8.50
C.H. Reed & Co.	Piping	49.29
Salinas Valley Lumber Co.	Fencing material	12.09
Phillip F. Ready	Blacksmithing	8.50
T.A. Greenleaf	Drugs and squirrel poison	8.70
San Luis Implement Co.	Tools and hardware	27.60
Thos. Rowan	Livery	6.50
Geo. Story	Survey and profile for road	16.00
Raleigh Blaine	Labor, seeding	15.80
L.W. Fitzhugh	Photos for Announcement	3.00
Wm. Brown Eng. Co.	Making cuts from photos	2.75
H.H. Waite	Iron plates and bolts for bldgs.	52.65
Leroy Anderson	Salary, Jan. Feb. Mar.	600.00
Leroy Anderson	Personal (office) expenses	41.20
F.J. McHenry	Office rent, Jan. Feb. Mar.	15.00
E. H. Payne Co.	Corner box for corner stone	2.50
D. L. Bunnell	Stenographer to Secretary, 3 mos.	67.50
Payot Upham & Co.	Stationery supplies	25.05
R.M. Waite	Book shelves for office	<u>9.34</u>
	Total	\$1470.86

Discussion was had on the question of admitting boys and girls to the dormitory and it was moved by Trustee [Governor] Pardee that boys alone be admitted, but, if it seems advisable to the Director, the decision may be open to amendment.

Secretary Wickson submitted his resignation [as Secretary] which was accepted, and Director Leroy Anderson was unanimously elected Secretary of the Board.

/s/ E J Wickson Secy

[Transcriber's Note: Wickson's signature at the foot of this page seems out of place, since the next page seems to be Minutes of the same meeting.]

[p. 73]

Director Anderson nominated for election to positions as teachers of the School as follows:-

Gwendolyn Stewart, Domestic Science, English and Matron of Dormitory, compensation to be not above \$1000.00 per year with requirement to reside in the dormitory for which not to exceed \$20 per month shall be charged for room and board.

CesarLeslie Heald, Manual Training, at \$85. per month.

Upon a roll call the two above named were unanimously elected, their terms of office to begin when the school is ready for opening.

Director Anderson nominated for Clerk and Stenographer ElsieJ. Stephens at \$50.00 per month to begin July 1, 1903.

Upon roll call Miss Stephens was elected upon the above terms.

The subject of heating appliances for the buildings was referred to the Committee on Site and Improvements for investigation and report.

Upon motion Director Anderson was given a leave of absence of four weeks from June 1.

Upon motion the date of the next meeting was fixed for the third Saturday in May at **Trustee Hihn's office, Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco.**

Upon motion the Board adjourned to meet in San Francisco, Saturday, May 16 at 10 A.M.

[not signed]

Secretary.

**1903 May 4**

Source: California State Archives F3638-4 C576

**Executive Appointments**

**Administration of Gov. George C. Pardee**

[p. 28]

**Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>R. M. Shackelford</b>	<b>Paso Robles</b>	<b>1903 May 4</b>
Oath Filed	Term Ending	Term Expires
<b>1903 May 9</b>	[blank]	<b>1907 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, term exp.	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>S. C. Smith</b>	<b>Bakersfield</b>	<b>1903 May 4</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
<b>1903 Feb 9</b>	[blank]	<b>1907 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, term exp.	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>Warren M. John</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	<b>1904 Apr 11</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
[blank]	[blank]	<b>1908 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, term exp.	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>F. A. Hihn</b>	<b>Santa Cruz</b>	<b>1905 Mch 16</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
1905 Mch 21	[blank]	<b>1909 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, term exp	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>Geo. S. Edwards*</b>	<b>Santa Barbara</b>	<b>1905 Nov 3</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
[blank]	[blank]	<b>1907 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice S. C. Smith, resigned.	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>E. J. Wickson</b>	<b>Berkeley</b>	<b>1906 Oct 29</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
[blank]	[blank]	<b>1910 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, term exp.	

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>E. J. Wickson</b>	<b>Berkeley</b>	<b>1906 Dec 6</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
[blank]	[blank]	<b>1910 Jan 31</b>
Remarks	Vice self, failed to qualify.	

\*[Transcriber's Note: **George S. Edwards** was a resident of Goleta; his occupation was farming (on 133 acres), he was a native of California who came to Santa Barbara County in 1869. Source: Patrons Directory, Thompson & West's 1883 History of Santa Barbara County, p. 472]

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### 1903 May 16

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 75] San Francisco, Cal., May 16, 1903.

An adjourned meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held in [Room] 612 Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, pursuant to adjournment by motion from a meeting held in San Luis Obispo April 6th. The meeting was called to order at 11 A.M., President Smith in the chair. Present.- Trustees Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson. The minutes of the meeting of April 6th were read and adopted with some minor corrections.

Communication from the Attorney General was read concerning the law of advertising for construction and regarding the minimum wage constituting a day's

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

work. The Attorney General rules that bids for when the cost of construction is more than ? .... Also that eight hours shall constitute a day's labor and the minimum wage therefor is two dollars.

The Committee on Site and improvements reported progress of work referred to this Committee at the meeting of the Board of April 6th. Report was ordered on file.

Architect Weeks submitted plans and specifications for heating the school building by steam which upon motion was adopted.

Roll call resulted in the following vote, - Ayes - Trustee Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson; Noes - none. Upon motion, advertising for bids to install a heating system was left to the Architect and Secretary of the Board.

Trustee Hihn submitted specifications for heating from E. H. Payne of San Luis Obispo, which upon motion were referred to Architect [sic] Hihn for consideration.

The following schedule of bills amounting to \$1331.23 having been approved by the auditing committee was upon motion adopted. Ayes, - Trustees Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson; Noes, none.

[p. 77]	Schedule of Bills Allowed, May 16, 1903.	
Allen Blaine	Wages 1 mo. Mar. 18 to April 18 (Assigned to Commercial Bank)	\$60.00
Allen Blaine	Wages 1 mo. Apr. 18 to May 18	60.00
Raleigh Blaine	Labor driving team etc. 9 days at \$1.25	11.25
H.G. Skeet	Labor planting corn & haying one-half month at \$50.00	25.00
G.G. Wickson & Co.	Chattillon spring balance for dairy	4.00
W.A. Cook	Livery for Apr. 5	2.50
Thos. Rowan	Livery for April	12.00
F. J. McHenry	Office rent, 2 mos. Mar. 9 to May 9	10.00
Leroy Anderson	Salary for April	200.00
Leroy Anderson	Office Expenses	20.30
San Luis Imp. Co.	Ranch tools and hardware	112.98
Vetterline & Butcher	Terra cotta for chimney, ranch house	4.25
Sinsheimer Bros.	Carbon Bisulphide & cotton for squirrels	6.50
Yawman & Erbe Co.	Document filing case	14.30
E. J. Wickson	Expenses, March 1902 to date	69.30
<b>F. A. Hihn</b>	<b>Expenses do</b>	<b>218.00</b>
W. H. Weeks	Architect fee	350.00
R. M. Shackelford	Expenses	8.00
S. C. Smith	Expenses	<u>142.85</u>
	Total	\$1331.23

The report of the Committee on Site and Improvements in regard to road building was upon motion referred back to the Committee with power to act.

Director Anderson recommended S.S. Twombly of Fullerton, California to be instructor in Sciences, Mathematics and Horticulture at the salary of \$1500.00. Upon motion Mr. Twombly was unanimously elected to this position.

Director Anderson made requisition for the sum of not to exceed \$150.00 for the purchase of a horse and \$25.00 for harness, upon which motion was granted.

Director Anderson reported that the present Treasurer, the D. O. Mills & Co. bank was charging an exchange of five cents per \$100. and the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo had agreed to act as Treasurer without pay. Upon motion, the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo was elected in the place of D. O. Mills & Co. bank. Ayes, - Trustees Smith, Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson; Noes, - none.

The following officers of the Board were elected:-

S. C. Smith - - - - - President.  
**F. A. Hihn** - - - - - **Vice-President**  
 Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo - - - - - Treasurer.

Upon motion the Board adjourned to meet upon call of the President.

### 1903 May 23

Source: Letter No. 3899 Book 50, p. 960 Letters of F. A. Hihn

To: Hon. Abner McMahon, 9 Sumner St., San Francisco, Cal.  
 From: **Frederick Augustus Hihn**

Dear Sir:— In case you are still desirous of bidding on a Lighting Plant for the **Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo**, it would be well for you to write to Architect W. H. Weeks, Watsonville, for specifications.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn [signed for F. A. Hihn by "M.L." = M. Lindsay]

### 1903 Jul 11

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
 [p. 79] San Francisco, Cal., July 11, 1903.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees convened at [Room] 613 Safe Deposit Building at 10:15 A.M. in response to a call issued by the President of the Board. President Smith in the chair. Present.- Trustees Smith, Wickson, Shackelford, John. Trustee Hihn arrived at 11 A.M. The minutes of the meeting of May 16 were read and adopted.

Communications were read from the Attorney General and State Controller stating that the Trustees cannot legally enter into contracts for the erection of the power, heat and lighting plant before January 1, 1904 when the act appropriating \$5000. therefor takes effect.

The minutes of the Committee on Site and Improvement, giving record of their

meeting on June 1st and June 27th were read.

The construction of heat, light and power plant was discussed at considerable length.

Director Anderson reported that Mr. Twombly had received offer of additional salary at Fullerton and that his receipts there would amount to \$1800. and that he would not be able to come for the \$1500 offered.

Moved by Trustee Shackelford that the Board agree to pay Mr. Twombly \$1500. for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1903, it being understood that his services do not begin until September 1, 1903. This motion was carried by the following vote:- Ayes, Smith, Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford, John. Noes, - none.

Upon motion, President Smith appointed Trustees Wickson and John to act on Executive Committee with the President. Trustee Wickson resigned and Trustee Shackelford was appointed in his stead.

The report of the Committee on Site and Improvement was acted upon per item as follows:-

The Board approved the action of the Committee in accept-  
[p. 81]

ing the bid of Vetterline & Butcher to furnish 3000 ft., more or less, of 3-inch pipe at \$26.20 per 100 feet. The question of purchasing extra pipe was left to the Committee. The Board approved the action of the Committee in awarding the contract to lay the above pipe, to E. M. Payne for \$165.50.

The Board approved the action of the Committee in awarding the contract to install the steam heating radiation to E.D. Hough for \$2500.

Separate roll call upon each of the above items was ordered as follows:- Ayes, - Smith, Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford, John. Noes, none.

The report of the Committee in regard to the sale of hay was referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

Upon the question of road building the Committee reported action in awarding contract to build road and culverts for \$370. to William Sandercock. Motion to approve this action resulted in the following vote:- Ayes,- Smith, Wickson, Shackelford; Noes, John. Trustee Hihn excused from voting. Motion was then made by Trustee John that the report of the Committee on the road question be approved with the provision that the offer of Mr. Sandercock to release \$75.00 of his contract for the large culvert be accepted and in lieu thereof that Mr. Wiley's offer of \$170.00 to construct a stone culvert in place of the one released by Mr. Sandercock be accepted. The motion prevailed upon the following vote:- Ayes,- Smith, Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford and John. Noes, none.

Upon motion by Trustee Shackelford the Board voted to accept the proposition of the Tracy engineering [sic] Company to furnish their complete boiler plant as specified, for \$2997.00. Ayes,- Smith, Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford, John. Noes, none.

Upon motion by Trustee Hihn the Board voted to accept from Tracy Engineering Company in place of proposition "A", a 7 x 7 Bayley Engine with all fixtures complete for \$895.00. Ayes,- Smith,

[p. 83]

Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford, John. Noes, none.

Upon motion by Trustee Hihn the Board voted to accept from Tracy Engineering Company in place of a 16-Kilowatt generator a 6 1/2- Kilowatt generator for \$672.00. Ayes,- Smith, Wickson, Hihn, Shackelford, John. Noes, none.

Upon motion by Trustee John the Board voted to refer the matter of building for the power plant to the Committee on Site and Improvement in connection with the Architect, with power to act and to decide on bids for the same.

The following schedule of bills was approved by the Executive Committee to be paid out of the special appropriation of \$18000 for furnishing and furnishing buildings:-

C. H. Reed Company	Piping and Hardware	\$51.33
Geo. Story, Engineer	Making profile of road	1.50
Sandercock Transfer Co.	Freight and Cartage	9.65
Allen Blaine	Labor 1 mo. May 18 to June 18 (Assigned to Commercial Bank)	60.00
Allen Blaine	Labor, June 18 to June 30	24.00
Payot, Upham & Co.	Office Supplies	41.25
Salinas Valley Lumber Co.	Lumber	5.58
“ “ “ “	“	19.72
San Luis Implement Co.	Hardware	21.60
Hotel Ramona	Office rent May 6 to July 1	8.50
Leroy Anderson	Salary (2 months)	400.00
Leroy Anderson	Office expenses	57.70
Harrington Bros.	Harness	30.15
H. G. Skeet,	Labor haying May 16 to June 30	75.00
W. S. Blaine	Labor May 16 to June 30	75.00
Anholm Bros.	Rent of team	3.00
J. W. Wiley	Blasting for reservoir	13.05
P. F. Ready	Iron work for trusses	20.00
P. F. Ready	Repairing farm tools	9.30
W. H. Waite	Plate for building pier	1.40
<b>F. A. Hihn</b>	<b>Trustee Expenses</b>	<b>24.10</b>
R. M. Shackelford	“ “	6.00
Warren M. John	“ “	<u>16.30</u>
		\$974.13

The following bill was approved by the Executive Committee to be paid out of the appropriation for supplies of the 55th fiscal year:-

J. B. Wilkinson	One Horse	\$125.00
-----------------	-----------	----------

Upon motion, the Board adjourned at 6:10 P.M. subject to the call of the President.

[not signed]  
Secretary.

**1903 Aug 17**

Source: Santa Cruz *Surf* 1903 Aug 17 2:1-3 Arthur A. Taylor, Ed.-Publisher

### **MR. F. A. HIHN'S BIRTHDAY.**

In no other county in California does the birthday of a private citizen rise to the dignity of a public event as does that of F. A. Hihn in Santa Cruz. [his 74th birthday]

There are reasons for this fact other than the one that Mr. Hihn is able and inclined to entertain his friends on a lavish scale.

Owing to its isolation, for the first twenty-five years of American development, California was virtually an island, and Santa Cruz county owing to its topography, was peculiarly isolated from other parts of the State. During the quarter century, covered by what we now call the "early days," by reason of his intellectual strength and assertive force Mr. Hihn was the dominant spirit in the new community, then, gradually wealth gave him greater prestige, and he became permanent President of the Pioneers, just as Chiefs arose when men held tribal relations, and as Kings acquired thrones in the primitive days of nationality.

To these pioneers, Mr. Hihn was not only a leader but a veritable patriarch.

At the banquet table on Saturday afternoon Mr. Ed. Martin said that the mere accidental date of arrival, did not settle a man's status in the esteem of his fellow men, but the real test was, What had he done since he came?

What Mr. Hihn did in those early days was to so direct this crude community, composed of citizens of all races and nationalities, and kindreds and tongues, into a local body politic, in which the paramount public spirit found its expression — and does to this day — in good schools and good roads, prime factors of civilization.

Such was Mr. Hihn's interest in education, that we believe of all his attainments or acquirements, there is no position he has ever held, more congenial, or more flattering to his pride, than that of Trustee of the California Polytechnic School, and as for roads, he has road projects now in incubation which will require twenty years to realize.

\* \* \*

For many years the annual re-union of Mr. Hihn and his pioneer friends took the form of a barbecue and basket picnic. This festival was held on Admission Day, and for it Mr. Hihn provided the barbecue, and all the country-side was present. Latterly, as pioneers diminished in numbers, and new-comers became more numerous, the date has been shifted to a celebration of his own birthday by a dinner at the Hotel Capitola. Invitations were issued for the full capacity of the splendid spacious dining room, and there were few seats empty. Flowers of California color, (yellow) in variety, was profusely used in decorations, and an elaborate menu of seven courses was served. When his guests were seated, Mr. Hihn arose and bid them welcome. He thanked them for their presence, and thanked God for the bounties before them.

During the eating hour, the Capitola orchestra, composed of Mr. Geo. B. Franz, violin and musical director; Mr. S. J. Tully, claironet [sic]; Mr. M. Solano, cello; Mr. J. L. Becker, piano, rendered a musical program, which included:

Polonaise Militaire	Chopin
Selection, Carmen	Bizet
Waltz, "Jolly Brothers"	Vollstedt
Intermezzo, Anona	Vivian Grey

Post prandial oratory was profuse and included responses from R. C. Kirby, Ed. Martin, T. G. McCreary, Mrs. E. A. Culverwell, W. H. Bias, J. D. Bagnall, Duncan McPherson, W. R. Johnson, Wm. Rupert, Dr. Burton of Stockton, R. M. Briare, Mayor [David C.] Clark, Daniel A. Clark, D. M. Locke, James Waters, James Pickard, F. D. Baldwin, Prof. Linscott.

"Harry" Wanzer "called off" the oratorical schedule, and exhibited tact as toast master. Before the formal speeches started Mr. Kirby, in behalf of the Pioneers presented Mr. Hihn with a beautifully engraved gold watch charm, with a diamond center. The recipient exhibited much feeling in its acceptance, and reddened to the roots of his hair, like a school boy called up to receive an unexpected prize. Later on Mr. Wm. Rupert presented a pair of diamond set gold sleeve buttons to Mr. Hihn, in behalf of his employees.

In response to this Mr. Hihn said he preferred to accept the token as coming from his co workers.

His voice choked as he spoke of attempts in these days to stir up strife between those who held the relations of employer and employee.

A box of home-made candy, a gift from Mrs. Frank Lewis, Mr. Hihn disposed of by passing it around. He also read an original poem written for the occasion, by Mr. Thos. Corcoran. Another marked contribution to the hour, was an original poem on Beans, recited by the authoress, Mrs. A. B. Hawkins of Watsonville.

\* \* \*

Mr. Daniel A. Clark, a recent arrival in Santa Cruz, from Pautucket, Rhode Island, proves to be not only a new citizen but an old pioneer, he having been a miner of '49 afterwards returning East, and for several years being President of the New England Society of California Pioneers. He joined the local society on Saturday and had some pleasant things to say at the dinner of the past and present and of Santa Cruz, which he will now make his final home. He spoke appreciatively of his reading of the SURF for several years and of its having confirmed his conclusions in regard to Santa Cruz.

It was given to A. B. McKean, the long time Judge of Corralitos, to arouse the pathos of the day and to make the occasion memorable among many.

Mr. McKean was on the program to sing the "Days of '49." His bent form and bowed head as he stood in the aisle was strikingly suggestive of the lapse of time from the heroic days of '49. He met with the difficulties which beset an aged man in adjusting his spectacles, and getting the type written copy of the poem into focus — his voice — the dying swan song of the Argonauts, the last melody perhaps to be publicly heard from one who participated in that era so rapidly lapsing into romance and history.

Pioneer McKean was followed by Mayor Clark in response to "New Santa Cruz."

The parting of the ways.  
The dead past is to be buried with its dead.  
New Santa Cruz.

In years ago, we went down to Capitola to dine with Mr. Hihn in vehicles and made a day of it, and the little cove by the bay seemed like a segment of the earth set off by itself.

This year we took a car, at the hour the invitations read and were ready for the table as soon as most of the company would have walked to lunch at their own home. New year Capitola will be a way station, and he who wills may breakfast at Capitola and lunch in the Big Basin. The outlanders will be upon us, and with us, and the Twentieth Century man will make his mark on the surface of Nature, just above the niches cut by the Mission Padres and the Pioneers.

\* \* \*

Rare are the men who, like the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, are seventy years young. Mr. F. A. Hihn is one of those wise enough to face the years and not turn his back upon them. Consequently his recurring birthdays find him in generous, jovial mood, and are always enjoyable occasions.

Fifty years of active, aggressive competition, have not been without friction, but few there be who will not wish for the foremost of the pioneers that his last days may be his best days.

\* \* \*

We should be derelict in our duty to our "glorious climate" if we made no mention of the fact that the day was one of rarely exquisite beauty. Bay and mountains were bathed in a translucent atmosphere, deliciously delightful. These mid-August days are called "dog days" in the East, hot and horrid. Saturday afternoon, in hotel, on verandah, or by the beach side, there was neither fan nor fly, no mosquitoes to worry, nor thunder to make afraid.

**1903 Sep 25**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 85] San Francisco, Calif., Sept. 25, 1903.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees convened at #612 Safe Deposit Building at 11:30 A. M. pursuant to a call issued by order of the President. President Smith in chair. Present Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith.

Three schedules of bills were presented by the Secretary which upon motion were allowed and ordered paid. The vote upon roll call stood, Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

The schedules are as follows:

To be paid out of the special appropriation for finishing and furnishing the buildings—

J. W. Wiley	Labor & Materials for culvert	\$207.00
C. H. Reed Co.	Hardware	245.15
W. S. Blaine	Labor for July	50.00
W. H. Weeks	Architect's Fees	350.00
A. McAllister	Brick	8.50
Anton Quick	Labor as Night Watchman, 1 mo.	50.00
Sandercock Tfr. Co.	110 gal. distillate	13.85
“ “ “	Express & Freight	98.50
Thos. Rowan	Livery	5.00
Bernhard Mattress Co.	Furniture	1130.15
Hulse-Bradford Co.	Rubber tips for chairs	8.50
John P. Cless & Co.	1 Couch	15.00
Niles Pease Furniture Co.	Desks	122.00
Sinsheimer Bros.	Toweling	4.61
J. B. Blackall	Blackboard	5.00
Harron, Rickard & McCone	Saw & Frame	81.90
H. G. Skeet	Labor reservoir & school	119.00
Levi Strauss & Co.	Bed & Table covering	35.23
Vetterline & Butcher	Hardware Sundries	45.80
“ “	Kitchen ware	37.98
“ “	Tools for carpenter shop	114.30
Nathan-Dohrmann Co.	Household goods	131.90
San Luis Imp. Co.	Hardware Sundries	9.70
C. A. Lease	Constructing reservoir & extras	515.30
O. L. Heald	1 5 H.P. Gasoline Engine	100.00
Sandercock Tfr. Co.	Banking of reservoir	<u>50.00</u>
		\$3554.37
To be paid out of the appropriation for supplies, 55th fiscal year—		
Leroy Anderson	Office expenses	47.20
Hotel Ramon	Office rent for July, Aug. Sept.	<u>30.00</u>
		\$77.20
To be paid out of the appropriation for Trustees' expenses, 55th fiscal year—		
Warren M. John	Trustees expenses	32.60
Thos. Rowan	Livery	<u>2.50</u>
		\$35.10

[p. 87]

—2—

Under consideration of bills it was moved and carried that the Secretary be instructed to procure a stamp with which to stamp all bills before they are audited, the stamp to be somewhat as follows:

-----  
 Goods received -----  
 Extensions correct -----  
 Prices correct -----  
 Approved -----  
 -----

The construction of a building for the power plant was discussed and bids for the same were presented from Messrs. C. A. Lease and J. W. Wiley, which upon motion were referred to the Committee on Site with power to act.

The Committee on Site made the following recommendation regarding the building for the power plant: — that the ground be graded to the proper level, that a flooring be made of red rock, well tamped, covered with cement, and smoothed down, and that a temporary building be constructed of rough lumber. This report was accepted upon motion.

Director Anderson reported the resignation of Elsie J. Stephens as stenographer and book-keeper and recommended Naomi M. Lake for appointment in her stead. This recommendation was adopted upon the following vote: Ayes, Trustee Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

The Secretary reported the following bids to furnish and install electric fixtures in the buildings:

San Luis Supply Co., San Luis Obispo	\$291.75
Roberts Mfg. Co., San Francisco	271.85
California Gas & Electric Fixture Co., San Francisco (not hung)	261.75
Woodhill-Hulse Electric Co., Los Angeles	241.00

Upon mroll [sic] call the action of the Secretary in awarding the contract to Woodhill - Hulse Electric Co. was approved. Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

The Secretary reported the condition of the finances so far as concerns the farm account. Upon motion by Trustee Hihn, the  
[p. 91] [sic] —3—

report was approved so far as receipts and expenditures already made are concerned, and the Secretary was instructed to correspond with the State Board of Examiners to ascertain the proper procedure with these accounts in the future.

#### FARM ACCOUNT.

##### RECEIPTS.

...

##### EXPENDITURES.

...

A motion was carried that the Secretary be directed to collect all outstanding bills.

The following schedule of farm bills was presented and approved by the following vote: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

...

Director Anderson reported upon the Library fund and stated that the sum of about \$30.00 per month is available. Upon motion the Director was authorized to purchase library books to an amount not to exceed \$90.00. Roll call, Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

Director Anderson requested the desire of the Board as to his authority to purchase supplies for the school. Upon motion, the

[p. 93]

—4—

Director was authorized to purchase materials to the amount of \$500.00. Roll call, Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, none.

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson, the Committee on Site was directed to confer with Director Anderson to decide upon a plan of operation for farm work for the coming year.

The Board adjourned upon motion to meet at the School on Saturday, October 17th, 1903, at 9 A. M.

[not signed]

Secretary.

**1903 Oct 1**

Source: Website of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo — <http://www.calpoly.edu/>

First class of students started classes.

**1903 Oct 17**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 95]

San Luis Obispo, Cal., Oct. 17th, 03.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held at the School buildings in accordance with the adjournment of the special meeting held in San Francisco on September 25th. President Smith in chair. Present, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Smith.

The minutes of the meeting of September 25th were read and approved.

Communications from the State Board of Examiners and the State Controller were presented by the Secretary in which the statute governing the disposal of contingent funds for State Institutions were explained. According to the statute the officers of the school are obliged to report monthly all receipts to the State Treasurer and this money is paid out in the same manner as the regular State appropriations. Upon motion, it was agreed that the statement of the receipts to the State Treasurer should be made by the Secretary of the Board.

Trustee Hihn for the Committee on Site reported progress on the plans for the power-house. Upon motion further, plans regarding the power-house were referred to the Committee with power to act.

Trustee John introduced the following resolution which was adopted by unanimous vote:

“Whereas, during the last session of the Legislature, His Excellency, Geo. C. Pardee, Governor of the State of California, at all times manifested a friendly interest in the welfare of the California Polytechnic School and sanctioned by his acts

and final approval all appropriations for the institution justifiable and admissible [sic] under the depleted condition of the State Treasury,

Whereas, be it resolved that this Board hereby tenders its thanks to Governor Pardee and expresses its hearty appreciation for his generous assistance.”

Under the consideration of fire extinguishers, a motion was made and carried instructing Trustee Shackelford to purchase one dozen extinguishers for use in the two buildings. The style of extinguisher was left to his discretion. This motion was adopted

[p. 97]

upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Smith. Noes, none.

The Secretary presented the following schedules of bills which were approved upon the following vote: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Smith. Noes, none.

...

[p. 99]

—3—

Several items of business were presented by Director Anderson but owing to important business engagements, Trustees Hihn and Shackelford were obliged to leave and upon motion these various items were left to a special Committee consisting of Trustees Smith and John with power to act.

Upon motion the Board adjourned.

**1903 Dec 12**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[p. 107] San Francisco, Dec. 12th, 1903.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held in Room 612, Safe Deposit Building, San Francisco, in answer to a call issued by President Smith. **Vice President Hihn in the chair.** Present, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford and Wickson.

...

[p. 109]

Trustee Hihn discussed the power house at some length when upon motion by Trustee Kirk all matters relating thereto and to the water supply were referred back to the Committee on Site.

...

The matter of bringing the school more thoroughly before the people of the State was discussed at some length. Trustee John favored holding a public meeting at the opening of the second term in February to be addressed by prominent men. Upon motion the chair appointed a committee consisting of Trustees Smith, John and Shackelford and Director Anderson with power to act.



Under the head of the Report of Committees, the following were rendered:

Committee on Special February exercises, Trustee Smith, chairman,- That in the judgment of a majority of the committee, it was deemed best not to hold a public meeting at this time. Report adopted in roll call, -Ayes, Trustees Hihn, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Noes, Trustee John.

Committee on Site reported progress. Upon motion the bills of the Tracy Engineering Co. were referred to the Committee. Upon a second motion all bills were referred to the Committee to report thereon to the Board in the afternoon.

After recess the Committee reported favorably upon the following bills:

San Luis Contracting Co.	Extra work laying boiler	\$ 20.00
San Luis Contracting Co.	Laying concrete floor in boiler house,	210.99
W. D. Murray	digging two wells & curbing one,	<u>126.77</u>
		\$357.76

The Committee reported adversely upon the bills of the Tracy Engineering Co. and asked for power to act upon them later. The report was accepted upon roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Wickson, Smith. Ayes, 4. Noes, none.

The Committee on Site made some comment and suggestions concerning water supply for the School and the question was referred to this Committee with power to act.

Trustee John introduced the following resolution concerning [p. 119] the policy of the School which were unanimously adopted:

“Resolved that it is the intention of this Board, so far as its present membership is concerned, to use every effort to make the California Polytechnic School a useful institution for the young people of California, to the end that it shall ultimately afford them instruction along mechanical lines and become, in every sense of the word, a thorough Polytechnic School. It is the intention of this Board to so conduct the school that it may produce educated farmers, stock raisers, dairymen and orchardists, cultured matrons and homemakers, as well as skilled mechanics, all of whom may be an honor to California and the nation. As the school grows in years, we feel confident that its usefulness and popularity will become clearly apparent to the whole state and the Pacific slope. As the Legislature meets the demands for financial aid it is the intention of the Board to install a complete plant for instruction in blacksmithing, iron work, general plumbing and electrical construction.

Resolved that the Director submit at the next meeting a statement of the needs and cost of the equipment for the carrying out of the above resolution.”

1. That beginning with September, 1904, the school year be divided as nearly as possible into three terms of twelve weeks each with a two weeks recess at holiday season and a one week recess about the last of March.

2. That a recess of one week be established this present year at about April first.
3. That the laboratory fee be \$5.00 per term beginning September, 1904.
4. That the laboratory fee for 1903-4 be reduced from \$20.00 to \$15.00.
5. That opportunity be offered for applicants not holding Diploma of Graduation from a grammar school to enter for special courses of one term or one year or more.
6. That 5000 copies of the new catalogue be issued.

Director Anderson reported that he had engaged Walter W. Bradford as engineer at \$75.00 per month beginning January 11th, subject to the approval of the Board, and requested the Board's

[p. 121]

3.

action. Moved by Trustee Wickson what the action of the Director be concurred in and that, on account of the large expense when so few students are in attendance, the position be discontinued after April 11th next. The motion was carried.

Director Anderson recommended the following appointments:

James Edward Roadhouse, U. C. 1904, to be instructor in Plant Industry, Irrigation and Forestry at a salary of \$1200 per year to begin September 1st, 1904.

Edwin Walter Yount, Wilmerding, 1903, to be Assistant Instructor in Carpentry at a salary of \$75.00 per month to begin as soon as the barn plans are adopted. Mr. Yount's especial [sic] duty is to give instruction in actual building operations.

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the appointments were made as recommended.

Director Anderson recommended that a specially trained landscape gardener be employed to make a map of the school grounds, showing roads and walks and indicating the kinds of plantings to be made and their location for the best effects. After considerable discussion the matter was postponed by direction of President Smith to the next meeting of the Board.

Director Anderson reported for Architect Weeks upon the work of E. D. Hough in installing the steam radiating system and asked instruction as to acceptance of the work. The matter was referred to the Committee on Site with power to act.

Director Anderson presented a plan for a farm barn, consisting of two story storage barn with two wings of one story each, one wing for horses and one wing for cattle. He also presented a sketch of the farm showing the proposed location of the barn. Upon motion the general plan of the barn and its location were approved and the details of the elevation and construction were referred to the Committee on Site and the Director with power to act.

Director Anderson recommended the construction of a blacksmith shop for use in September 1904, and presented plans. This matter including the location of the shop was referred to the Committee on Site with power to act.

[p. 123]

...

Director Anderson recommended holding a basket picnic on the School grounds in conjunction with the University Farmers' Institute to be held in San Luis Obispo this spring. The matter was left to the discretion of the Director and Professor Wickson to work up with the Board of Trade.

The Director was authorized to post notices forbidding hunting, shooting and trespassing on the property of the school.

...  
[p. 125]

...  
[p. 127]

...  
From Grounds Fund, -allowed Jan. 11th, and paid Jan. 26th, 1904.

...  
Allowed Feb. 3rd and paid Feb. 11th, 1904.

...  
H. Dittrich, Drawing portion of Topo. map, \$5.00

...  
The Board adjourned at five P. M. [not signed]  
Secretary.

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**1904 May 23**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 129]

San Luis Obispo, May 23rd, 1904.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held at the School at 9:30 A. M. President Smith in the chair. Present Trustees John, Smith, Kirk, Shackelford and Wickson.

The minutes of the meeting of February 27th were read and approved with the exception that the words "iron working shop" be instituted for blacksmith shop.

**A letter was read from Trustee Hihn** stating his inability to be present on account of a law suit upon which he was called as a witness.

...  
[p. 131] #2.

(d.) Plan and specifications of the barn as drawn by Architect Weeks had been approved.

...  
Under the head of unfinished business the Director repeated his recommendation of January 27th that a specially trained landscape gardener be employed to make a map of the school grounds, showing walks and roads and indicating the kinds of plantings to be made." He recommended for the work Mr. Ernest Braunton of Glendale. Upon motion the recommendation was approved and Mr. Braunton appointed - his compensation to be \$100 and necessary travelling expenses in pursuing the work.

**1904 May 23**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
 [1 leaf, 14" x 8.5", typescript; accompanied by 7 leaves 14" x 8.5", which is the agenda for the Board of Trustees, California Polytechnic School, May 23, 1904] [evidently this list was addressed to the Board of Trustees by Leroy Anderson, it is Item "D. (13) Advertising the School — copy in hand." on the "Items of Business for Consideration. D. Report and Recommendations of the Director"]

**Advertising the School.**

1. 5000 catalogues printed.
  2. 300 with press notices sent to newspapers.
  3. A copy to each State officer and member of the Legislature.
  4. A copy to each school (both high and grammar) in the following counties:-  
 San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Orange and Kern, and Monterey.
  5. A copy to each county superintendent of schools.  
 100 copies to Supt. Walker, Tulare Co. who will distribute them to his teachers.  
 The following city and county Superintendents have been sent 12 to 50 copies upon request for same: F. P. Davidson, San Diego City; Miss Lillie Laugenour, Colusa Co.; Geo. A. Gordon, Amador Co.; F. S. Reger, Glenn Co.; Mrs. N. E. Davidson, Kings Co.; Edward Hyatt, Riverside Co.; D. T. Batemen, Santa Clara Co.
- [no item 6]
7. A letter has been sent to each school principal in the following counties setting forth briefly the objects of our school and asking if they can use any of our catalogues. If so we will mail them to any address given. (By school principal is meant the head teacher in every school in the county)  
 San Bernardino; Stanislaus; Riverside; Kings; Merced; Glenn; Sutter; Nevada; Plumas; Modoc; Siskiyou.  
 We are preparing to mail letters to every other school in the state so far as we have lists. We have received school directories from 44 counties out of the 57. We have not enough catalogues to send to every school.
  8. 100 copies including envelopes were sent to Trustee Hihn who requested them for distribution.
  9. Manuscript and photograph were furnished the "Live Stock & Dairy Journal" which published the article in its April number.
  10. Three sets of photographs costing \$9.60 and information concerning [sic] the school were furnished Miss Katherine Chandler who is preparing illustrated articles on the school for publication in "The Sunset", "San Francisco Chronicle" and "Los Angeles Times".
  11. We are averaging about two requests a day for catalogues and information.
  12. Negotiations have been opened with the Los Angeles Times asking that we be included in the list of schools and colleges for which they give scholarships in subscription contests.

13. We are preparing to furnish special illustrated articles concerning the school to various papers during the season.
  14. Do you wish to have paid advertisements in city or agricultural papers?
  15. Your Director spoke concerning the school before the School Superintendents' Convention in Santa Barbara on May 10 and aroused a most cordial interest.
  16. Our most serious drawback to getting students is the lack of accomodations [sic] for them especially girls, at or near the school. Possibly private capital might be interested in erecting boarding houses near the school grounds.
- 

**1904 Jul 1**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in the George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence from Leroy Anderson to George C. Pardee, Box 38, (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library. 1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 5.5" half-sheet, on printed letterhead, blue paper. [Letter is presumed to have been sent to all Trustees; Governor Pardee was an ex-officio Trustee.]

July 1st, 1904.

Dear Sir: —

Trustee Hihn invites the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School to meet in room 612, Safe Deposit Building. The meeting is called for July 9th at 10 A. M.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Leroy Anderson

Secretary.

Hon. Geo. C. Pardee,  
Sacramento,  
California.

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**1904 Jul 9**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by* Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 137]

San Francisco, Cal., July 9th, 1904.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in room 608, Palace Hotel at 10 A. M. President Smith in the chair. Present Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelfrd [sic], Wickson and Smith.

The minutes of the meeting of May 23rd were read and approved.

A communication from the State Board of Examiners read relative to the need for vouchers for hotel expenses in expense accounts was read and ordered on file.

Under report of committees, Trustee Wickson reported for the special committee on Farmer's Institute that an institute and picnic was held at the School on May 24th, and that the attendance was large.

The Committee on Site made its report according to its minutes of June 16th, June 24th, and July 9th, hereto appended. The report was approved upon roll call as follows; Ayes,-Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; noes, none.

[p. 139]

July 9th, 1904.

The Committee on Site met in the Palace Hotel at 9:45 A.M. Present Trustees Hihn, John and Shackelford.

...

Upon motion by Trustee Hihn the Second Annual Catalogue of the School which had been presented, was approved.

The Executive Committee reported that on June 16th it approved the following schedules of bills: Support, \$157.15; Trustees' Expenses, \$56.15; Furnishing, \$9.90; Buildings, act of 1903, \$148.24; Library, \$39.25; Contingent, \$338.76. The report was approved upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; noes, None.

Under unfinished business the claim of Vetterline & Butcher for \$25.50 was taken up and discussed. Upon motion by Trustee Kirk the Board ordered that the sum of \$25.50 be paid to Vetterline & Butcher. Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; noes, None.

After further discussion it was moved that the action on claim of Vetterine [sic] & Butcher be reconsidered, - Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, and Wickson. Noes, Kirk, Shackelford and Smith. Motion declared lost.

Upon motion the claim of Stevens & Maino relating to the above  
[p. 141]

matter was referred to the Committee on Site with Architect Weeks with power to act.

Upon further discussion a motion prevailed that the action relating to the claim of Vetterline & Butcher and of Stevens & Maino be reconsidered. The roll call was as follows:- Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Noes, Kirk. It was then moved that the entire matter of the above claim be referred to the Committee on Site with power to act. Upon this motion the vote stood: - Ayes, Ayes, [sic] Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; Noes, None.

**1904 Aug 16**

Source: Santa Cruz *Surf* 1904-08-17 1:3-4

## CAPITOLA FLOTSAM

### MR. HIHN CELEBRATES 75TH BIRTHDAY.

### **A Pleasant Reunion—Pioneers Elect Officers for Coming Year.**

Capitola still holds a clean bill of health, and a large percentage of its camp visitors.

The salmon seem to have deserted the bay, but other fish of choice varieties come in great quantities.

On Friday last Mr. Herman Gehring shipped over a ton of fish to the leading markets.

On Saturday last Mr. Guy O. Glazier, master of sports, again arranged a splendid program, with prizes for the children and young folks.

A large number of invited guests attended the informal hop at the hotel Monday evening, and the masquerade ball at the pavilion was crowded. The two first prizes were awarded to a Chinaman and a squaw with papoose.

Tuesday, August 16, was a gala day at Capitola. The Pioneer Society of Santa Cruz County held their annual meeting at the hotel and at the same time celebrated the 75th birthday of Mr. F. A. Hihn. Following are the names of the officers for the coming year:

President — Hon. F. A. Hihn.

Vice Presidents — J. D. Bagnall, Wm. Rennie, A. Noble.

Secretary — Mrs. E. A. Culverwell (re-elected).

Treasurer — D. A. Clark.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the 9th of September be declared memorial day, to decorate the graves of deceased pioneers with the bear flag.

The following telegram was read: “White House, D. C. Aug. 15. E. A. Culverwell, Secretary Santa Cruz Pioneers: The President regrets his inability to accept your kind invitation, but sends hearty greeting and good wishes to the Pioneers and congratulations to Mr. Hihn.”

H[arry] S. Wanzer presided at the afternoon speeches, the speakers being Judge Smith, James Waters, E. A. Noble, J. D. Bagnall, D. McPherson and F. A. Hihn.

Judge [Lucas F. Smith Sr.] responded most eloquently to the toast of the Pioneers of Santa Cruz. He spoke of the hardships of those courageous men and women who, with their lives in their hands, braved the dangers of a six months' journey, and have since helped to make it possible that we, in these later days, can make that same journey in comfort and safety in less than a week.

Mr. [Duncan] McPherson was, as usual, “eloquence on fire” in his praises of Santa Cruz county, its wonderful products and marvelous progress.

Mr. Noble grew prophetic in his speech on Capitola. In his mind's eye he saw the time when this gem of the Pacific Coast would be-

come a great educational center, and a place where scientific men could rendezvous to experiment in agricultural research. He also saw the day when the consolidated electric roads would reach to San Francisco and make a pace of one hour and thirty minutes.

Mr. Noble is a seer.

Mr. McKean sang his old song, "The Days of Old, the Days of Gold, the Days of '49," which was greatly enjoyed.

At least 200 pioneers and friends were present from all parts of the country, though many who had attended meetings in years past were absent, having crossed the last "Death Valley" — and, let us hope, found the promised land.

The big dining room was splendidly decorated by Mr. [Reanier], the popular superintendent of the beach, the color scheme being crimson, green and gold.

Mrs. "Patty" Lewis, of the Donner party fame, contributed a magnificent birthday cake with 75 candles, and received a resolution of thanks for the splendid dinner she provided. She showed some wonderful old relics of the Donner party of '46, and Mr. Hihn showed a relic of thirteen years ago, a fine gold headed cane, which he said the Pioneers presented him with at that time, because they thought it about time "Old" Hihn needed a walking stick. He says he has not used it yet, and does not expect to for at least twenty years to come.  
SEA GULL.

### 1904 Sep 10

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[filed loose, after p. 159]

#### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL

#### Minutes of the Committee on Site

San Luis Obispo, Sept. 3, 1904.

Meeting of the Committee at the Ramona Hotel, September 3. Bids for concrete floor in part of the iron shop were presented as follows:

San Luis Contracting Co. 18¢ per sq. foot.

F. C. Mitchell, 30¢ per sq. foot.

It was agreed to award the contract to the San Luis Contracting Co.

[not signed]

Secretary.

**1904 Sep 10**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees***by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 1 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.

[p. 153]

San Francisco, Sept. 10, 1904.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in the Palace Hotel pursuant to the call of President Smith at 10:30 A.M. President Smith in the chair. Present, Trustees Hihn, Shackelford, Smith and Wickson.

Upon the call for reading the minutes of the meeting of July 9, 1904, Trustee Hihn moved that in consideration of the fact that the minutes had been submitted in typewritten form to the individual Trustees, the reading be dispensed with and be approved as presented. This motion was carried.

The Committee on Site reported briefly upon several points referred at the last meeting. The Committee had had no meeting and requested further time for consideration on the various matters which had been referred to them.

Under consideration of additional dormitory accommodation, the Committee reported that they had sought to raise funds by voluntary subscription for the erection of a dormitory near the school grounds, - the building to be the joint property of the subscribers. A motion was carried that the action of the Committee in regard to dormitory accommodations be concurred in.

Upon motion by Trustee Hihn, the question of what appropriations to ask of the coming legislature was referred to the President of the Board and the Director.

...

[p. 155]

5. That the grading of the road bed 20 ft. wide from Hathway Ave. to the school be completed and the road rocked the entire length, - 8 in. deep at center, 6 in. at 5 ft. from center, and if rocked the entire width, 4 in. deep at the gutter. The following bids were submitted for the work:

San Luis Contracting Co.	rocking 20' wide	1600.00
	“ 10’ “	870.00
Wm. Sandercock	rocking 20' wide,	\$ 1035.65
	“ 10’ “	579.40

Trustee Hihn remarked that he saw no need of such a road to the school. Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the recommendation was referred to the Committee on Site with power to act.

7. That, if the road be built as recommended, an extra man be employed two months to help lay out walks and roads about the buildings, his pay not to exceed \$2.00 per day and to be paid out

[p. 157]

#5

of the regular salary fund. Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the recommendation was referred to the Committee on Site.

8. That 400 copies of the biennial report of the Director and Secretary be printed

for distribution. Moved by Trustee Wickson that 500 copies be printed. The motion was adopted.

9. That the sum of \$15 be appropriated from the building fund to put a new floor in the porch of the ranch house. Upon motion by Trustee Wickson, the recommendation was approved.

10. That a harrow be purchased from the farm funds at a cost not to exceed \$50.00. Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the recommendation was approved with the exception that the purchase be made from the Support fund.

The Secretary submitted a bill presented by W. H. Weeks, Architect, itemized as follows:

To plans & specifications for power house,	\$ 75.00
To plans & specifications in connection with power & heating plant,	110.00
To plans & specifications of cow barn,	<u>75.00</u>
	\$ 260.00

The bill was approved upon motion and ordered paid from the building fund upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustee Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 4; noes, none.

A motion was carried that when the Board adjourn it be to meet at the school in San Luis Obispo on Friday, November 18, at 10 A. M.

The following schedules of bills were signed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board upon the roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustee Hihn, Shackelford, Wickson, Smith. Ayes, 4; noes, none: —

[p. 159]

Schedules of bills payable from Support Fund: [selected]	
H. T. Liliencrantz, pasturing horse (Queen)	1.50
Dr. Chas. Eatman [i.e., Eastman], veterinary visits,	15.00
Schedule of bills payable from Building Fund:	
W. H. Weeks, Architect's fees,	260.00

### 1904 Nov 18-19

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[231 numbered pp.]

Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, November 18, 1904. Ramona Hotel. 4:00 PM

Hihn present

Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, November 19, 1904. At the School. 9:00 AM

Hihn present

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

[p. 1]

“The adjourned meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School convened at the school at 10:00 A.M. Present Trustees John, Shackelford and Smith. These sat as the Finance Committee and then adjourned, for lack of a quorum, to meet at the Ramona Hotel at 4 P.M.

Ramona Hotel, 4:00 P.M. - Present Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford and Smith. President Smith in the chair. The minutes of the meeting of September 10 were read and approved.

Communications were read from (1) Governor Pardee relative to the law governing the filing of reports of State officers; (2) the State Board of Examiners allowing the Trustees to charge for the use of farm teams and men against special building funds when said buildings are not erected according to the State building Act; (3) County Board of Trade relative to the Board of Supervisors of San Luis Obispo County building and repairing the road from the city to the school.

A motion was made by Trustee Hihn that the Director be requested to present to the Board at each regular meeting a written report upon the work of the school. Carried.

The Director and Secretary presented his biennial report. After some discussion of the needs of the school for the next two years the Board took a recess at 6 P.M. until 9 A.M. next morning.

The Board convened at the school at the appointed hour on the 19th. Present Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford and Smith.

The Director presented a number of recommendations, each of which acted upon as indicated below:

1. That a clock with attachments for automatically ringing class period bells be purchased out of the Support fund at a cost of not to exceed \$70. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Hihn.

2. That the students, Henry and Gustavus Wade, be paid a total of \$45 per month, beginning November 1, for operating the power plant. Adopted upon motion by Trustee John.

[p. 2] 3. That H. Floyd Tout be appointed student assistant to teach arithmetic to beginning students at a salary of \$12 per month beginning November 1, 1904. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Shackelford.

4. That \$50 be appropriated from the building fund for the construction of two small poultry houses. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Hihn.

5. That the Director be authorized to prepare plans and specifications and secure bids upon the construction of a one story and basement poultry building, about 16 by 32 feet, expected to cost about \$500. Laid over for the present.

6. That the foundation of the dairy barn be constructed at once by contract by accepting the bid presented herewith, viz. - \$180 by San Luis Contracting Co. Messrs. F. C. Mitchell and N. O'Leary declined to bid. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Shackelford.

7. That the travelling expenses of the Director be paid from the Support Fund when attending such conventions as he may be called upon to address on educational topics. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Shackelford.

8. That a man be employed as gardener to work upon the grounds and assist in other work as needed at a salary of not to exceed \$50 per month, to be paid from the regular pay roll. Moved by Trustee Hihn that the Director be authorized to employ labor as gardener to the extent of \$50 per month. Carried.

9. That a new instructor be appointed for January 1 to relieve the burden of work upon the present instructors. Not adopted upon motion by Trustee Hihn.

10. That requisition be made upon the Support Fund for the following uses and amounts:

Supplies in chemical laboratory,	\$150.00
Surveying instruments and botany,	200.00
Tools for carpenter shop,	25.00
Four horse farm wagon,	100.00

The following sums were allowed:

Surveying level,	\$100.00
Botany supplies,	25.00
Tools for carpenter shop,	25.00
Four horse farm wagon,	100.00

[p. 3]

11. That two more courses of brick be laid on top of boiler in power house and a settling tank for boiler compound be installed. - total cost to be \$47.00. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Shackelford.

Under consideration of the claim of Vetterline & Butcher, heretofore presented, Trustee Shackelford moved that the \$25.50 retained from Stevens & Maino be paid to them and that the sum remaining in the original building fund (\$22.68) be tendered to Vetterline & Butcher. Adopted on roll call. Ayes Trustees John, Hihn, Shackelford, Smith. Ayes 4; noes none.

Upon motion the biennial reports of the Director and Secretary were accepted and the President was requested to prepare a letter for the Board for transmission therewith to the Governor.

Trustee John introduced the following resolution which was unanimously adopted relative to road building by the Board of Supervisors:

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School herewith invites the cooperation of the Board of Supervisors of San Luis Obispo County in making and keeping in condition the main road on the California Polytechnic School grounds as the said road is laid out and planned by the landscape gardener of the school and that the Board of Trustees of said school herewith grants permission to the Board of Supervisors of San Luis Obispo County to perform such work upon said road as they see fit in accordance with the plans adopted.

Discussion of the estimate of needs of the school as presented to the Board by the Director was resumed. Upon invitation of President Smith, instructors Heald, Yount, Twombly and Roadhouse were present to advise the Board upon the needs for instruction in their several departments. No definite conclusion was reached as to the amounts to request of the next Legislature.

The following schedules of bills were reported approved by the Finance Committee:

October 8, 1904.

Support. 55th fiscal year,	\$ 13.45
Support, 56th fiscal year,	621.11
Grounds,	20.50
Library,	57.25
Buildings,	396.34
Contingent,	460.60

[end of p. 3]

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## 1905

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**1905 Jan 7**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[231 numbered pp.]

Meeting Site: San Francisco, January 7, 1905. Palace Hotel. 10:00 AM

[p. 8]

San Francisco, January 7, 1905.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session in the Palace Hotel at 10:30 A.M. President Smith in the chair. Present at roll call, Trustees Hihn, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Trustee John arrived a few minutes later.

By unanimous consent the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was deferred until the next regular meeting, except the portion relating to the appropriations to be asked of the legislature, which was read by the Secretary.

[regular and special appropriations listed on p. 8 not transcribed here]

At this time President Smith and Trustee Hihn asked to be excused to meet important engagements. During the President's absence Vice President Shackelford presided.

Several recommendations of the Director were presented and acted upon as indicated below:

1.-That our representatives in the Legislature be asked to introduce a bill providing no saloons shall be located within one mile of the school property. Approved upon motion by Trustee

[end of p. 8]

**1905 Jan 25**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library. 1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 11", on 3 blank sheets. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at head of letter.] [stamped with receipt date:] JAN 26 1905 [filing number "169" at head of letter]

*Thanks. To Ward, Lukens, Goodrich. O.K.*

[Transcriber's Note: "Ward" was Senator Martin L. Ward (Rep.), San Diego. He was Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments of the State Senate; "Lukens" was Senator George R. Lukens (Rep.), Alameda. He was Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee; and "Goodrich" was Assemblyman John A. Goodrich (Rep.), Los Angeles. He was Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Federal Relations, and a member of the following Committees: Mileage, Public Lands and Forestry, Ways and Means. Notes based on the 35th Session of the Legislature. Source: *California Blue Book*, 1903.]

Santa Cruz, Calif., Jan. 25, 1905.

To His Excellency,

Governor George C. Pardee,  
Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Sir:—

Please accept my thanks for your kind invitation for myself and Mrs. Hihn to the reception to be held this day at your residence. Business pressure prevents me from accepting and participating.

I lately discussed with Mr. Frank Mattison [of Santa Cruz], a member of the State Board of Equalization, the pending serious question of State Taxation, and I promised to submit to him my thoughts on that subject. After many efforts I have brought forth the enclosed amendments and as action has already been taken by the Legislature on this subject and Mr. Mattison is absent I take the liberty to submit the enclosed proposed amendments to the constitution to you and to Senator Ward, the chairman of the Senate Committee.

And I beg leave to add: that by these proposed amendments I seek to make it practicable to abolish the direct tax for State purposes, and the State Board of Equalization.

My proposed indirect tax of 3% or less for the business of a quasi public nature and insurance on admission tickets to theatres and other places of amusement is supposed to provide fully as great an amount as the State's share of the annual direct tax, but if same should prove insufficient [sic] it can be arranged that the deficiency be covered by State licenses and stamp duties.

[p. 2]

-2-

Assuming that the proposed amendment #1 carries at the next election the gathering of the necessary information could be at once be provided with or this could

be done at once so as to have it ready for the next Legislature or a special session of the same and the amount of indirect taxes to be levied could then be determined. It is believed and I hope it is true that a rate of 2% would be sufficient to raise the required amount.

As the levy of such tax and its payment would have the effect to exempt from direct taxation the property used for the business thus taxed, it would seem that the parties thus taxed would favor such a law. It might be objectionable for Counties and municipalities to lose the power to tax for their purposes the property thus exempted but the Counties and Municipalities will be recompensed by the exemption of the State tax on the whole property within their respective counties, which would effect a reduction of taxation of from 25 to 50%, without injury to any one.

It will be observed that I have sought to avoid double taxation which seems to be or should be forbidden in a republic form of government. It does not seem right to tax the property and the proceeds thereof in any manner such as an income tax, inheritance tax, direct taxation of corporations or even a license tax, though the latter may be deemed right on the ground that the licensee needs and receives more protection than a farm or other productive property.

Amendment #2 is as will appear a local option proposition, giving to each County or Municipality what they want so far as not forbidden by law. The expression of a majority vote of the electors

[p. 3]

-3-

by petition may seem objectionable but is the right of petition not fully as sacred as the right to vote and it is much less expensive.

Perhaps I have been too liberal in providing for grant of authority, for instance, in the regulation of disorderly houses or districts, but if such evils cannot be suppressed [sic], which seems to be the case judging from the facts before us, it certainly would be desirable, yes necessary, that they should be regulated.

I seriously trust that the 5% provision will receive favorable consideration. It would give needed protection to an infant industry for the first five years of its life.

Before closing permit me to call your careful attention to S. D. 6 of #11. Such a law has been in force in Utah since its early days. Under it the City of Salt Lake, in fact the whole State of Utah, has been built up. It is now being followed by some of the Assessors, but let it be proclaimed to all the world by adoption of S. D. 6 that our State favors industry and enterprise.

Truly yours,

F.A.H.

/s/ F A Hihn

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**1905 Jan 31**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 12]

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.**

Committee on Site

January 31, 1905.

The Committee met at the School. Present Trustees Hihn and Shackelford.

Bids for mill work for the dairy barn were presented as follows:

Salinas Valley Lumber Co.	\$181.70
H. H. Waite,	190.43

It was agreed to award the contract to the

Salinas Valley Lumber Co. at	\$181.70
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[end of p. 12]

Secretary. [not signed]

**1905 Jan 31**Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1903. p. 102**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.**

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****F. A. Hihn (R.), of Santa Cruz, Vice President** Term expires January 31, 1905.**1905 Feb 27**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library. 1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 11", on 1 blank sheet. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at right-head of letter.] [stamped with receipt date:] MAR 1 1905 [filing number "169" at head of letter]

*Commission will be a hold-over Committee of the two houses of the Legislature, to be appointed by the presiding officers, two from each house.*

Santa Cruz, Calif., Feb. 27, 1905.

To His Excellency,

Governor George C. Pardee,  
Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Sir:—

Fully approving the proposed appointment of a commission to revise the revenue laws, I take pleasure in suggesting the name of Charles O. King of San Luis Obispo as one of said commissioners. On account of his long experience as Assessor of San Luis Obispo I deem him well fitted for that position.

Respectfully yours,

F. A. H.

/s/ F A Hihn

**1905 Mar 18**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 13]

San Francisco, March 18, 1905.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held at the Palace Hotel at 10 A. M. President Smith in the chair. Present Trustees Hihn, Shackelford, Smith and Wickson. The meeting was called by telegram to each member of the Board in response to the following letter received by the Secretary from A. J. Pillsbury, Esq., Secretary of the State Board of Examiners:

Prof. Leroy Anderson,  
California Polytechnic School,  
San Luis Obispo, Cal.

Dear Sir: —

The legislature left the Governor a legacy of about one million dollars worth of appropriations in excess of the revenues provided for their payment, and it is necessary for for [sic] the ax to fall in a good many unfortunate places. The special appropriation bills have had the Governor's earnest and thoughtful consideration. He is well disposed toward your school, but it does not seem possible to give all that it asks for. By his direction, I venture the following suggestions:

You need a domestic science building and you need, very seriously, some of the items in the other bill appropriating \$15,000, but you could erect a domestic science building that would cost \$50,000, or you could erect one that will cost \$20,000 that will serve your purpose, at least for the time being. It is probable that your electrical construction building can be deferred for two years without [sic] serious injury if you get the other things that you want on the agricultural side of your industrial education.

In view of these facts, it has seemed best to suggest to your Board that they agree in the event that the Governor will sign both bills to leave unused in the State Treasury the item of \$6,000 for the electrical construction building and \$10,000 of the \$30,000 appropriated for a domestic science building.

This, of course, will be only a "gentleman's' agreement" of no legal validity, but resting entirely upon the honor of the Board of Trustees, and an agreement of this nature will be entirely satisfactory to the Governor, as he has not the smallest doubt that it will be lived up to implicitly if made. As it will not be possible for you to get your full Board together in time so that you can take action upon this, the acceptance of this proposition by a quorum of the Board will be entirely sufficient.

In the event that this proposal is not acceptable, it seems impossible that the Governor will be able to sign both bills. I cannot state positively which of the two he may sign but it seems likely that the domestic science will be looked upon as a

greater urgency, although the choice of your Board in that matter would no doubt prove decisive. As soon as you have reached a conclusion you will do well to wire the result to me that I may lay it before the Governor without delay.

No one regrets more than the Governor the necessity for paring down the appropriation, but it is a condition and not a theory that confronts him, and the garments must be cut according to the cloth.

Respectfully yours,  
(Signed) A. J. Pillsbury,  
Secretary."

[end of p. 13]

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### 1905 Apr 1

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School S. L. O.  
[231 numbered pp.]

#### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.

San Luis Obispo, April 1, 1905.

A meeting of the Committee on Site was held today at the School at 3:45 P.M. Present Trustees John and Shackelford. A communication was read from Trustee Hihn regretting his inability to be present, and saying: "I am at all times willing that, whenever necessary, Messrs. Shackelford and John act as committee without me. Would of course prefer to act with them."

...

Plans and specifications for the carpenter shop as drawn by Mr. E. W. Yount were presented and approved in a general way  
[p. 16]

subject to the approval of Trustee Hihn. The following suggestions were made with a view to lessen the cost:

1. Omit the wainscoting on inside.
2. Use pine instead of redwood for siding.
3. Use pine 1x6 plain for roof boards instead of 1x6 T & G.

Secretary. [not signed]

[end of p. 16]

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### 1905 Apr 5

Source: Inventory & Description: Younger Collection Box 52 [UC-NRLF W 31 293] SPZ SPEC YOUNGER BOX 52 1902 Apr 5 [no envelope] on letter-head of **Hotel Ramona**, F. J. McHenry, Prop., **San Luis Obispo**, Cal.

F. A. Hihn to "My dear Mr. Younger [Charles B. Younger Jr.]

Your very interesting letters from San Juan to me and from Jolon to your father were read with great interest.

The account of the wanderings of **yourself & Agnes** through the streets (pardon me "street") of **San Juan**, the great City which has the distinction of being the most diminutive municipality in the State brought back vividly to my memory my wanderings through this street 52 years ago.

Yesterday I started from Santa Cruz, stopped at Watsonville, inspected the Loma Prieta Lumber yard, took the N. G [narrow gauge?] train to Salinas inspected the lumber yard at Moss Landing on the way and on arrival at Salinas the lumber yard and planing mill there, then took the **train to Paso Robles** and went out to view some clearing of land I am having done and on my return to the hotel inspected the boilers engine, elevator etc. and the new walks and other work in the grounds, and then took the train to **San Luis Obispo where I had a meeting with my Co trustees of the Polytechnic school**, a conference with the party from whom we propose to buy the site of the school, with the County Surveyor, and then I drew up a form for a deed for the site to the State - then I wrote a long letter to **Supt. Adams of Stockton** about an extension of our works to Lodi - etc etc - and finally about 12 MN. I tumbled into bed. This morning I got up early - have made a visit to the proposed site with the surveyor etc, settled all debatable questions and return this afternoon to Santa Cruz, where I shall be due at about 9 PM.

I heard of you at Paso Robles, you had to stay there two days, a good rest for the horses, possibly for you & Agnes - Have not heard from you here.

Sent the trunk to Santa Barbara by Express. Mailed the Key in a letter to Genl. Delivery at Santa Barbara directed to forward to San Diego if not called for at Santa Barbara.

**Adios Don Carlos, best wishes & greetings to you and Agnes.**

Sincerely yours,

/s/ F A Hihn

**1905 Apr 14-15**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, April 14, 1905. No quorum present. No meeting.

Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, April 15, 1905.

[p. 17]

San Luis Obispo, April 14, 1905.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School convened at nine A.M. on above date. Present Trustees John and Smith. No quorum.

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

The following day, April 15, the Board convened again. Present, Trustees Hihn, John and Smith. After examining the school and several improvements needed the Trustees for lack of quorum, adjourned to meet in San Francisco, Saturday April 29, at 9 A.M.

Secretary. [not signed]

**1905 Apr 29**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 18]

San Francisco, April 29, 1905.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met pursuant to call at the Palace Hotel at 9:30 A.M. President Smith in chair. Present, Trustees Hihn, John, Shackelford and Smith. Trustee Wickson came in during the reading of the minutes. Trustee Kirk came at 10 o'clock.

The minutes of the special meetings of Jan. 7, March 18, and April 14 were read and approved.

The Finance Committee reported schedules of bills approved on Jan. 31, March 13 and Apr. 14. Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the report was approved on roll as follows: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; Noes, none. The schedules are appended hereto.

It was moved by Trustee Shackelford that the Director be requested to draw up a schedule showing the amounts of manual work to be done by students in the different departments, either free as instruction or for pay, and present the same to the Board at the next meeting. The motion was carried.

The Committee on Site presented its report relative to mill work for the dairy barn by the minutes of January 31 as follows:

Jan. 31, 1905.

The Committee met at the School. Present Trustees Hihn and Shackelford. Bids for mill work for the dairy barn were presented as follows:

Salinas Valley Lumber Co.	\$181.70
H. H. Waite,	190.43

It was agreed to award the contract to the Salinas Valley Lumber Co. at \$181.70. Upon motion by Trustee John the report was approved.

The Committee on Site presented its report relative to awarding contracts for completing the dairy barn and and [sic] approval of plans for the carpenter shop by the minutes of April 1, as follows:

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

April 1, 1905.

A meeting of the Committee on Site was held today at the School at 3:45 P.M. Present Trustees John and Shackelford. A communication was read from Trustee Hihn regretting his inability to be present, and saying,

“I am at all times willing that, whenever necessary, Messrs. Shackelford and John act as committee without me. Would of course prefer to act with them.”

Bids for mason work, plumbing & tinning and painting the dairy barn were opened and found as follows:

[p. 19]

...

Plans and specifications for the carpenter shop as drawn by Mr. E. W. Yount were presented and approved in a general way subject to the approval of Trustee Hihn. ...

...

Upon motion by Trustee Kirk the Director is authorized to purchase a flag for the school at a cost not to exceed \$20.

...

[p. 20]

...

Trustee Shackelford moved that the above apportionment of the Building fund be approved and that the first irrigation system to be installed be a pumping plant. This motion was adopted upon roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 5; noes, none.

...

[p. 21]

...

Trustee Kirk moved that the apportionment of the Support Fund be concurred in as recommended by the Director. The motion was adopted upon roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Noes, John. Ayes, 5; noes, 1.

...

The Director recommended that the following reappointments be made for the year beginning July 1, 1905:

Sydney S. Twombly, instructor in Agriculture, chemistry and veterinary science, at a salary of \$1800. This is his present salary.

Oscar Leslie Heald, instructor in drawing, sloyd and iron work at a salary of \$1200. This is his present salary.

Harriet Howell, instructor in domestic art, at a salary of \$1200. Her present salary is \$100 per month beginning September 1st, 1904.

Edwin Walter Yount, instructor in carpentry and architectural drawing, at a salary of \$1200. His present salary if [sic] \$1020.

James Edward Roadhouse, instructor in plant industry, irrigation and land surveying, at a salary of \$1500 for one year beginning Sept. 1, 1905. His present salary is \$1200. His present appointment dates from Sept. 1, 1904, and it seems just that he be accorded a full year's appointment.

[p. 22]

That Naomi M. Lake be reappointed clerk and librarian at a salary of \$900. This is her present salary.

That the following new appointments of instructors be made for the coming year:

Miss May Secrest to be instructor in domestic science and matron of the dormitory for one year beginning July 1, 1905, at a salary of \$1200.

... [her biography is omitted herein]

Leroy Burns Smith to be instructor in English, history and economics at a salary of \$125 per month for eleven months beginning August 1, 1905.

... [his biography is omitted herein]

Herman B. Waters to be instructor in electricity and physics at a salary of \$1500 for the year beginning July 1, 1905.

... [his biography is omitted herein]

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson the Director's recommendations for the above reappointments and new appointments were concurred in upon roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Ayes, 6; noes, none.

The Director made the following recommendations regarding buildings:

1. That Architect Weeks be authorized to prepare plans and specifications for a domestic science building according to the laws of the state; and that it is the sense of the Board that the cost of erecting the building should not exceed \$20,000, the remaining portion of the appropriation of \$24,000 to be reserved for

[end of p. 22]

[p. 23]

furnishing. Adopted upon motion by Trustee Kirk.

...

5. That blackboards be fixed in the Assembly room on the north side and back of the platform, the cost to be paid from the furniture apportionment of the Support fund. This is necessary to fit the room for recitation purposes. Adopted on motion by Trustee Hihn.

...

[p. 24]

...

The Secretary opened and presented bids for the construction of the carpenter shop as follows:

Mason Work:

San Luis Contracting Co.	\$135.00
F. C. Mitchell,	230.00

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson it was voted to award the contract for mason work to the San Luis Contracting Co. upon roll call as follows: Ayes, Trustees John, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Absent Trustees Hihn and Kirk.

Carpenter and Iron Work:

J. Maino & Son,	\$2200.00
John Darling,	2372.00

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson it was voted to award the contract for carpenter and iron work to the J. Maino & Son upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees John, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Absent Trustees Hihn and Kirk.

Plumbing and Tinning:

E. H. Payne,	\$450.00
Vetterline & Butcher,	393.50

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson it was voted to award the contract to Vetterline & Butcher upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees John, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith. Absent Trustees Hihn and Kirk.

Painting:

F. Tercis & Son,	\$234.00
J. P. Lynch,	238.00
E. N. Williams,	286.00

Upon motion by Trustee Wickson it was voted to award the contract for painting to F. Tercis & Son upon the following roll call: Ayes, Trustees John, Shackelford, Wickson and Smith.

Adjourned without motion.

Secretary. [not signed]

**1905 Jul 8**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 31]

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.**

San Francisco, July 8, 1905.

The Board of Trustees met at the Palace Hotel pursuant to call at 10:30 A.M. Present Trustees Hihn, Shackelford and Wickson. As there was no quorum no definite business could be transacted. The Trustees present, however, considered the several recommendations of the Director and recommended actions which were followed by the Director as indicated in the minutes of the meeting of September 25th.

Secretary. [not signed]

**1905 Jul 24**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library.

1 typewritten letter, 8.5" x 11", on 1 blank sheet. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at right-head of letter.] [stamped with receipt date:] JUL 26 1905; [filing number "169" at head of letter]

*Desk*

Santa Cruz, Cal. July 24, 1905.

To his Excellency,  
Governor George C. Pardee,  
Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Sir:—

Advancing age bids me to reduce my work; hence I tender my resignation as Trustee of the State Polytechnic School of San Luis Obispo.

With high appreciation and many thanks for the honor you have bestowed upon me, and for the courtesies extended, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

F.A.H./C.

/s/ F A Hihn

**1905 Sep 25**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[Transcriber's Note: Resignation of Trustee Sylvester Clark Smith: While his term as a Cal Poly Trustee did not expire until January 31, 1907, he had been elected in the November, 1904, election to represent the Eighth California Congressional District (comprising 11 counties: Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura). He was initially elected to the Fifty-ninth Congress, subsequently elected to the Sixtieth, and then the Sixty-first Congresses, and reelected to the Sixty-second Congress, receiving 28,202 votes, to 18,958 for W. E. Irving (Democrat). His replacement on the Board of Trustees was George S. Edwards, Mayor of Santa Barbara (see 1905 Nov 14, below).]

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.**

[p. 35]

San Luis Obispo, Sept. 25, 1905.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session  
The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

sion at 9 A.M. pursuant to call. Vice-President Shackelford in the chair. Present Trustees Hihn, John, Kirk and Shackelford.

Under the order of the reading of minutes of the last meeting, Trustee Kirk moved that the reading be dispensed with and that they be approved as sent to each individual Trustee. Carried.

A [undated] letter from President Smith [to Cal Poly Director Leroy Anderson] was read and upon motion by Trustee Hihn ordered spread upon the minutes and the thanks of the Board be extended to President Smith. Carried.

I find it will be impossible for me to come over to the meeting next Monday. I would greatly enjoy seeing the students and meeting with the Board again but other engagements make it impossible for me to do so. I expect to leave for the east about October 17, and have a number of things to attend to between now and that time. I have been expecting almost daily for some weeks to hear that the Governor had appointed my successor and I think that in justice to the school he should do so. The new man should be placed in touch with the work at the beginning of this school year.

I have been hearing from very good reports about the school and have no doubt that you will have a very pleasant and successful year. If there is anything I can do while in the east to advance the school I hope you know that you have only to call on me to engage my very best efforts. I have no work before me in the new field of activity in which I have a deeper interest than in the success of the California Polytechnic School. I have believed from the beginning that the school would have a great influence not only among those who attend, but on educational work in California generally, and I think I see evidence already of the correctness of that view. It will be a factor in giving to the coming generation in this state a new and more wholesome idea of the relationship between education and our industries.

I should like very much to be present at this meeting to say a word of farewell to the other members of the Board, but must ask you to do so for me. I need not say that our associations have been of the most pleasant order imaginable, and I also feel under a very great debt of gratitude to each and every member of the Board for the cordial interest which they have taken in the planning and development of this school. California has been particularly fortunate in having the assistance of gentlemen who have been so perfectly unselfish and patriotic in the discharge of these duties.

Please express to the members of the Board for me my appreciation of their efforts and the warm personal esteem in which I hold them. Also accept for your self and convey to the members of the faculty and the students my best wishes, and permit me to remain

Yours very truly,

(Signed) S. C. Smith.

[p. 36] The Finance Committee reported schedules of bills approved on April 22, May 11, June 22, July 9, August 11 and September 9. The schedules are appended thereto. The Committee also reported having approved the following requisitions:

June 22, 1905.		Office Supplies (Support)	\$ 20.00
		Ensilage Cutter, “	150.00
		Corn Harvester, “	100.00
July	1	10 Carpenter benches “	220.00
	26	Physics Lab apparatus (Support)	214.00
		Physics Experiments,	52.00
Aug.	10	“ apparatus, “	81.07
	13	Metal Lockers, “	165.00
	25	Extension phone for Director's office (Support)	\$1.00 per mo.
		3 roll top desks for instructors	84.00
		Painting porch floors,	21.00
		3 horses. (Support)	410.95
Sep.	8	Lumber for furniture, “	24.92
		Tablet arm & common chairs,	138.00
		1 1/3 dz. stools for Dom. Sci.	10.00
		2 dz. “ for drawing,	21.00
		Lumber for Mechanical drawing tables (Support)	69.50
		Fencing material, “	31.60
		Labor oiling floors, “	14.00
		Labor painting & kalsomining Physics Lab. (Support)	28.00
		Singing books	18.00
		Equipment for Domestic Science Department, (Support)	222.59
		Road wagon & 2 sets harness “	146.00
		Apparatus for Botany Lab.	150.92

Upon motion by Trustee John the report was approved. Ayes, Trustee Hihn, John, Kirk and Shackelford. Ayes 4; noes, none.

The Director reported that on July 23 last, he addressed a letter to each Trustee, in which he quoted a communication from Mr. H. B. Waters, Instructor in Electricity, regarding the location of the laboratory on electricity, and recommended that (1) the laboratory be located in connection with the power house and that a new one story building be erected to accommodate it; (2) The creamery plant be installed in the basement of the recitation building instead of the power house; (3) the necessary changes in the apportionment of the Improvement Fund be authorized and (4) the Committee on Site be authorized to award contracts for the construction of the building. Responses from the Trustees were as follows: Approving the recommendations, Trustees John, Smith, [p. 37] Shackelford and Wickson. No responses were received from Trustees Hihn, Kirk and Pardee.

The Committee on Site reported as follows:

Bids for the construction of the power house were  
opened on August 11 and found as follows:

Carpenter work,	
J. Maino,	\$893.00
R.S. Aston,	no bid,
John Darling,	no bid,
Plumbing & Tinning,	
E. M. Payne,	230.00
Vetterline & Butcher,	240.00
Painting,	
J. P. Lynch,	100.00
E. N. Williams,	125.45
F. Tercis & Son,	118.00

Contracts were awarded to the lowest bidder in each case, and to J. Maino for carpenter work, Trustee Hihn dissenting from the latter because of only one bid received.

The following requisitions were approved:

Labor & material for poultry houses,	230.00
Carpenter shop equipment,	471.88
Gasoline engine	775.00
Labor to complete dairy barn,	75.00
Labor to erect silo,	50.00
Labor to build flume	15.00
Chemical Lab. equipment,	110.79
Exhaust fan,	54.00
Electrical Lab. equipment,	968.95
Sewer for power house,	20.50
Lumber for carpenter shop equipment,	13.20
Grading with team,	44.00
Grading & rocking at dairy barn,	50.00

#### Irrigation System:

The well has been dug 20 feet deep at which point a blue clay is found, which has a depth of about three feet. Below this seems to be bed rock. The expenditure for material and labor has thus far been \$127.14.

Trustee Hihn moved that the report be amended by adding the list of bills approved by the Committee since April 29. This motion prevailed and upon motion by Trustee Kirk the report was accepted as amended.

[followed by: "Schedules Approved by Committee Since April 29" (not transcribed)]

[p. 38]

The recommendations of the Director as made to the Board on July 9 were laid before the Board today together with his action thereon as approved by the three

Trustees present on July 9. The approval of the Board was sought upon actions already taken. The recommendations are below and the action of the Board today of each is indicated.

1. That Naomi M. Lake, present clerk and librarian, be appointed to teach book-keeping the coming school year with no increase in salary but that she be relieved from stenographic work by appointing an assistant for the service at not to exceed \$40 per month.

The Director reported that Miss Lake is teaching bookkeeping ten periods per week and that Miss Edna Watson is serving as stenographer at \$30 per month. She is also a student in the school. Approved upon motion by Trustee Kirk.

2. That a contract be awarded to Wm. Sandercock for grading and rocking the road from Hathway Ave. to the Cypress hedge for \$379.40 with rock 10 feet wide.

The Director reported that the contract had been awarded as above. Moved by Trustee Kirk that the contract be approved. Ayes, Trustees Hihn, Kirk, and Shackelford. Noes, Trustee John. Upon further discussion Trustee John moved a reconsideration and the contract was finally approved unanimously.

3. That the fund of \$300 for the purchase of a piano be expended instead for individual lockers for students' use.

The Director reported that 60 metal lockers were ordered on August 14 from the Narragansett Machine Co. at \$2.75 each.

Approved upon roll call. Ayes, Hihn, John, Kirk and Shackelford. Noes, none.

4. That the recommendation of Architect Weeks to paint the bare spots on the roof of the buildings with red lead be accepted.

The Director reported that this had been done. Action approved upon motion.

5. That instead of charging \$15 per year laboratory fee, the fee be made \$10, divided \$4, \$3, and \$3 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd terms ...

[end of p. 38]

### 1905 Nov 10

Source: Santa Cruz *Surf* 1905 Nov 10 1:1

#### **Hotel Ramona at San Luis Obispo Passes Away in Smoke and Ashes This Morning— Occupants Escape Uninjured.**

SAN LOUIS [sic] OBISPO, Nov. 10— (Special to the SURF)—A fire caused by a defective flue in the kitchen, completely destroyed the handsome hotel Ramona, in this city, this morning. It was about 2 o'clock this morning when the flames were discovered. There was a high wind blowing, and it was fully twenty minutes before the fire department arrived on the scene. Meanwhile the fire spread to the main building, a fine three story structure, and efforts to stay the flames were un-availing.

The loss on the building will be \$60,000, and \$30,000 on furniture.

One hundred and fifty tourists stopping at the hotel escaped uninjured but lost baggage and belongings of much value.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

The Ramona was built during the boom times, about 15 years ago, and for a time was a veritable “white elephant,” but in later years has been popular and profitable.

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**1905 Nov 14**

Source: Transcribed from the original, signed letter in George Cooper Pardee Papers, Correspondence to George C. Pardee from F. A. Hihn, Box 71 (BANC MSS C-B 400), The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Reproduced by Permission, The Director, The Bancroft Library.  
1 typewritten letter, *ca. 7" x 14" folded to ca. 7" x 7" to render two pages* on 1 blank *stationery* sheet. [Manuscript notations, instructions to his Private Secretary, in hand of Pardee at head of letter.] [filing number “169” at head of letter]

*Nye*

[“Nye” was A. B. Nye, the Governor’s Private Secretary]

To his Excellency,  
Governor George C. Pardee,  
Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Sir:—

Acknowledging the receipt of your favor of the 7th inst announcing the appointment of Mr. Geo. S. Edwards, Mayor of Santa Barbara, as one of the members of the board of Trustees of the Polytechnic School vice. Hon. S. C. Smith, resigned, permit me to say that I appreciate your kindness and wisdom in appointing a gentleman of the character described by you.

It will afford me great pleasure to become acquainted with Mr. Edwards and to work with him for

[page 2]

the best interests of the State in the management of the Polytechnic School

My resignation is still in your hands, where I wish it to remain, to await the appointment of my successor, whenever you deem the best interests of the State are served thereby. It may be well to consider, that though enjoying good health and being still active and able to attend to business, I am in my seventy-seventh year and on the down hill path.

Thanking you for your kind solicitude, and tendering my best wishes, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Santa Cruz, Cal.

November Fourteenth, 1905.

/s/ F A Hihn

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## 1906

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**1906 Feb 3**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 49 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, February 3, 1906.

Hihn not present.

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**1906 Feb 14**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 62 Meeting Site: Sacramento, February 14, 1906.

Hihn not present.

[at foot of minutes:] "N.B. President Shackelford has appointed the following standing committees of the Board:

Committee on Site: Trustees John, Hihn, Edwards\*

\*[George S. Edwards, Mayor of Santa Barbara *see* 1905 Nov 14]

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**1906 May 12**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 64 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, May 12, 1906.

Hihn not present.

**1906 May 21**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees***by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 65 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, May 21, 1906.

Hihn not present. "A letter was read from Trustee Hihn stating his inability to attend and regretting the need of his absence."

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**1906 Aug 9**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees***by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 82] San Luis Obispo, August 9, 1906.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School was held at the school pursuant to call by the President. Upon roll call there were found present: Trustees Hihn, John and Shackelford. Owing to the lack of quorum no business was transacted.

Leroy Anderson, [not signed]  
Secretary

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**1906 Nov 17**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees***by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 83] San Luis Obispo, November 17, 1906.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met at the school at ten A. M. pursuant to a call regularly issued by order of the President. Present: Trustees Shackelford, Hihn, Edwards, Wickson; President Shackelford in the chair.

[p. 84]

At the meeting of the Board on May 21, 1906, it was not deemed advisable to approve the recommendation of the director for the appointment of Mr. C. W.

Mitchell as instructor in mechanical drawing on account of the need of economy. The director, however, was authorized to employ Mr. Mitchell, or some other available instructor, if in his judgment the attendance upon the school in September warranted it. The attendance in September was so large that when we made up our schedule of exercises we found it absolutely necessary to have an additional instructor in order to do justice to the students. Mr. Mitchell could not be secured because he had made other arrangements. After a month's delay we finally secured Mr. C. M. Gassaway, who was a senior in the University of California, in the mechanical engineering department. He began his services early in October, at a salary of \$100 per month, from October 1st to July 1st. The director requests the approval of the Board upon this action.

Approved upon motion of Trustee Edwards.

Inasmuch as it is necessary for a member of the faculty to accompany athletic teams when they go out of town for games, I recommend that the travelling expenses of the faculty representative be paid by the school when so engaged.

Approved upon motion of Trustee Hihn. An expense not to exceed \$15 was authorized for faculty representatives for the present school term.

The recommendation from our gardener and our adviser in gardening is that the Polytechnic drive from Hathaway [sic] avenue to the school be planted on either side with palms similar in character to the Phoenix Canariensis. Inasmuch as such planting promises to make the drive a beautiful one, I recommend that this be the choice of the Board.

On motion of Trustee Wickson this was referred to the Committee on Site with the power to act.

It is the opinion of our instructors in domestic art and domestic science that our new building should be named [sic] "Building of Household Arts" instead of Domestic Science Building. The title domestic science represents only one portion of the girls' work. The title household arts seems to cover the entire field and moreover is more suitable for a school of our grade than the name domestic science. I recommend, therefore, that the name "Household Arts" be put upon the building instead of "Domestic Science" as was originally planned.

Approved upon motion of Trustee Edwards.

[p. 85]

The Southern Pacific Company is at present engaged in laying double track in front of the school grounds. It would seem to be an opportune time to negotiate with the company for a short spur convenient to the Polytechnic for freight transportation. It may also be an opportune occasion to request a station at the Polytechnic. I recommend that the Board take such action upon this as may seem best.

Upon motion of Trustee Edwards, President Shackelford was authorized to negotiate with Supt. Wilder of the S. P. Company regarding the recommendation.

#### 1905 Building Fund.

The Board has recently been in receipt of a recommendation from Mr. A. J. Pillsbury, Secretary State Board of Examiners, acquainting them of the fact that Governor Pardee has released the balance of the Building Fund appropriation which

he had originally withheld under the "Gentlemen's agreement" as entered into in March, 1905. Mr. Pillsbury states that the agreement includes three or four thousand dollars withheld from the Support Fund as well as the items from the Building Fund. I can find nothing in the agreement to bear out this statement. Mr. Pillsbury also says the amount still due under the "Gentlemen's agreement" is \$6,948.86. The statement of the funds as I find them upon our books is as follows:

Domestic Science Building appropriation	\$30,000.	
Originally allowed by Governor	\$24,000.	
Add. sum allowed Feb. 19, 1906	<u>3,697.</u>	<u>27,697.</u>
Amt. still due and allowed Oct. 30, 1907		\$2,303.
Shops, barns and outbuildings appro.	15,000.	
Originally allowed by Governor	<u>11,000.</u>	
Amt. still due and allowed Oct. 30, 1906		<u>4,000.</u>
Total extra amount available		\$ 6,303.

I would recommend the following apportionment of the extra fund:

Furnishing Household Arts Building	\$1,203.	
Additional electrical equipment	500.	
Shed for students' horses	600.	
Construction and equipment of barn (beginning)	<u>4,000.</u>	
		\$6,303

Upon motion of Trustee Hihn the sum of \$1203 was apportioned for the Household Arts Building and \$600 for a horse shed, the remainder of the fund to [be] held for further developments.

Upon motion by Trustee Edwards a heating plant not to exceed \$500 was authorized to be built in the greenhouse [sic] from the 1905 building fund.

Much favorable comment was made upon the kindness of Gov. Pardee in releasing the funds for the school. On motion by Trustee Wickson the secretary of the Board was directed to extend to the governor their gratitude for his action.

[end p. 85]

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## 1907

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### 1907

Source: *California Blue Book or State Roster*. 1907. p. 125.

#### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

#### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.

##### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Stats. 1901, p. 115.)

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

J. N. Gillett	Governor, and ex-officio member of Board.
Edward Hyatt	Superintendent of Public Instruction, and ex-officio member of Board.
R. M. Shackelford (R.), of Paso Robles, <i>President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1911.
Warren M. John (R.), of San Luis Obispo, <i>Vice-President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1908.
F. A. Hihn (R.), of Santa Cruz	Term expires January 31, 1909.
E. J. Wickson (R.), of Berkeley	Term expires January 31, 1910.
Paul M. Gregg (R.), of San Luis Obispo	Term expires January 31, 1911.

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**1907 Apr 20**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 104] San Luis Obispo, April 20, 1907.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session at the school at 9:00 A. M. pursuant to a call issued by the President. Present: Trustees Hihn, John, Wickson, and Shackelford. Absent: Trustees [Governor James N.] Gillett, [Superintendent of Public Instruction, Edward] Hyatt and Edwards. President Shackelford in the chair.

The minutes of the meeting of the November 17, 1906 were read and approved.

The Board proceeded to the special order of the meeting which was the consideration of the construction of buildings for which appropriations are now available.

The Director reported an unapportioned balance of \$1900.00 in the 1905 appropriation for shops, barns and outbuildings, and recommend the following apportionment:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Granary and feed room 20 x 30 one story with<br>concrete floor and located near the swine houses         | \$750.00  |
| 2. Hay shed 30' x 40'   | 350.00    |
| 3. Four horse stalls, additional tool shed and<br>harness room at ranch barn and harness room at dairy barn | 200.00    |
| 4. Incubator cellar 30' x 30' and 3' high   | 600.00    |
|   | \$1900.00 |

The recommendation for the granary and feed room was approved upon motion by Trustee Hihn. Roll call, ayes: Trustees Hihn, John, Wickson and Shackelford. Noes, none.

The recommendation for the hay shed was approved upon motion by Trustee John. Roll call, ayes: Trustee Hihn, John Wickson and Shackelford. The location of the shed was later made to the north of the present ranch barn.

The recommendation for horse stalls, additional tool shed and harness rooms was approved upon roll call. Ayes: Trustees Hihn, John, Wickson and Shackelford.

The recommendation for the incubator cellar was referred to the committee on site with power to act upon motion by Trustee Wickson. Ayes: Trustee Hihn, John, Wickson and Shackelford.

[p. 105]

The following special appropriations for the Polytechnic School were made by the Legislature of 1907 and approved by Governor Gillett:

1.	Purchase of land and water supply	\$15,000.00
2.	Construction and equipment of dormitory	25,000.00
3.	“ “ “ “ shops	20,000.00
4.	“ “ furnishing creamery	12,000.00
5.	“ “ propagation house	2,000.00
6.	“ of two cottages	5,000.00

#### **Dormitory.**

It was moved by Trustee Hihn that a building 36' x 100' be constructed along the lines of the present dormitory and that it be heated by hot air furnaces. The motion was carried.

#### **Shops.**

The Director recommended that the forge shop be extended to 100 feet in length and its equipment duplicated. Estimated cost of building \$2150.00; equipment, \$1170.00. Also that a machine shop be erected 40 x 100 between the forge and carpenter shops. Estimated cost \$5000.00; equipment, \$6760.00. Also that the State Board of Engineering be requested to permit us to construct the shops by day labor. The recommendation was adopted on motion.

#### **Creamery.**

The Director recommended the construction of a two story frame building 40 x 60 with a one story wing for boiler and engine room, and that it be constructed by contract. Approved on motion. The location suggested is in the north east corner of the main building site.

The Director recommended a one story frame building 34 x 40 with a lath house adjoining to be located to the east of the greenhouse. Approved upon motion by Trustee Hihn.

[p. 106]

#### **Cottages.**

It was moved by Trustee Hihn that three cottages should be built from the appropriation and that three different plans be drawn at an estimated cost of \$1500 each. The motion prevailed.

#### **Repairs on Present Buildings.**

It was moved by Trustee Hihn that the Committee on Site be authorized to do as much painting and tinting and other repairs as is necessary for the protection of the buildings. Carried on roll call, ayes: Trustees Hihn, John, Wickson and Shackelford.

#### **Athletic Field.**

A petition was presented from the student body requesting that the Board grant the use of some four acres of the land to be purchased from Mr. Johnson [Charles H. Johnson, Sr.] for the use of an athletic field. Upon motion of Trustee John the petition was placed on file.

The Trustees were served with luncheon by the students in cooking and later inspected the various building sites, adjourning at 2:30 P. M.

San Luis Obispo, May 8, 1907.

This was the date for the regular annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School. Trustees John and Shackelford were present and owing to lack of quorum adjourned to meet Saturday, June 1, 1907, at the school.

Secretary. [not signed]

[end of p. 106]

### 1907 Jun 1

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 107] Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, June 1, 1907.

Hihn not present. President: R. M. Shackelford

Vice-Pres: Warren M. John

Officers elected: Secretary: Leroy Anderson

Treasurer: Commercial Bank of SLO

### 1907 Jul 15

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

[p. 132] San Francisco, July 15, 1907.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session at the Harbor Commissioner's Office, at 2:10 P.M., President Shackelford presiding. Present Trustees Paul Gregg, F. A. Hihn, Warren M. John, R. M. Shackelford, E. J. Wickson, and Mr. H[erman] B. Waters [Vice-Director of Cal Poly, and Teacher of Physics and Electricity, Department of Mechanics. Source: California Blue Book, 1909, p. 167]. Object of meeting to confer with Mr. George C. Sellon, State Architect, as to course of procedure in the construction of the Machine Shop and Forge Shop addition.

Moved by Mr. John that H. B. Waters act as Secretary pro. tem. Seconded and carried.

Mr. Shackelford gave the reasons for which the State Board of Engineers ordered the work on the shops stopped. Stated it was due to the plans not having been formally endorsed by the Board of Trustees and the State Board of Engineers.

General discussion by the Trustees as to how material for the shops should be secured.

2:35. Mr. Geo. C. Sellon, State Architect, present. Mr. Sellon stated that the plans and specifications for the shops, as revised by him and Mr. Heald [Oscar Leslie Heald, Teacher of Forging, Mechanical Drawing, and Machine Shop Practice. Source: *California Blue Book*, 1911, p. 73] were satisfactory to the State Board of Engineers, but that work had been ordered stopped pending the official signing and filing of the plans and specifications in the office of the State Engineers.

Mr. Gregg moved, Be it resolved that the Board do hereby adopt the specifications entitled,

“California Polytechnic School,  
Specifications for Machine Shop”

and plans consisting of four sheets entitled

1. Plan of Walls for Foundation,
2. Floor Plan,
3. Side Elevation,
4. End Elevation and Cross Section.

as amended by the State Architect, as the Specifications and Plans for the Machine Shop to be erected by the California

[p. 133] Polytechnic School, and that the President and Secretary of the Board are hereby authorized to endorse the approval of the Board on the said Specifications and Plans. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Gregg — Be it resolved that the Board do hereby adopt the plans consisting of two sheets entitled

1. Floor Plan
2. Side Elevation

as amended by the State Architect, as the plans for the forge shop addition to be erected by the California Polytechnic School, and that the material and finish be the same as in the past now erected, and that the President and Secretary of the Board are hereby authorized to endorse the approval of the Board on said plans. Seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

During discussion as to purchase of materials Mr. Sellon stated that most State institutions consult with the State Board as to prices of materials, but that the Local Board had entire authority as to hiring workmen and placing orders for materials.

Mr. Shackelford appointed the following committees:

Committee on Finance - Warren M. John, Paul Gregg

Committee on Site - Warren M. John, F. A. Hihn

Moved by Mr. John— That the Committee on Site have full powers to purchase material, after conferring with the State Architect in such matters, where there may arise a question of prices and material, or where the same is satisfactory. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Gregg— That the Committee on Site have full powers to approve, adopt, and ratify plans and specifications for all buildings that may be erected by the California Polytechnic School. Seconded and carried by unanimous vote.

Moved and seconded that Mr. Heald be authorized to hire and discharge all men required for building the shops, subject to the Committee on Site. Carried.

Adjournment 3:35 P. M.

Plans and Specifications for the Machine Shop and Plans for the Forge Shop addition were later signed and delivered to Mr. Sellon for filing in the State Engineer's office.

H. B. Waters,

[end p. 133]

Secretary pro tem.

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### **1907 Sep 25**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 134 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, September 25, 1907.

Hihn not present.

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### **1907 Nov 13**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 136 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, November 13, 1907.

Hihn not present.

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### **1907 Dec 16**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School

p. 160 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, December 16, 1907.

Hihn not present. No quorum. No meeting.

## 1908

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### 1908 Jan 4

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 160 Meeting Site: San Francisco, January 4, 1908.

Hihn not present.

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### 1908 Mar 9

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 164 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, March 9, 1908.

Hihn not present.

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### 1908 Apr 15

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
[231 numbered pp.]

p. 190 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, April 15, 1908.

Hihn not present.

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### 1908 Jun 12

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### **Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*  
 Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
 [231 numbered pp.]

p. 195 Meeting Site: San Luis Obispo, June 12, 1908.

Hihn not present. [business: open bids for erection of dormitory and creamery]

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**1908 Nov 11**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**  
*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*  
 Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
 [231 numbered pp.]

[p. 200] San Luis Obispo, California, November 11, 1908.

The Board met in regular quarterly session at the School at 9:30 A. M. Roll call followed. Present: Trustees Shackelford and Gregg. Absent: Trustees Gillett, Hyatt, Hihn, Field, and Wickson. In the absence of a quorum no business was transacted.

President Shackelford suggested that a quorum could be more readily gathered should the next meeting be held at Salinas.\* The Secretary was, accordingly, instructed to ascertain if a quorum could be had at Salinas at an early date.

The morning was spent by the Trustees present in inspecting the grounds particularly with reference to the location of an additional water tank, the location of a water main to the new dormitory site, and the installation of a sewer system for the new dormitory.

Adjournment at 12 N. Luncheon was then served in the Household Arts building.

\*[Gillett, Hyatt, Hihn, Field, and Wickson were located in Sacramento, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Berkeley - respectively]

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**1908 Nov 20-21**

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees**  
*by Edward James Wickson, Secretary*  
 Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2 California Polytechnic School  
 [231 numbered pp.]

[p. 200] The Abbott House, Salinas, California,  
 November 20, 1908.

Pursuant to a call of the President, the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session at the Abbott House, Salinas. The meeting

was called to order at 8:20 P. M. President Shackelford in the chair. Present: Trustees Field, Gregg, Hihn, and Shackelford. Absent: Trustees Gillett, Hyatt, and Wickson. The minutes of the meeting of June 12, 1908 and of November 11, 1908 were read and approved as read. [end p. 200]

...  
 [p. 202] Salinas, November 21, 1908.  
 The Board convened at nine o'clock A. M. Present: Trustees Field, Gregg, Hihn, and Shackelford.

Upon motion the Director's report was accepted for placing on file.  
 The Board then proceeded to discuss the question of water supply for the school.

...  
 It was the concensus [sic] of opinion that an extensive sewer system would in at least two or three years be needed to meet the requirements of the institution.

The Board then proceeded to consider further needs for the future growth of the school. It was the opinion of the Board that the following improvements and additions were now necessary to meet the demands of the institution: Development of water supply and irrigation system; complete sewer system, including disposal tank; dining hall; dormitory accommodations for additional one hundred to three hundred students; a commodious barn; poultry houses and equipment for ...

## 1909

### 1909 Jan 31

Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1909. p. 167

### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL AT SAN LUIS OBISPO.

#### Board of Trustees

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay.

Stats. 1901, p. 115.

James N. Gillett	Governor and ex-officio member of Board
Edward Hyatt	Superintendent of Public Instruction and ex-officio member of Board
R. M. Shackelford, of Paso Robles, <i>President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1911
Paul M. Gregg, of San Luis Obispo, <i>Vice-President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1911
F. A. Hihn, of Santa Cruz	Term expires January 31, 1909
E. J. Wickson, of Berkeley	Term expires January 31, 1914
Thomas J. Field, of Monterey	Term expires January 31, 1912

### 1909 May 15

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Spine Title: California Polytechnic School [vol.] 3

Meeting Site: San Francisco, 926 Merchants Exchange Building, May 15, 1909.

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

[Hihn not present, and since his term had expired he was not expected to be present; however, the Minutes, p. 5, reference is made to "a motion made by Mr. Hihn." Probably this motion was held over from a previous meeting. Therefore, his influence was still present.]

[p. 2]

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in adjourned session at one-thirty P. M. Present: Trustees Field, Gregg, Shackelford, and Wickson. Absent: Trustees Gillett and Hyatt. President Shackelford in the chair. The minutes of the special meeting of November 20 and 21, 1908 were read and approved as read. The report of the Director was read and ordered placed on file. The report included a statement of appropriations made by the Legislature of 1909. The appropriations made were as follows:

#### General.

Support and maintenance, including purchase of stock and equipment for farm and laboratories ———	\$25,000.
Salaries of officers, teachers and employees —————	55,000.
Care and improvement of grounds —————	6,000.
Library —————	1,000.
Expenses of trustees —————	800.
Printing, binding, etc. —————	<u>750.</u>
	\$88,550.

#### Special.

Equipment for shops and laboratories —————	\$ 6,000.
Power plant with mechanical laboratory —————	10,000.
Barn and equipment —————	5,000.
Dining hall with kitchen —————	10,000.
Farm cottage —————	2,300.
Development of water supply and irrigation system ———	6,000.
Sewer system —————	6,000.
Poultry department and equipment —————	2,500.
Refrigerating plant and other creamery equipment ———	4,000.
Repairing and furnishing dormitory buildings —————	<u>2,500.</u>
	\$54,300.

[p. 5]

The Faculty through the Director submitted to the Board a recommendation that the regular course of instruction be extended from three years to four. Considerable discussion followed. Trustee Field moved that a fourth year of instruction be authorized, this fourth year to follow graduation at the end of the third year, and the additional year of instruction to be provided first for the class entering in the fall of 1909. The motion was carried.

Upon motion of Trustee Hihn the Board approved the recommendation of the Director that short courses in animal and dairy husbandry and poultry husbandry

be given during the school year 1909-10. The motion included authorization of the Finance Committee and the Secretary of the Board to devise ways and means.

Upon motion of Trustee Wickson the Board approved the action of the Director and Finance Committee in their plan to place the school's old dormitory at the disposal of the girls for the school year 1909-10.

The Secretary provided each member of the Board with a copy of the By-laws adopted March 25, 1902. Trustee Gregg moved that the Chair appoint a committee of two to revise the By-laws. The motion was carried. The Chair appointed Trustees Gregg and Field to act as a committee on revision.

The Secretary reported that on December 10, 1908 State Engineer Ellery recommended the acceptance of two newly constructed farm cottages and final payment for same. Upon Mr. Ellery's recommendation final payment was made. Upon motion made and duly carried the Board accepted the two cottages and approved the action of the Secretary and the Finance Committee in making final payment for the same.

The Secretary recommended that the \$6000 appropriation made by the Legislature of 1909 for shop and laboratory equipment be apportioned as follows:  
.... [end of p. 5]

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### 1909 - 1910

[Transcriber's Note: The balance of Vol. 3 of the Minutes of the Trustees was examined, through the meetings of 1909 and 1910, and Hihn was not mentioned. His second term expired February 31, 1909.]

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## 1913

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### 1913 Aug 23

F. A. Hihn died in Santa Cruz at age 84 years old.

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## 1917

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### 1917

Source:       Gidney, Charles Montville, 1855- History of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties, California, by C.M. Gidney ... Benjamin Brooks ... Edwin M. Sheridan ... Chicago, Lewis Publishing, 1917. p. 245

The directors appointed by the governor included a prominent member of the faculty of the State University [Wickson], a wealthy gentleman of Santa Cruz [Hihn], who was entitled to consideration for political services[,] and a distinguished attorney of San Luis Obispo [William Graves], a personal friend of Mr. [W. F.] Herrin, neither of whom were at all in sympathy with Mr. Smith's [Senator Sylvester C. Smith] plan but proceeded on what they doubtless regarded as more practical and less utopian lines.

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## 1957

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**1957-1958**

Source: Smith, Morris Eugene A history of California State Polytechnic College. The first fifty years, 1901-1951. A thesis presented to the School of Education and the Graduate School of the University of Oregon... June 1958. n.p., The author, 1958. p. 15, 17.

In early February, 1902, Governor Gage completed his appointment of the following trustees: for one year, Senator Sylvester C. Smith of Bakersfield and William Graves of San Luis Obispo; for two years, Assemblyman Warren M. John of San Luis Obispo; for three years, Mr. F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz; for four years, Professor of Horticulture Edward J. Wickson of the University of California. These gentlemen, with Governor Gage and Superintendent of Public Instruction James J. Kirk constituted the original Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School.

Trustee Hihn, acting for the Board in the negotiating of details of the transaction, finally in August reached a mutually satisfactory settlement with Mr. Lowe.<sup>72</sup> The sum of \$7709.03 was paid for an area of 281.04 acres.<sup>73</sup>

Of much profit to the school was the inclusion of the grant of free use of a segment of the Lowe estate to be used as a road from the school grounds to the end of Hathway Avenue. Bordering the east side of the railway tracks, this parcel of land was one hundred feet in width. Moreover, a further clause established that Brizzolero\* Creek, passing through the school grounds, might be dammed and its waters be appropriated or diverted for any school use or need.<sup>74</sup>

(footnote <sup>72</sup>: F. A. Hihn to E. J. Wickson, July 18, 1902; August 5, 1902 — Manuscripts Division, California State Polytechnic College Library, San Luis Obispo).

(footnote <sup>73</sup>: Report of the Trustees, 1902, p. 3).

(footnote <sup>74</sup>: Ibid.)

\*[Transcriber's Note: The U.S. Board on Geographic Names, in its Geographic Names Information System, identifies the officially approved name for this stream: **Brizziolari** Creek. Some maps use variant spellings; e.g., Brizzolara.]

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A Researcher's Digest  
on  
F. A. Hihn  
and the Founding of  
California Polytechnic School  
at San Luis Obispo

Biographies

## Leroy Anderson

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**1902 May 22**

Source: University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

[6 leaves, 11" x 8.5", typescript; with manuscript corrections and signature of F. A. Hihn (on p. 4) and two geographical sketches, labeled: "Mr. Story's survey" [p. 5] and "Mr. Wood's" [p. 6]

Santa Cruz, Cal. May 22, 1902.

Professor E. J. Wickson,  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Sickness, death and a funeral have occupied my time since the date of the receipt of yours of the 19th inst. On my return last evening from a funeral at Watsonville I found your favor of the 19th inst. at hand enclosing a copy of Mr. Anderson's letter.

I was reading the letter when Mr. Anderson called [at Hihn's home]. **I am favorably impressed with him and shall be pleased to second his nomination.** He stayed only a short time as he intended to take the late train for Paso Robles. ...

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**1903**

Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1903. p. 102

### CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

#### OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES.

Name.	Politics.	Office.	Whence Appointed.	Salary.
Leroy Anderson	R	Director and Secretary	Berkeley	\$200.00

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[sometime after 1913]

Source: University Archives, Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

### California Polytechnic School Pioneers

By Leroy Anderson

While we are doing corner stones, unlaying one and laying another, it is fitting that we should call to mind the pioneers whose labors made it possible to celebrate corner stone ceremonies for the Polytechnic. Deserving of first mention is Mr. Myron Angel who conceived the idea of a state school for San Luis Obispo and persisted in the endeavor until the legislature had enacted the law establishing the California Polytechnic School. Many residents of the county also worked hard in the same cause, - so many that it is not possible to name them all here. The excellent results of those labors speak loudly in praise of every one who put his shoulder to the wheel.

In his history of the California Polytechnic School published in 1908 Mr. Angel relates an incident of his arrival in San Francisco in 1849 with little money and so little handicraft skill that he was forced to tell a builder "I never drove a nail in my life." He lost the shingling job but made the determination that he would do something in his lifetime to help boys learn a trade. He found that his abundant classical education could not help him such earn a living in a pioneer town.

A visit to his boyhood home at Oneonta, New York, in 1893 where he saw the influence of the state Normal school on the community filled him with inspiration for a similar school in his home city of San Luis Obispo. Talking with neighbors gave such encouragement that early in 1895 he presented his plan to Senator S. C. Smith of Bakersfield then representing San Luis Obispo and Kern counties in the legislature. It was too late, however, to press any bill for passage at that session.

During the next two biennial sessions, San Luis Obispo county was represented in the Assembly by James K. Burnett and in the Senate again by Mr. Smith. At the 1897 session Mr. Angel's school bill was passed in both Senate and Assembly but was vetoed by Governor Jas. H. Budd. Meantime the purpose of the bill had been changed from a Normal to a Polytechnic School. Mr. Angel generously gives credit for this change to Senator Smith who felt a vocational school to be much more useful and that there were too many Normal schools anyway. At the time the state had three and San Diego was then asking for a fourth.

Back again in 1899 came the determined citizens of San Luis Obispo and with representatives in the legislature more enthusiastic than ever that the Polytechnic idea would make a school of great value to the state. The bill to establish the new kind of educational institution was successfully piloted through the Senate by Mr. Smith but failed of passage in the Assembly by a vote of 23 to 30.

This second defeat at Sacramento could not daunt the friends of the Polytechnic who organized again in San Luis Obispo for a third attempt to pass the necessary legislation in the 1901 session. Mr. Warren M. John was elected to the Assembly for that session while Mr. S. C. Smith still represented the county in the Senate. The influence and enthusiasm of these men succeeded in securing favorable action in both houses and Governor Henry T. Gage signed the bill. Due to condition of state finances effective date of the Act was delayed until January 1, 1902. To those who are familiar with present day appropriations it is difficult to see how the sum of \$50,000 could make much of an inroad on the state treasury. This amount was intended to purchase a site, erect buildings and operate the school until the next legislative session.

As the first board of trustees, Governor Gage announced early in 1902 the following men: - Warren M. John and William Graves of San Luis Obispo, Sylvester C. Smith of Bakersfield, F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz, and Edward J. Wickson, Professor of Horticulture, Berkeley. Within two months of their appointment, the trustees purchased the farm of 281 acres from Dawson Lowe as the site for the school. In May, 1902, they chose the writer as first Director to organize and guide the new institution. Trustee William Graves died in September [9th], 1902, and Governor Gage appointed as his successor, Mr. R. M. Shackelford of Paso Robles. The following month Mr. W. H. Weeks of Watsonville was selected architect and the corner stone of the first building was laid January 31, 1903.

There was no further change in trustee personnel until 1905 when Trustee Smith resigned after his election to Congress. I very deeply regret that not one of this group of Trustees and the architect remains to aid in the corner stone ceremonies. Especially sad is it that Warren John, the youngest of the group, did not live to his happy day in Polytechnic history since for him it held a consuming interest.

To all the pioneers, living or dead, who labored to make the Polytechnic possible, every one who enters its gates, either as student or teacher, owes a debt of gratitude. Happily, when viewing the progress made by the School and its present influence in California, those pioneers can say as did Myron Angel in 1908 "The growth of the School has been gradual and substantial and in every way encouraging to its friends".

An appropriate close to this brief account of the efforts to establish the Polytechnic is a letter addressed to Mr. Angel on the occasion of his 79th birthday, December 5, 1906:

Hon. Myron Angel,  
San Luis Obispo, California

My dear Mr. Angel:

The Polytechnic School sends you heartiest greetings upon having passed another milestone in your long and eventful life. I fear we who have come into the heritage of the Polytechnic School within the last few years, as all of us have who are closely associated with it, do not appreciate the work that was done by the pioneers in its origin and establishment. If we do not appreciate this work, it is simply because we do not fully understand regarding it.

I took much pleasure this morning in telling our students something of your life and your work for the school. We want you to feel we are thinking of you and that we are glad to be enjoying the privileges which you were so instrumental in establishing.

Very sincerely yours, Leroy Anderson.

### 1902 Nov 1

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University  
First Report of Trustees to Governor Pardee, p. 5: "Election of Director"

Mr. Anderson is a graduate of Cornell University of the class of 1896 and took his degree in Science. After one year of graduate work as Fellow in Agriculture he received the degree of Master of Science in Agriculture. He was soon after appointed assistant in Dairy Husbandry, which position he held until July 1900. At this date he came to California as Instructor in Animal and Dairy Husbandry in the State University and was holding that position when elected to the Directorship of the California Polytechnic School. In June 1902 he was granted the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Cornell University.

### 2001

Source: University Archives, California Polytechnic State University.  
[extracted from:] *Cal Poly : the first hundred years*. San Luis Obispo, Calif. : Robert E. Kennedy Library, California Polytechnic State University, 2001. [Written and researched by Nancy Loe.]

The State of California purchased the site — 281 acres on the northern outskirts of San Luis Obispo — for the sum of \$7,709.30. While Frederick Hihn managed negotiations for the site, Trustee E. J. Wickson sought a capable educator-administrator to lead the California Polytechnic School. In May, Wickson asked Leroy Anderson, a University of California colleague, how he would organize the new Polytechnic. The founder of Cal's Animal Husbandry Department, Anderson believed that practical experience was the superior learning philosophy. This "learn-by-doing" methodology resonated with the trustees, who unanimously appointed Anderson director of the California Polytechnic School, effective June 1, 1902.

Born in 1866 on a farm in upstate New York, Anderson earned his Ph.D. in 1897 at Cornell University. He taught there until 1900, where he joined the agriculture faculty at Cal. Only 36 years old when he assumed leadership of the Polytechnic, Anderson began his tenure with enthusiasm. He embarked immediately on a two-month tour of Eastern and Midwestern vocational and agricultural schools and colleges to observe their work and to consult with their administrators.

While Anderson traveled, Trustee Hihn worked with Watsonville architect William Henry Weeks. A versatile and popular architect who specialized in schools and libraries throughout California, Weeks agreed to submit "rough plans" for the Polytechnic buildings. By October, 1902, Weeks produced plans that were favorably received by the trustees.

A tireless promoter of the school, Director Anderson lobbied the state legislature for support and traveled throughout the state to advertise the school and recruit students. In July, 1903, Anderson wrote to the San Luis Obispo *Breeze*,

There seems to be a misunderstanding on the part of some as to the admission of girls in the Polytechnic School upon its opening. I trust that this will make it clear to all that girls will be fully welcomed in the school this first year, and I am sure we will be disappointed if no girls attend.

In 1903, Leroy Anderson married and brought his bride, Isabel, to campus. The newlyweds moved into the unfinished dormitory, sharing the quarters with some of the Polytechnic staff and the teenage male students. Privacy was in short supply, for the newlyweds shared a sitting room and meals with the rest of the school.

Isabel Anderson had no official duties at the fledgling Polytechnic, but Trustee Hihn had earlier expressed the hope that the new director's wife be "suitable to make the matron of the establishment." Hihn's wishes were fulfilled, for Isabel Anderson instilled a sense of optimism in campus life and helped establish the school as a success in the public mind. A University of California graduate and former schoolteacher, she shared her husband's genuine concern for the students' welfare. Acting in *loco parentis*, Mrs. Anderson cared for the boys when they were ill, darned their socks, mended clothes, and dispensed advice. She assisted female students in the search for suitable off-campus housing and encouraged them in their studies.

While the director tended to the new school's administrative and academic responsibilities, his wife organized campus social life and activities. Mrs. Anderson befriended new instructors, all of them young newcomers to San Luis Obispo.

Director Anderson said of his faculty:

After all is said and done and after building and materials are provided, it is really men and women with warm red blood running in their veins who are the all important equipment; without their help and sympathy and daily lives of sacrifice our schools would go for naught.

Anderson recruited the faculty personally, and taught animal husbandry and other agriculture courses. He was credited with having the "unique ability to inspire his co-workers, so that all gave their utmost, yet felt that they were not driven."

When the First Annual Catalogue of the California Polytechnic School was released in May 1903, three faculty members, including Anderson, had been appointed. Gwendolyn Stewart was appointed instructor in domestic science, while carpentry was taught by Oscar Heald. Stewart had earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Stanford University and had pursued graduate training at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. Heald had just completed his studies at Throop Polytechnic Institute. Nearly all of the subsequent faculty appointees held baccalaureate degrees from major colleges or universities. At least four of the nearly 20 faculty appointed at the Poly in the first five years were University of California graduates; five others had studied at Cornell.

While Anderson continued his administrative work, he also began preparing the agricultural courses and equipping the Polytechnic farm.

The first curriculum for the Polytechnic was nearly identical to the proposal first submitted to Trustee Wickson by Leroy Anderson, who described the Polytechnic approach as teaching the student "how to do and how to think upon what he does." Lectures were held in the mornings, while afternoons were devoted to hands-on work in the shops and laboratories and on the farm.

In the first year, the planning of the Agricultural Department took precedence over the mechanics and domestic science courses. In 1902 Trustee Hihn wrote:

There is no course of study of a high school grade anywhere in the State where agriculture is made a principal feature. The Trustees have, therefore, deemed it wise to establish this institution in such a manner that the courses of study will appeal more particularly to those boys and girls who expect to reside in country communities.

On June 15, 1906, the California Polytechnic School celebrated as its first class of four men and four women graduated. That evening, the first annual commencement for the California Polytechnic School was held at the Pavilion Opera House in San Luis Obispo. Class president H. Floyd Tout of Tulare County, Director Anderson, and a guest speaker, I. P. Roberts of Cornell University, gave addresses.

Local interest in the Poly was keen, and nothing received greater attention than the school's management. On October 11, 1907, local merchant Aron Sinsheimer wrote to his family that

Prof. Leroy Anderson will leave the Poly here as he was appointed Prof. of Agri. at Berkeley with the Davisville Agr. farm under his charge. Prof. Leroy Smith will probably succeed him.

Although Anderson was reluctant to leave the Polytechnic, being tapped by University of California President Benjamin Ide Wheeler to begin the University Farm at Davis was irresistible.

## Myron Angel

1883

**Source:** Angel, Myron. History of San Luis Obispo County, California with illustrations and biographical sketches of its prominent men and pioneers. Publisher: Oakland, Calif. : Thompson & West, 1883.

MYRON ANGEL.

In January, 1883, Messrs. Maxwell and Angel became the proprietors of the *Tribune*. In the "History of Journalism in Nevada," published in 1881, is the following biographical sketch of the last-named gentlemen:—

Myron Angel was editor of the Reese River *Reveille* during the most exciting and prosperous period of its history, and after severing his connection with it was for a number of years, first, editor, then San Francisco correspondent of the *White Pine News* and other Nevada papers. This gentleman is a native of the State of New York, born in Oneonta, Otsego County, December 1, 1827, a descendant of the first Puritan pilgrims who landed on Plymouth Rock. His father, William Angel, desiring to advance the prosperity of Oneonta, established a newspaper in the village, and in this office the subject of this sketch often assisted in the mechanical and editorial departments, although then very young. In 1835 his mother died, and in 1842 his father, leaving him an orphan in his fifteenth year. The boy, inheriting a fair property, was enabled to acquire a fine education from district school to Hartwick Seminary, thence, in 1846, to the Military Academy at West Point, from which institution he resigned to join the excited throng bound for the gold mines in the newly-acquired regions of California. At the date of the discovery of gold his elder brother, Eugene Angel, was practicing law in Peoria, Illinois, having recently been admitted to the bar, and was anxious to join the "Peoria Pioneers" in the journey overland. Urging the cadet to join him in Peoria, Mr. Angel, in January, 1849, started on his journey, crossing Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh by stage, that being the only conveyance at the time, the New York and Erie Railroad only reaching to Port Jervis, on the Delaware River, and from Pittsburgh to St. Louis by steamboat, thence a short distance up the Illinois River by boat, and a toilsome journey in mud-wagons to Peoria. In April the pioneers left that city, destined for St. Jo, on the Missouri, on the "utterly utter" verge of civilization. The treachery of the Captain of the steamboat on which was that part of the company in which was Angel's party changed the fate of the young emigrants by landing at Weston and refusing to proceed to St. Joseph, this deciding the party to take the Arkansas and Gila route, instead of the direct route to the gold mines *via* the South Pass. On the steamer was Captain William Kirker, an old mountaineer, who had been guide to Colonel Doniphan in his march through New Mexico a few years previously. He told of gold mines in the Rocky Mountains on the Rio Sangre de Cristo, and other localities which have since become famous for

their mineral wealth, but, being entirely ignorant of the occurrence of gold or how to obtain it, found nothing. The mines of the Pike's Peak region were then condemned, and the route taken again for California, or somewhere, the travelers hardly knew where. Captain Kirker, the guide, said he knew of mines on the Gila River, and he would take them there. The Captain was only playing his party, as he had a family at Albuquerque, and he only wished to have an escort to take him safely there. The long journey was pursued many hundred miles south, along the Rio Grande, then westward into Sonora to the head of the Rio Santa Cruz, then northerly through Tucson to the Pima villages on the Gila River. From this point the two brothers Angel, becoming impatient to reach their destination — it being then October — went in advance of the train, each taking a small pack of clothing and food; and, after a journey of severe fatigue, reached San Diego about the middle of November, ragged and famished. The train which had been left behind dragged its weary way along, and in the spring of 1850 reached the mining region in Mariposa County.

At San Diego was a small hermaphrodite brig, about to sail for San Francisco, and would take passengers at \$100 each, the passenger to furnish his own subsistence. As a great favor, the owner of the brig accepted \$150 as passage money for the two, that being the size of their pile after buying some provisions for the voyage. About half a dozen others who had reached San Diego with sufficient means, also went as passengers, leaving near one hundred destitute emigrants bewailing their hard fate. A few days afterwards, the steamer *Oregon* called in on her way from Panama, and took all remaining, free of charge.

On the 8th of December, 1849, the two brothers landed in San Francisco, in the rain and mud of a severe winter, in a condition that can better be imagined than described. A few days thereafter an incident occurred that helped much to relieve them of want, when employment was unattainable. They had left in the wagon a trunk well filled with valuable books, some clothing, etc. To lighten the load, this was thrown out at the crossing of the Colorado. At that time Lieut. Cave JU. Coutts was in command of some soldiers stationed there (since called Fort Yuma), and, seeing the trunk as jetsam, on the sand, he examined it, and finding the books, papers, and clothing of a cadet, quickly put it on an ambulance, and hastened after the departed train. Finding that the object of his search had gone before, he pushed through to San Diego, but was still too late to overtake the owner of the things he had rescued at so much trouble. The kind officer then put the trunk in charge of a gentleman going to San Francisco, with instructions to hunt up the owner and restore him his property, with the warm regard of a brother soldier. The trunk thus reached its destination, and the valuable books it contained sold for such prices as aided to pass the hardships of a winter which proved the last to many young and homesick pioneers.

The summer of 1850 was spent in mining at Bidwell's Bar, on Feather River, with rather poor success; and in 1851 the two brothers settled on a ranch at a place since called Angel's Slough, near the Sacramento River, south of Chico. In 1856 they purchased a mining claim at North San Juan, Nevada County, and, joining with others, commenced opening it by tunnel. In this enterprise about \$40,000 was

expended and lost. The brothers had continued inseparable until 1860, when the elder, Eugene Angel, went to the eastern slope, in the Washoe excitement, and was killed at the massacre at Pyramid Lake, May 12, 1860. Myron Angel in the meantime had become editor of the Placerville *Semi-Weekly Observer*, in which situation he continued until the spring of 1860, when he returned to San Juan to take charge of his mining interest there. Upon the breaking out of the war, he offered his services to the Governor of California, and received the appointment of Captain of Infantry. Upon this being announced, the *San Juan Press*, of October 5, 1861, said:—

“We are pleased to learn that our friend and fellow-townsmen, Mr. Myron Angel, is raising a company of infantry in obedience to the call of the General Government, having received official authority from Governor Downey so to do. This furnishes an additional opportunity to all who are willing to serve their country in the hour of her need, to enroll their names.

“Mr. Angel received a thorough military education as a student at West Point, and knows well the duties belonging to an officer. He is a gentleman, too, in whom recruits can repose implicit confidence. Their necessities under his care will be promptly attended to, and their rights strictly guarded.”

No fund had been supplied for maintaining and forwarding recruits, and this Mr. Angel did until his own funds were exhausted. Then came the pressing demand for his time to attend to the business of a failing mining enterprise, in which his all was invested, and although appealed to by Colonel Judah, a West Point friend, who then had command of the Fourth California Volunteers, he was compelled to withdraw from the service, hoping for another opportunity when his business would be better arranged. That time, however, did not offer. After writing for various papers, in 1863 he became editor of the Reese River *Reveille*, which is told in the sketch of that paper. While in that position he wrote several reports on the mines of eastern Nevada, assisting Mr. J. Ross Browne in his “Report on the Mineral Resources west of the Rocky Mountains.” A little book he wrote about this time on his favorite theme of the resources of eastern Nevada, had the distinction of being published in French in Paris, and in German in Leipsic, the translator into French being Emil de Girardin, who paid the author the compliment of saying it was the best English he had ever translated. Mr. Angel was the editor-in-chief of the *Reveille* until 1868, when he left and became editor of the Oakland daily *News*,

in California; then of the *State Capital Reporter*, of Sacramento; then of the *White Pine News*, of which paper he continued as San Francisco correspondent in San Francisco he also wrote for other publications, the principal being a “Pacific Coast Business Directory and Gazetteer,” of which two editions were published, one in 1871, and the other in 1876; also the historical and miscellaneous matter for the San Francisco Annual Directory. The Pacific Coast Directory comprised all the region west of Dakota and Wyoming, and contained the most complete account of the history, geography, and resources yet published. While performing these labors he was engaged in a mammoth mining enterprise, in company with Mr. M. D. Fairchild and Hon. John Daggett, in making a canal, and opening a large hydraulic mine in El Dorado County. After an expenditure of over \$100,000 the enterprise came to a halt for want of funds, fortune again slipping away, and the faithful pen or pencil

found to be the only safe reliance. Mr. Angel, when asked his employment, said, "I mine for a fortune, but I write for a living." September 22, 1879, he was married to Charlotte Paddock Livingston, daughter of Rev. Joseph Paddock, an accomplished lady, whose acquaintance extended from the days of their youth.

In addition to the above-mentioned literary works he was engaged at the organization of the State Mining Bureau in 1880, to write a history of mining in California, and entered upon the work, collecting a large amount of valuable material and making extended progress with the history. The Mining Bureau, however, was dependent upon an unreliable income, and that at last failing, the work was left uncompleted. He afterwards was editor of the "History of the State of Nevada," a work of over 1,000 pages quarto, and has subsequently written the "History of Placer County," and the present volume, the "History of San Luis Obispo County."

### 1890

Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890: (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown) (p. 1 A #26):

**Myron Angel**, 59 yrs. old @ September 15 1887; nativity: New York; occupation: Editor; local residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2

### 1897 Jan 16

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1897 Jan 16 1:5

#### Petition for a Normal School.

A meeting of the representative citizens of San Luis Obispo was held in the City Hall of that city last Saturday. The purpose of the meeting was the preparation of a petition to the Legislature for the establishment of a Normal School in San Luis. Myron Angell [sic] was made chairman of a committee to compile the petition and representatives will be sent to Sacramento in the interest of the project. Building sites have been offered and much local aid is promised. Assemblyman [James Kennedy] Burnett of this county and Senator Smith of Kern county will be prime movers in the legislature for the proposition.

### 1917

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860-

History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 78-79.

#### Myron Angel

This man was a fluent speaker and writer, having been educated at West Point. With his brother, Eugene, he came to California in the forty-nine rush, made and

lost in the mines, and finally turned his talents to establishing newspapers, in which he was successful. He once said: "I mine for a fortune, but write for a living." He prepared many reports on mining and wrote several histories. The only previous history of this county, published in 1883 by an Oakland firm, was prepared by Myron Angel, and is a fine book for the period it covers.

January 12, 1883, Mr. Angel purchased an interest in the San Luis Obispo Tribune, writing many fine articles for publication. He took much interest in educational matters, and it was largely through his efforts that the State Polytechnic School was established here. He spent two entire winters in Washington presenting the claims of this county for an appropriation for a breakwater at Port Harford, and paid his own expenses for the entire time, save for one hundred dollars which the citizens sent him during the second winter. A little money now and then was useless, for no firm would go to the expense of buying machinery to get out the rock from Morro Rock, and boats to convey it to the breakwater, on such uncertainties; so Mr. Angel thought out the plan of getting a bill through Congress for a "continuous appropriation," which meant a certain sum year after year, so that a reliable firm could be secured to take the contract. [A.] Caminetti and [George C.] Perkins were in Congress then from California [1893-1895]. Of course the thing would have to be got through them. Caminetti applauded the idea and consented to work for it, but he said Oakland harbor had to get aid first, and then he would push for it for our harbor; so with that Mr. Angel had to be content. Our harbor got the second "continuous appropriation" and the breakwater was built. This year, however, Congress refused to make an appropriation for the harbor, and why? Because, Congress says, it will no longer make appropriations for a harbor that is of use only to a private corporation, the Pacific Coast Railway. Mr. Angel's scrap-books containing articles from his pen have been asked for by the state library and are now there. Mr. Angel died in June, 1911, but his name will live on in the history of this county and state.

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## 1979

Source: Dart, Louisiana Clayton. "Myron Angel" — Introduction to *History of San Luis Obispo County, California, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men and Pioneers*. Oakland, Cal., Thompson & West, 1883. Completely Indexed with Introduction by Louisiana Clayton Dart. San Miguel, Cal., Friends of the Adobes, 1994. ©1979 Valley Publishers, Fresno, Cal. [Western Tanager Press]. [Includes portrait of Myron Angel.]

One of the names which should be known by every citizen of San Luis Obispo is that of Myron Angel, but strangely enough it is recognized by only a few. His contributions to the city were legion from 1883 until his death in 1911. His famous book, *The History of San Luis Obispo County*, has become a collector's item, lo! these many years, and is called the bible of local historians.

Angel included a page and a half about his early life and middle years, until coming to San Luis Obispo, in this book (see pages 276-278). The biographical

sketch came from *History of Journalism in Nevada*, published in 1881. We, then, will write only of his years in our fair city from 1881 to 1911.

When he came here in 1881 he was fifty-four years of age. After working on his local history he turned to the newspaper world, bought the *Tribune* in 1883 and was its editor. In 1886 he sold the *Tribune*, bought the *Daily Republic* and became its editor.

He was married twice. His first wife, Charlotte Paddock Livingston, died in 1886. In 1889 he married Carrie G. Flagler of Fallsburg, New York.

A public spirited citizen who stood for the finest things in the community, he was a "Fifty Dollar Life Member" of the original City Library in 1894. He was a fine speaker, in constant demand, and spoke at a library reception in 1897. When the harbor at Port San Luis was in its embryo stages, Angel was a loyal supporter. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the city (and now reaching state and international proportions) was his great endeavor to found California Polytechnic. He is called "The Father of Cal Poly." The school has grown from high school level, in 1901, to junior college and college, and is now California Polytechnic State University. Myron Angel would be deservedly proud.

Fortunately for posterity, Angel wrote an early book on this accomplishment, *The History of the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo, California*. It was published in 1908 by Tribune Print. In 1910 his book, *La Piedra Pintada; the Painted Rock of California, a Legend*, was published by the Grafton Publishing Company in Los Angeles. This very remarkable book gives photos of some of the paintings to be found on that huge horseshoe-shaped rock. This is most fortunate as vandals have spoiled the paintings and not one of them is left. Only the echo remains and the rock is famous for that.

Angel kept up his writing to the very last. He died on June 27, 1911. The story of his death was carried by the *Tribune* with a mourning band of black around the article. It seems worthwhile to include here his obituary, with its old fashioned dignity.

DIED. ANGEL.— In this city, June 27, 1911, Myron Angel, beloved husband of Caroline F. Angel; a native of Oneonta, New York, aged 83 years, 6 months, 26 days. Funeral services Thursday, June 29, 1911, at the family residence, No. 714 Buchon Street at 10:30 o'clock, A.M. Interment in IOOF cemetery.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend. (San Francisco, Los Angeles and Eastern papers please copy.)

Myron Angel is buried in the old section of the Odd Fellows Cemetery in San Luis Obispo, and an angel is etched on his tombstone.

This writer has tried to get the city to name a street for him, but to use his whole name, Myron Angel. Perhaps it will come to pass someday. His home is still standing and is Number Seven on the Path of History.

Louisiana Clayton Dart

San Luis Obispo, California. September 1979.

## Stephen D. Ballou

Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890, (p. 7 B#352)

(Bellew) Stephen D. Ballou, 44 yrs. old @ March 25, 1890; nativity: New York; occupation: Vet Surgeon; local residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2 (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown)]

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## John Henry Barrett

Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890, (p. 3 B#23)

John Henry Barrett, 51 yrs. old @ August 16, 1887; nativity: New Jersey; occupation: Lawyer; local residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2 [Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890: (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown)]

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## Benjamin Brooks

Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890, (p. 3 B#8)

Benjamin Brooks, 45 yrs. old @ July 19, 1887; nativity: New York; occupation: Publisher; local residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2 [Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890: (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown)]

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## James Kennedy Burnett

**1897 Jan 16**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1897 Jan 16 1:5

### Petition for a Normal School.

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A meeting of the representative citizens of San Luis Obispo was held in the City Hall of that city last Saturday. The purpose of the meeting was the preparation of a petition to the Legislature for the establishment of a Normal School in San Luis. Myron Angell [sic] was made chairman of a committee to compile the petition and representatives will be sent to Sacramento in the interest of the project. Building sites have been offered and much local aid is promised. Assemblyman [James Kennedy] Burnett of this county and Senator Smith of Kern county will be prime movers in the legislature for the proposition.

**1902 Jun 21**

Source: Paso Robles Record and Independent 1902 Jun 21 1:4

**A New Law Firm.**

Under the name of Burnett & Burnett, Hon. J. K. Burnett and his brother W. W. Burnett will open law offices in San Luis Obispo. The Messrs. Burnett are well known in this county where most of their youth was spent. J. K. Burnett was elected to the Assembly two terms by the voters of this county. The junior member, W. W. Burnett is well known also as one of the Stanford University stars.

[Transcriber's Note: Source: Stanford University Matriculates, 1891-1920, p. 123. Burnett, William Wesley; 1896-00, 1901-02, 1910. m. Viola C. C. Piercy.]

**Charles Forrest Curry****1903**

Source: California Blue Book, 1903. p. 275 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

**SECRETARY OF STATE**

CHARLES FORREST CURRY (Republican) was born in Naperville, Du Page County, Illinois, March 14, 1858, but resided at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, from infancy until 1875, in which year, with his parents, he removed to California, locating in San Francisco. He was elected Member of the Assembly from the Thirty-sixth District in 1886; appointed Superintendent of Station "B," Post Office, in San Francisco, July 1, 1890; elected County Clerk of San Francisco in 1894; elected Secretary of State in 1898; re-elected November 4, 1902.

**George S. Edwards****1893**

Source: Thompson &amp; West's 1883 History of Santa Barbara County, p. 472.

Patrons Directory: Edwards, George S., residence: Goleta; occupation: farming; 133 acres; native of California; came to County in 1869. Post Office: Goleta.

**1903 May 4**

Source: California State Archives F3638-4 C576

**Executive Appointments****Administration of Gov. George C. Pardee**[p. 28] **Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	Remarks
Geo. S. Edwards	Santa Barbara	1905 Nov 3	
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	
[blank]	[blank]	1907 Jan 31	
			Vice S. C. Smith, resigned.

## Thomas J. Field

Source: *California Blue Book*, 1909, p. 167.]

Thomas J. Field of Monterey, Term expires January 31, 1912.

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## Henry Tift Gage

(1852-1924)

**1898 Nov 19**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1899 Nov 19 3:4

### COUNTY NEWS.

— — —

...

Creston [12 miles southeast of Paso Robles] celebrated the election of Henry T. Gage as governor by a grand demonstration. A wheelbarrow ride in payment for a bet was a feature of the parade.

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**1901**

Source: Shuck, Oscar T. *History of the Bench and Bar of California, being Biographies of many Remarkable Men, a Store of Humorous and Pathetic Recollections, Accounts of Important Legislation and Extraordinary Cases, Comprehending the judicial history of the State.* Edited by Oscar T. Shuck. Los Angeles, Cal. : Commercial Printing House, 1901. p. 838-841.  
[portrait facing p. 841: *Henry T. Gage*]

We have seen that the first Governor of the State was a lawyer; and so is the latest and twentieth. The lawyers embrace just one-half of the whole array — if we place Bartlett among the number and leave Booth out. Bartlett and Booth were admitted to the bar. Booth never practiced. Bartlett can hardly be connected with the profession. He was early a printer, and late secretary of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and for sixteen years in various public offices.

Governor Gage is the fifth resident, and the second lawyer, of Los Angeles county, who has occupied the executive chair. John G. Downey was Governor in 1860-61; George Stoneman, 1883-86; R. W. Waterman, 1887-90, and H. H. Markham, 1891-95. Downey and Waterman were elected each as lieutenant governor, but were called to fill vacancies, and served nearly full terms.

Henry T. Gage was born near Geneva, New York, in November, 1853. He grew up in the state of Michigan, whither his parents had removed, and received a good education. He began the practice of law at Los Angeles, in 1877, at the age of twenty-four. It was just at the dawn of an era of unexampled activity and prosperity in that city and section, and he made good use of his abilities and opportunities. He acquired very soon a good law practice, which grew larger and larger for many years. Early

entering into politics on the Republican side, he became, by reason of his strong personality and general capability for leadership, a controlling spirit in the councils of his party, presiding over committees and conventions, and helping to shape platforms and make tickets. He was a delegate to the National Republican convention at Chicago in 1888. In that body, as the selected spokesman of the California delegation, he made a speech seconding the nomination of Levi P. Morton for the Vice-Presidency, and was otherwise prominent.

Governor Gage never served in the legislature. Only eight of our twenty Governors passed through that body. He was nominated as a man who was distinguished at the bar, successful in business, a student of public questions, and one of the ablest and most aggressive exponents of party principles. He was elected to his present high office in November, 1898, his Democratic opponent being James G. Maguire.

**1924**

Source: San Francisco *Examiner* 1924 Aug 29 1:7  
 [report of Henry T. Gage's death in Los Angeles, August 28, 1924.]  
 Wife: Frances V. Gage  
 Children: Lucile Gage Rand Francis W.  
                   Fonita Arthur G. Gage

**1924**

Source: San Francisco *Chronicle* 1926 Jul 31 3:7  
 [son asks for search for Will]

**1978**

Source: Hart, James D. *A Companion to California*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1978. p. 153

**GAGE**, Henry Tiff (1852-1924), 20th governor of the state (1899-1903), born in New York State, went to California (1874), where he practiced law and was active in Republican politics. He was later Minister to Portugal (1909-11).

## George Ticknor Gragg

**1892**

Source: Great Register of Voters, San Luis Obispo County, 1892. #385

Gragg, George Ticknor, 63; 5 ft. 10-1/2 in.; red, blue, grey; scar 3 finger left hand, banker; Mass.; S.L.O., S.L.O. 2; San Luis Obispo; native; Aug. 9 [1892 date of reg.]

**1917**

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860- History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Lead-

ing Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 231.

**GEORGE T. [Ticknor] GRAGG.**— More than in any other state of the Union, California traces her vigorous prosperity to the sturdy character and perseverance of the hardy pioneers, many of whom risked their lives on the trackless, Indian-infested desert, the extremely dangerous trip across the Isthmus of Panama, where disease took its toll of human beings, or the journey, in any kind of a vessel, around Cape Horn, with danger besetting them on every hand during the entire voyage. Among these men of sterling worth is numbered George T. Gragg.

He was born in Milton, Mass., April 29, 1829, a son of Moses and Mary (Alden) Gragg, of English descent. The only education he received was in the common schools of his native place, and he was early set to learn the trade of carpenter. When twenty years of age, in the spring of 1849, George T. Gragg sailed from Boston, with a party of friends, on the ship "Sweden," to round the Horn.

On August 4 of that year they arrived in San Francisco. Here Mr. Gragg at once outfitted for the mines at Mokelumne Hill, where he mined for about two months, and then returned to San Francisco to spend the winter. The next spring he went back to the mines and followed the precarious occupation of miners for two years. During one of his exploring trips into the mountains, he camped on the spot where the Donner party split up. In 1852 he located in Santa Cruz and worked, for a time, at his trade of carpenter; later he engaged in the tannery business for two years, and then he opened a planing mill which, for several years, he conducted with some success. During this time, he became a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the lodge at Santa Cruz, and he has passed all the chairs of the order.

In 1880 he came to San Luis Obispo County and bought a ranch of seven hundred acres, which he improved and farmed until 1890, when he moved into San Luis Obispo to give his children the advantages of the schools of the county-seat. He still owns the ranch, and it is devoted to dairying and grain-raising, and is being conducted by his son.

He served on the board of supervisors from 1886 to 1890, and during his term many needed improvements were pushed to completion in the county. Since moving to the city, he has lived retired, enjoying a well-earned rest. He married Ruth Root, a native of New England, and they became the parents of six children: Cauline, Mrs. Orton of Ventura; Hazzard, on the home ranch; and George R., Ruth, Frances and Alden, all of whom have received good practical training to fit them for the responsibilities of life. Among the people of San Luis Obispo, Mr. Gragg has a pleasant word for every one he meets; and well he may, for his life has been well spent, and the world has used him as he used the world.

## William Graves

**1891**

Source: Storke, Yda Addis A memorial and biographical history of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California ... Containing a history of this important section of the Pacific coast from the earliest period of its occupancy to the present time, together with glimpses of its prospective future; with ... full-page steel portraits of its most eminent men, and biographical mention of many of its pioneers and also of prominent citizens of to-day. By Mrs. Yda Addis Storke ... Chicago, The Lewis Pub. Co., 1891. p. 655.

WILLIAM GRAVES, of San Luis Obispo, is the second son of Judge William J. Graves, deceased, whose sketch is given elsewhere. Born August 15, 1854, he received a liberal education, attending the public school in San Luis Obispo, a private school at Chorro Ranch taught by Mary K. Biddle, the Lincoln school in 1868 in San Francisco, in 1872 the Sunnyside High School in New Bedford County, Virginia, and afterward the University of Virginia, at which he graduated. He was admitted to the practice of law in Virginia by the Court of Appeals in 1877, and in December that year he was admitted by the Supreme Court of California and also by the United States Circuit Court. In 1879 he was busy at the practice of law in San Francisco, and was well established in his profession in connection with his distinguished father, under the firm name of W. J. & W. Graves.

In 1881 he went to Arizona and was associated with Oscar M. Brown, an intimate friend of his father, in the practice of his profession. In 1884 his father died and he returned to San Luis Obispo. Since that time he has made his home in this city, devoting all his time and energy to the practice of law, being now a member of the firm of Graves, Turner & Graves, who transact an enormous amount of business; their clients are scattered all over the State. They have participated in the litigation of about all the important suits that have been instituted in this county, as the will cases of Biddle, Logan, Herrera, Blackman [sic], etc. When in Arizona Mr. Graves was a member of the Territorial Legislature. In San Luis Obispo he was City Attorney in 1878-'79, a member of the city board of trustees 1877-80, and is now a school trustee.

He was married in October, 1881, to Miss Lily H. Branch, a native of California, and has three children. Mr. Graves is a man of dignified presence and stately form, and is a distinguished lawyer.

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**1900 Apr 7**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1900 Apr 7 4:1

**Transactions of the Superior Court for  
Week Ending Friday.**

**Superior Judge, E. P. Unangst.**

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**CRIMINAL.**

...

People vs. Geo Warren. Ordered that by reason of the acts and conduct of E. Graves in applying to the Judge of this Court vile and opprobrious [sic] language he is adjudged guilty of contempt, and it is ordered that he be fined \$200 and imprisoned in the County Jail 5 days. Judgment executed forthwith.

Case called for trial and deft without counsel being present. Deft is asked if he has counsel replies that E. Graves is his attorney of record. Deft is asked if he desires another attorney to which he replies that he does not. Thereupon the court appoints **Wm. Graves** as atty. for deft and court adjourns to 1:30 p.m. At 1:30 affidavits of **Wm. Graves** and Geo. Warren on motion for continuance for 5 eays [sic] are filed. Motion denied, C. A. Palmer is appointed atty with **Wm. Graves** for the deft. Court adjourns until April 5th.

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**1900 Aug 18**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1900 Aug 18 2:1  
**Wm. Graves for Congress.**

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Mr. Wm. Graves of San Luis Obispo will be a candidate before the Democratic Convention at San Jose for the Congressional nomination for this district. Through the urgent request of his immediate friends and words of encouragement from others from Los Angeles to Monterey he finally gave his consent to allow his name to be used as a candidate.

The Democratic party can not find an abler man within its ranks. For a half century the law firm of Graves has been practicing in San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties and through their ability were often called to the Courts of the Coast Counties from San Francisco to Los Angeles. Wm. Graves is possessed of a pleasing manner, and a striking appearance and with a power of oratory that would make him an unexcelled campaigner and an ornament to the halls of Congress.

The party could not find a man fitted in every way as he is for making a strong candidate. There now seems every assurance that he will be nominated and victory at the polls will crown his efforts.

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**1900 Oct 13**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1900 Oct 13 1:4  
**Pacific Coast News.**

...

Wm. Graves, Democratic candidate for Congress, arrived at Santa Cruz Monday evening for the purpose of opening the campaign, and was surprised to find that no arrangements had been made for the meeting. The County Central Committee had not been notified by the State Central Committee of the date of Mr. Graves' appearance. He says he has been ill for three weeks and left a sick bed to come.

**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments****Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**[p. 124] **Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission		
<b>Wm. Graves</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b>		
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	Remarks	
1902 Feb 11	1 year	1903 Jan 31	None	
Name	Residence	Date of Commission		
R. M. Shackelford	San Luis Obispo [sic]	1902 Sep 19		
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires		
1902 Sept 24	Term prescribed by law	[1903 Jan 31]		

**Remarks Vice Wm. Graves Deceased**

[Transcriber's Note: R. M. Shackelford was a resident of Paso Robles (*see also* his biographical file). Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County, 1900: Richard Mathew Shackelford, Paso Robles Precinct #141; age: 64 yrs.; residence: Paso Robles]

**1902 Sep 9**

Source: Paso Robles Record and Independent 1902 Sep 13 1:3

**The Passing of William Graves**

In the death of William Graves last Tuesday [Sep. 9th] San Luis Obispo lost a well known attorney and one of her most prominent citizens.

William Graves was born in San Luis Obispo August 12, 1854. His father was Judge William Graves, and his mother the daughter of the distinguished Mexican patriot, Don Jose de Jesus Pico. Mr. Graves was a Native Son and in politics a Democrat.

The family of the deceased have the sincere sympathy not only of their neighbors and friends in this county but the people of the entire state.

**1902 Sep 13**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1902 Sep 13 3:1

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.****Notes of Interest In and Around  
Paso Robles.**

...  
William Graves, who has been lying dangerously ill at the old Graves residence in San Luis for some time, died Tuesday afternoon at 4:40. Mr. Graves was one of the most prominent attorneys of the county and an old and respected citizen.

...

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

**1903**

Source: Guinn, J. M., History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1903. pp. 718-719.

### **HON. WILLIAM GRAVES.**

No citizen in San Luis Obispo was more solicitous regarding the progress of his native town than was Hon. William Graves, by inheritance and development one of the foremost legal practitioners of San Luis Obispo county. Nor is the family name unfamiliar in the annals of law of this well favored part of the state, for Judge William J. Graves, the father of the Hon. William, was for many years identified with the bench and bar and most luminous exposition of legal lore, and his passing by left a record of substantial and even brilliant credit to his state and profession.

Hon. William Graves received his first impressions of life and effort in the town which has for so long profited by his sterling worth, and where he was born August 15, 1854. He studied in the public schools of San Luis Obispo, and completed his education at the University of Virginia, from which he was graduated in the class of 1877. After being admitted to the supreme court of Virginia he came to California, and during the same year was admitted to the same court of this state, after which he entered upon the practice of law in the office of his father, Judge Graves of San Francisco. In 1881 he removed to Globe, Gila county, Ariz., and became prominent in Democratic affairs, and during 1882 and 1883 represented that county in the legislature. At the death of the father in 1884 he returned to San Luis Obispo and almost immediately formed the partnership with his brother which was amicably and successfully continued until his death. In the meantime a large and appreciative practice rewarded the ability and energy of Mr. Graves, and the firm received their share of the important cases before the courts of the county. Especially fine and spacious offices were fitted out for the use of clients and lawyers, and the brothers had one of the most complete and valuable law libraries in the state.

In San Luis Obispo Mr. Graves married Lillian H. Branch, a native of Tuolumne county. To Mr. and Mrs. Graves were born three children, Margarita, William J. and Solita P. Mr. Graves carried the political services rendered in Arizona into the camp of his native county, and filled many positions of trust and responsibility. For many years he was a member of the board of school trustees, and was for years president of the board. He was also a member of the city council. In 1892 he acted as a delegate to the Democratic national convention at St. Louis, and was one of the presidential electors on the Cleveland ticket. In January, 1902, he was appointed trustee of the California Polytechnic school by Governor Gage and evinced a great interest in the institution. His death, which occurred September 9, 1902, terminated a career of great promise, the realization of which undoubtedly would have held unusual political and professional opportunities for Mr. Graves. Fraternally he was associated with the Knights of Pythias and with the Sons of the Golden West.

## Paul M. Gregg

### Trustee, Cal Poly 1907-1911

**1907 Jul 15**

Source: University Archives, Special Collections Dept., Robert E. Kennedy Library, Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees by Edward James Wickson, Secretary

Spine Title: Record [vol.] 2      California  
[231 numbered pp.]

Polytechnic School

[p. 132]      San Francisco, July 15, 1907.

The Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School met in special session at the Harbor Commissioner's Office, at 2:10 P.M., President Shackelford presiding. Present Trustees **Paul Gregg**, [i.e., Paul M. Gregg (R.)], of San Luis Obispo - Term expires January 31, 1911. Source: California Blue Book, 1907, p. 125]

## Amos Riley Hathway

**1917**

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860- History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 361-362.

**AMOS RILEY HATHWAY.**—The name Hathway is of English origin, but Amos R. Hathway's life found its beginning in the blue grass region of Kentucky, Owensboro being the place of his birth, which occurred on September 26, 1829. There, under the spiritual guidance of a wonderful mother, he laid the foundation of a sterling character, and his life was an inspiration to those who knew him best. His father, John **Hathway**, was a native of Maine, born in the year 1795. When John **Hathway**'s father passed away, the boy John swam the Ohio river with his clothes on his head, determined to aid his widowed mother. John Hathway married Martha Riley, a Kentuckian by birth. His ambition led him to become a man of education, and his natural ability won for him a fortune.

Amos R., the second child of a family of seven, inherited rare qualities. He was dubbed "Luck" by his young friends, who claimed that Dame Fortune always smiled upon him; but it was through determination and perseverance that he succeeded.

He was an apt and industrious student, retiring at 10 P. M. and rising at three o'clock the next morning to study. He mastered Latin so thoroughly that he became able to converse in that tongue. After leaving school, he taught for a time in his home county. He also served as a deputy in the office of county clerk. Later, under Dr. Wilson of Kentucky, he took up the study of medicine. Too close application to study, however, impaired his health, and he was advised by his physician to seek another climate; whereupon he and his younger brother John decided to make the long journey to California.

In 1852, therefore, the two young men hitched up a mule team and left family and friends behind. The journey was a perilous one. Mr. Hathway suffered from cholera, and his brother John was later taken with mountain fever and was hauled for eight hundred miles upon his bed, but finally recovered.

They made their first stop at Marysville, where they entered into business. Mr. Hathway was given charge of a ranch belonging to Dr. Wilkins, who became his lifelong friend. Dr. Wilkins saw and appreciated Mr. Hathway's rare qualities of mind and endeavored to persuade the latter to enter into partnership with him in San Francisco, and together with him establish a sanitarium; but for his health's sake Mr. Hathway could not consider the proposition, and so he went to **Watsonville** and farmed successfully there. He was made school superintendent and also Sunday school superintendent. He was later tendered a county office; but this he declined. He had promised his mother that at the expiration of four years he would return to her, and he could not disappoint her.

He returned to Kentucky via Panama and New Orleans, and was married, on June 16, 1857, to Miss Ellen Riley, the daughter of Judge Amos

[page 362:] Riley of New Madrid, Mo., a man famed for his benevolence. That same year the young couple went to Hathway, Tenn., named for Mr. Hathway, and there he followed farming, practiced medicine and conducted a woodyard, supplying the steamers that plied the river with several thousand cords of wood per year until the close of the Civil War, in which he himself served two years as a Confederate soldier. He was first lieutenant of his company, but ill health gained for him his discharge.

In 1874 he returned to California, coming to San Luis Obispo. He engaged in the sheep business, in which he made a success until the Cleveland tariff rendered it unprofitable. Although he had full knowledge of what the Cleveland administration would mean, unswerved by apprehension of his individual loss, he stumped the county for Cleveland, for he was a believer in free wool for the nation. This is only one of the many instances in which Mr. Hathway proved his superior worth. He took a very prominent part in the development of the county, and during his term as supervisor he was active in systematizing the records of the board, and decisive in his determined demands to know how and where the people's money was being spent.

Dr. Hathway was a man of culture and personal magnetism, and soon after his arrival in San Luis Obispo, in 1879, was a candidate for the assembly on the Workingman's and New Constitution tickets, but he was defeated by a small majority by H. Y. Stanley. In 1880, Mr. Hathway was again placed on the

Workingman's ticket for assemblyman, but was defeated by P. W. Murphy. An influential politician approached Mr. Hathway and offered to throw votes his way if he would run on the Republican ticket against George Steele, or at least oppose him in the convention. His reply was, "You insult me," for he well know that his election would mean toadyism to the "bosses." Had they seen beneath his culture and magnetic manner the stainless soul that lay hidden there, they would never have thus approached him. He preferred political oblivion to the faintest moral stain, since he cared nothing for self-aggrandizement.

Through keen business sagacity, Mr. Hathway accumulated considerable means. He was a philosopher, a good speaker, able to discourse on any subject, and a man of strong convictions who both made friends by his courteous manner and retained them by his steadfast adherence to the principles he deemed to be right and by his good citizenship. Many years ago he organized the Local Government League for the purpose of electing good men to office, regardless of their political affiliations or religious convictions.

## F. A. Hihn

Highlights in the Life of  
Friedrich August Ludewig Hühn  
better known by his American name  
**Frederick Augustus Hihn**

[see also pp. Biography of F. A. Hihn as a Cal Poly Trustee, pp. 15-29]

### 1829 Aug. 16

"I was born in Altendorf near Holzminden in the Duchy of Brunswick on the 16th of August, 1829. I had already a sister Charlotte, born Oct. 11, 1825, a brother Wilhelm, born Mar. 12, 1827, and a brother who had died before my birth. After me were born; Carl, Mar. 26, 1831, Fritz, May 15, 1833, Emma, Oct. 7, 1844, Hugo, Nov. 17, 1838, Emil, Nov. 19, 1838, Otto, Oct. 11, 1840. [According to Church records, Hugo and Emil were born the same day.] I went to grammar school till I was nine years old and then to the Gymnasium in Holzminden until I was fifteen. Though my parents had to struggle hard for their existence and, consequently, all of us children had to go without many things, we had nevertheless a happy childhood, especially for the reason that we all were healthy."

### 1844 - 1848

"At the age of fifteen I became an apprentice to the shopkeeper Hoffman in Schoningen; there I learned the business in groceries and in manufactured goods. I remained four years there, and I do not believe or hope to feel ever as unhappy again as I did in this house. The treatment I received there was bad beyond all measure."

**Summer 1847**

“I decided to put an end to all my sufferings by leaving Hoffman. I intended to learn practical agriculture and then to go to America.” “Very frankly I informed my boss of this, saying it was only on account of his bad treatment. He argued with me; since he promised to give me the certificate of accomplished apprenticeship by Easter 1848, thus letting me off the fifth year of apprenticeship, I stayed on. How glad was I when I could leave this house and go home at the end of this period. At home, I tried to be of as much help as possible, helping my father in settling accounts of old ledgers and doing a lot of gardening which was ordinarily done by hired journeymen. I also had to supervise the bleaching-yard and managed, winter 1848-49, a bleachery for cotton- and linen-yarn. Although I was of great help at home I saw clearly that the earnings were not sufficient for such a large family, and that it would be difficult for myself and my brothers and sisters to find a future in Germany. Therefore my decision was made to go to America as soon as possible; and, once there, to save up money and send it to my parents in order that several of my brothers could come after me. I believed, and I still do, that through the united effort of myself and my brothers it should be possible to take care of our younger brothers and sisters and to procure a care-free old age for our parents.”

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**1849 Apr. 23**

Age 19; departed Bremen aboard brig “Reform” for California. Friedrich Gerstaecker joined the “Reform” at Rio de Janeiro.

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**1849 Oct 12**

Arrived in San Francisco from around The Horn voyage. [My traveling companion] “von Langerke came back and told me he did not intend to rent a store because the rents were too high. Therefore I decided to go to the mines with some other passengers. We stayed in San Francisco for about a week, looking the city over, which consists for the most part of shacks, and preparing for our trip to the mines.”

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**1849 Oct 20**

Left San Francisco for Sacramento and the gold mines. “We took passage on a schooner bound to Sacramento. The schooner was heavily loaded and carried a deck-load of lumber on which we had to stay. We went by Benicia, a little place at the bay. Toward evening the ship got stuck on a sandbar, even though the water was quite high; we could not make it float in spite of all efforts. During the night at low tide we ran a great risk of capsizing; the next morning our captain went to San Francisco to get a launch; a part of the cargo was then removed to make the ship lighter.”

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**1849 Nov**

Led by a fellow German, noted World traveler and author, Friedrich Gerstaecker, F. A. Hihn joined a party of seven miners and attempted to strike it rich in the gold

fields. After much trouble they reached the south fork of the Feather river in the early part of November. They bought a mining claim and prepared to locate for the winter, but it commenced to rain and kept raining. The river rose and washed away their tools, and they had to subsist for a while on manzanita berries. Gerstaecker's tales of their experience was first published in Germany, then translated and issued in England in 1854. Gerstaecker's work tells their story best. It was republished in 1946 by Biobooks (Oakland, Ca.) as *California Gold Mines*. He described their "little party ... of seven souls, and a motley company it was, three of [us] being merchants' clerks, one an apothecary, one a sailor, one a locksmith ... and myself. ... Huhne, was a stout young fellow, of about twenty years of age, with a green hunting-cap, yellow overcoat, trowsers, and half boots, a striped bag over one shoulder, a rolled-up blanket over the other, and a double-barreled gun in his hand."

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### **1849 Dec**

After two weeks' vain attempts to make a living it was decided to return to Sacramento, which they finally reached about Dec. 1. Here the party disbanded. Hihn and Ernest Kunitz, later his near neighbor in Santa Cruz, remained and engaged in the manufacture of candy, then much in demand. They did a very good business for a few weeks, but about Christmas the Sacramento and American rivers overflowed their banks and the candy factory with all its contents was destroyed. It was here that Titus Hale, later associated with Hihn in building the Santa Cruz Railroad (1875-1882) and who served as President of the Society of California Pioneers for two terms (1911-1913), recalled meeting Hihn on the streets of Sacramento: "During [this] time I was peddling nuts Mr. F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz was peddling candy." When the Santa Cruz Railroad was about to fail in 1881, Hale recalled that "Mr. Hihn paid the money [demanded by the purchaser] out of his own pocket and the S. P. Co. became the owners under [the threat of a] foreclosure of mortgage. Mr. Hihn paid this in order to protect small stockholders from liability in case [the] Road should not bring enough to pay mortgage and floating debt. This is the same Hihn that peddled candy in Sacramento winter '49 and is one of the wisest and most honorable men it has ever been my good fortune to meet."

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### **1850 Jun 6**

Declared his intent to become a United States citizen in Sacramento. Changes his name from **Friedrich August Ludewig Hühn** to **Frederick A. Hihn**.

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### **1850 Summer**

F. A. Hihn worked in the mines at Long Bar on the American River, below Auburn, with moderate success.

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### **1851**

He returned to Sacramento, where he became one of the proprietors of two hotels on K St., named Uncle Sam house and the Mechanics' Exchange.

**1851**

Times getting very dull, he sold out and opened a drug store in San Francisco, on Washington street, near Maguire's opera house.

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**1851 May 4 - June 22**

The great fire of May, 1851, which destroyed almost the entire city of San Francisco, took nearly all Hihn's worldly goods. What was left was consumed in the fire of June 22, 1851.

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**1851 Jun 30**

"Discouraged. Made up my mind to go back to my fatherland. Was on my way to ship as a sailor to work my passage. Passed by where my drug store was on Washington Street, found my old neighbor Brown clearing the coals from his place and some new lumber on the street. 'What are you doing, Brown,' says I. 'Getting ready to put up a shanty,' says he. 'What,' says I. 'Start your own shop again? I was burnt out twice in two months and I have given it up.' 'Well,' says he, 'someone has got to do business. It might just as well be I as someone else.' I pulled my hat down over my eyes, saying, 'What a coward I am.' I did not look any further for a vessel to go home on."

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**1851 Jul 3**

"Took the agency of the Sacramento Soap Factory."

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**1851 Jul 4**

"Am selling soap to dealers and buying tallow, soda, and rosin for the soap factory."

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**1851 Aug 12**

"Soap selling slow. Agreed with H[enry] H[entsch], a cigar dealer, who was also burnt out in the May and June fires, to buy out a lot of mules, pack them with goods and go to settle at Mission San Antonio, of which I had read in Germany as having a fine climate and rich lands."

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**1851 Aug 16**

F. A. Hihn celebrates birthday, in route by pack-mule to Mission San Antonio (Monterey County): "Am 22 years old today. How different from my last birthday at home, three years ago. There I had presents and good wishes from my dear parents and brothers and sisters, a beautiful wreath of flowers, and a fine cake. I have had to rough it ever since I left home and now all I have is \$300, invested in a few pack mules and a little merchandise. But never mind. I was a boy then and am a strong man now, and I won't give up. My father and mother are getting old and they need my assistance."

**1851 Sep 20**

At age 22, Hihn arrived in Santa Cruz.

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**1853 Nov 23**

Married, in Santa Cruz, to Therese Pagen, she was 17, he 24. She was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, the daughter of German parents who had gone to Paris as a child where she learned the language. From Paris her parents moved to Mexico City, and then to San Francisco in 1849 (the same year that F. A. arrived.) She died in 1919, one-month short of her 82d birthday. She outlived six of her eight children, and F. A. by five years-four months.

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**1855 Jul 12**

Naturalized as American Citizen in Santa Cruz, 3rd District Court.

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**1856 Sep 28**

Katharine Charlotte Hihn, first of eight child born.

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**1857 Feb 9**

Elected Secretary of Committee to investigate feasibility of incorporating the town or village of Santa Cruz. Committee said it was "impractical under any circumstances, to incorporate." Hihn and Elihu Anthony issued minority report: "... [they] propose[d] to have a Board of Trustees, consisting of three members, one of them to act — as Clerk, a Justice of the Peace to act as Treasurer and Recorder. A Constable to act as Marshal, Assessor, and Tax Collector. The salary of the Trustees to be one dollar per year."

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**1857 Oct 8**

Contracted with Sedgwick J. Lynch to build a wharf at Soquel Landing (Capitola) for \$1,200.

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**1857 Dec 18**

Sold store [Flat Iron Building] and stock to his brother, Hugo Hühn.

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**1858 Jan 9**

Clerk of the Santa Cruz Hook & Ladder Company, the first volunteer fire department in Santa Cruz.

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**1858 Mar 13**

Santa Cruz Turnpike Joint Stock Company was organized, with F. A. Hihn as an investor. Company was incorporated on June 14, 1859, with the purpose of building a wagon toll road from Forbes Mill on the Los Gatos Creek through the Santa Cruz Gap - where Highway 17 parallels Lexington Dam.

**1858 May 1**

The *San Jose Tribune* reported that “The new road through the Santa Cruz Gap is now completed, as far as the company at this end is concerned. The drive from town [San Jose] to the mouth of the gap, by the upper road [Summit Road], is one which cannot be equaled in beauty by any in the vicinity, and we expect to see the same extensively travelled this summer.”

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**1858 Jul 23**

Wins first? law suit. Against John Thomas Porter for \$87.45.

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**1859 Oct 14**

Supports John Thomas Porter, posts \$6,000 as Bondsman to secure election of Porter as Sheriff of Santa Cruz County.

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**1860**

Census taker lists F. A. Hihn’s estate value: \$1,000.

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**1860 May 8**

Offers to “sell a lot of land to the County for the purpose of erecting County buildings thereon....”

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**1861 Sep 4**

Elected Supervisor of Pescadero Township (3d District of Santa Cruz County — which then included part of San Mateo Co.) Vote: F. A. Hihn 400 (69.8%) — William Blackburn 173 (30.2%) Served from 1862 to 1867.

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**1862 Jan**

Hihn is Trustees of first Public School; the school is classed as grammar and primary.

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**1862 Dec 13**

Proposed new law “to change the financial system of our county and to substitute a Cash System in the place of our present Credit System.”

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**1864 Jan 30**

Published legislation to incorporate the town of Santa Cruz.

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**1864 Sep 10**

Started a new business, a wholesale and retail grocery business, with Storer Woodbury Field.

**1865 Oct 8****Hihn's building suffers extensive damage from Earthquake.**

On last Sunday, at precisely thirteen minutes to one o'clock, Santa Cruz was visited by one of the heaviest shocks of an earthquake ever experienced on this coast. ... The greatest damage—although the entire loss is comparatively light, not near as much as reported by alarmists—was in the destruction of crockery, and glassware, by falling from shelves and closets. The shelves running north and south, were affected most—especially those along the western walls of buildings, as at Hihn & Field's store, although the shelves at the drug-store run parallel, the destruction was equally as great, ... The brick buildings are damaged; not near as much, however, as reported. The southern wall of Hihn's building is badly cracked at the top, ... *Santa Cruz Sentinel*

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**1865 Oct 10**

Purchases Rodriguez's Field, downtown Santa Cruz, and commences development of his first subdivision for settlers.

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**1866 Apr 11**

Six-year-old daughter, Mary (Elizabeth), died.

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**1866 Sep 1**

The *Pajaro Times* newspaper complained about Hihn: "WHAT IS THE USE OF BEING A SUPERVISOR? That question is best answered by the following fact: F. A. Hihn (the Board of Supervisors) owns in Soquel [Soquel & Soquel Augmentation Ranchos] nearly eleven thousand acres of the best and finest timber land in the State. It was assessed at 47 1/2 cents per acre, and was afterwards reduced by the Board of Supervisors to 27 1/2 cents per acre. Farmers, how do you like that? Tax-payers, will you sustain Hihn (the Board) by assisting in the election of Amasa Pray, the candidate of Hihn?"

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**1867 Aug 28**

Joins (in San Francisco) Society of California Pioneers. Age: 38

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**1869 Jul 29**

Hihn offers real estate for sale:

"HOMES FOR 1,000 FAMILIES! IN THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, CELEBRATED FOR The Best Climate in the World, Beauty of Natural Scenery, GOOD SCHOOLS, Its Thrifty Population, Manufactories, Productions. EXPORTS—Grain, Flour, Fruit, Wines, Lunber, Wood, Lime, Leather, Powder, Fuse, Paper, Glue, Butter, Cheese, Live Stock, Meats, Eggs, etc. Value of Annual Exports, \$5,000,000. FOR SALE 600 TOWN LOTS in the prosperous Towns of SANTA CRUZ and SOQUEL, at from \$100 to \$500. 6,000 ACRES OF LAND, SUITABLE FOR Grain-growing, Diaries, Orchards, and Vineyards, at from \$1 to \$100 per acre. *TERMS OF SALE*—Purchase price payable in U. S. Currency, in ten equal yearly payments, with EIGHT per cent interest per annum."

**1869 Apr 5**

Received Grant of 316.88 acres of land in upper Valencia area [Aptos], from State of California, in lieu of 320 acres, allowable to claimants under the Homestead Act of 1862.

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**1869 June 16****Establishes Camp Capitola.**

Leases homes and businesses, until 1881 when he began selling property:

“From real estate sales recorded recently in this county, consideration not given, we see that F. A. Hihn is selling lots at Camp Capitola. This is a good step all round. Good for the owner, who probably receives at the rate of a thousand dollars an acre for his choice land. Good for the purchasers, for they are securing camp grounds at one of the best camping localities in the State and at lower figures than the same amount of soil can be secured for at Pacific Grove. Good for the county, as a change of ownership and the construction of the necessary improvements that are certain soon to follow, will swell the taxpaying property. Good for the Camp, as every lot holder will have an abiding interest in the camp’s growth, future and perpetuity. Many hands make light work. Many interests produce a healthy rivalry. Many minds conceive and produce all styles of architecture. At Pacific Grove there are cottages that cost three thousand dollars each, owned by men residing in all parts of the State, and occupied annually during the summer season by their owners of their owner’s friends. They are not empty. Pacific Grove has grown rapidly since the system of selling lots was adopted. Camp Capitola will now commence to grow in earnest. The widening of the narrow-gauge and the quickening of time will bring the people and the country, the metropolis and the camp grounds, the monotony of houses and the green fields, flowing streams and calm ocean, closer together. Electricity is annihilating time and steam is shortening distance.” *Santa Cruz Sentinel* July 28, 1883 2:1

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**1869 Aug 12**

Drafted by thirty prominent business men and citizens of Santa Cruz County as an Independent Candidate for the California Assembly.

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**1869 Aug 7**

Democratic Convention endorses F. A. Hihn for Assemblyman Santa Cruz, Aug. 7th, 1869.

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**1869 Aug 10****F. A. Hihn accepts call with message:  
To the Voters of Santa Cruz County.**

Believing that I can be of service to our County, I have accepted the above call and present myself to you as an Independent Candidate for Member of Assembly — pledging myself to you that, if elected, I will guard the interests of our County and State to the best of my ability. F. A. HIHN.

**1869 Sep 4****Holds party to celebrate his election as Assemblyman.**

Canvas of vote was as follows:

945	votes	=	F. A. Hihn	[ 58.1897% ]
677	votes	=	E. R. Ercanbrack	[ 41.6872% ]
2	votes	=	H. Rice	[ .1231% ]

Served one-term in the Legislature, the Eighteenth Session, began Dec. 6, 1869, adjourned April 4, 1870; met at Sacramento.

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**1869 Sep 6**

Confirmed by Declaration of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to be elected Member of the California Assembly.

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**1871 Feb 10**

Nineteen-month-old son, Hugo, died.

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**1872 Aug**

Charles Wellington Davis was the architect of F. A. Hihn's mansion, costing sixty thousand dollars.

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**1874-1875**

Served as Vice-President of the Society of California Pioneers.

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**1875**

F. A. Hihn is a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Santa Cruz.

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**1875 May 16**

F. A. Hihn's Santa Cruz Railroad (between Santa Cruz and Watsonville) commenced by taking passengers to the grand opening of Claus Spreckels' new Aptos Hotel. The event was honored by the presence of California Governor Romualdo Pacheco, Claus Spreckels, and many other dignitaries, including F. A. Hihn and his wife. Claus Spreckels and F. A. Hihn were the two with the largest number of shares in the Santa Cruz Railroad. The railroad's engine, the *Jupiter*, is now a centerpiece in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

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**1881 Sep**

F. A. Hihn purchased an undivided half of the Pacific Ocean House property for \$13,500. This was the finest hotel in Santa Cruz, located on Pacific Avenue. This was across the street from F. A. Hihn's original 1851 site, the Flatiron Building.

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**1883 Jun 23**

Hihn's Aptos Mill completed. Built and managed by F. W. Cook, it was state of the art in every mechanical detail. The capacity was between 30 and 40,000 board-

feet of lumber per day. Machinery from the old sugar-beet mill in Capitola was incorporated wherever possible.

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### 1883 Jul 28

#### Hihn has greatest Assessed Property in Santa Cruz County

The following list comprises those who pay taxes on \$5,000 and upwards on a Valuation of Real Property in this county: [\$20,000 upward only shown here]

\$ 199,695.	<b>Hihn, F. A.</b>
149,900.	Davis & Cowell [see also Cowell, Henry]
140,055.	California Powder Works
132,095.	Santa Cruz Bank of Savings & Loan
131,415.	Bank of Watsonville
115,890.	Spreckels, Claus
70,265.	Santa Cruz Lime Co.
68,695.	Chittenden, N. W.
58,375.	McLaughlin, Chas. [two entries: 14,000 & 44,375]
48,725.	Baldwin, L. K.
44,790.	Kelly, E. & P. J.
42,255.	Respini, J.
42,220.	Stoesser, O.
42,135.	Watsonville Mill & Lumber Co.
37,395.	Fagen, P. B. and wife
36,755.	Santa Cruz & Felton R. R.
35,710.	Harkins, Jas.
35,210.	Moore, W. H., Estate of, T. W. Moore, Admr.
34,630.	Archibald, Jane
32,940.	Ford, Chas. & Co.
32,310.	Ford, Chas.
32,080.	Laird, G. P.
29,855.	<b>Younger, Chas. B.</b> [Hihn's attorney and father of future
29,665.	Averon, Jos. son-in-law, Charles Bruce Younger Jr.]
29,155.	Atherton, F. D., Estate of
29,080.	Santa Clara Valley Mill & Lumber Co.
28,890.	Patrick, A. B.
28,530.	Austin, Elbert
28,295.	Mann, Samuel
28,255.	Fallon, Thos.
27,480.	Casserly, Teresa
26,460.	Wilder, D. D.
26,035.	<b>Santa Cruz Water Co.</b> [F. A. Hihn Co.]
26,025.	Green, Josiah S.
25,855.	Lewis, A
23,855.	Rowe, W. H.

- 22,935. Cowell, Henry [see also: Davis & Cowell]  
 22,830. Kirby, R. C.  
 22,515. Martin, J & T  
 21,935. McKinley, Carmen A.  
 21,900. Leonard, Michael  
 21,800. Phillips, B.  
 21,765. Kuhlitz, Chas.  
 21,120. Grover, & Co.  
 20,600. Barrett, J. S.  
 20,070. Kelly, Eugene
- 

### 1886 Sep 9

Hihn is 57. Hosts the Society of Pioneers of Santa Cruz County celebration at his Camp Capitola hotel. An invitation was extended to all Parlors of the Native Sons of the Golden West in the county. This became an annual event, later to coincide with Hihn's birthday on August 16th.

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### 1889 Jan 21

Hihn announces his "retirement" and transfer his vast estate to his family Corporation: **THE HIHN COMPANY.**

"The announcement made to the public Monday by the SURF that F. A. Hihn was to retire from the personal control of his vast estate in this county, and transfer the ownership and management thereof to a corporation, composed of himself and his apparent heirs-at-law, was an important one, not only as an item of news but in its present and future bearing upon this city and county.

Mr. Hihn owns about one-twentieth of the landed property of this county. It is so distributed that at Aptos, Soquel, Felton and in this city, his business interests far exceed those of any other individual, firm or corporation. Wealth is a great power in any form, but invested as his has been in this county it has made his personal influence especially potent, and in all the past the favor or disfavor of Mr. Hihn has been powerful in deciding whether public schemes and enterprises proved a success or not, and the Santa Cruz of to-day has been very largely determined by his will. He owns the choicest block and the greatest amount of frontage of any one person on Pacific avenue, and owns or has owned the choicest lots on nearly every street of the town. One-half of the Pacific Ocean House, the principal hotel for twenty years, is his property; for many years he held a controlling interest in the old Bank of Savings and Loan, and to-day is the principal stockholder of the City Bank; the seaside resort of Capitola was all originally in his ownership, and when in addition to these investments is considered the control of the water system of this city, Branciforte, Soquel and Capitola, the magnitude of his business becomes somewhat apparent.

Mr. Hihn is now on the downward slope of life, and what the future of this vast estate is to be is a matter of public interest as well as of personal concern to the owner.

In deciding to administer upon his own estate, as it were, or to place it beyond the power of probate administration, he has undoubtedly acted wisely from a personal and financial standpoint, and preserved the estate and the interests of those depending thereon from any possible shock.

This enormous aggregation of business has grown up gradually under the almost unequalled industry and acquisitive force of Mr. Hihn, who is able to hold and master and direct its every movement, but this mastery could only be attained by a gradual experience, and never could be fully exercised by any one person who had not "grown up" with it. We presume he has a pride in maintaining his estate in its entirety, and if so the division of labor and concentration of interest afforded by an incorporation makes it both possible and feasible.

Altho' Mr. Hihn remains "the power behind the throne," the young men will have an interest and independence that only comes from ownership, and they will bring to the business the vigor of young manhood. The sons of Mr. Hihn were born and educated in Santa Cruz, and Mr. Cope has been a resident here from boyhood, so that the controlling members of the new corporation will have all the stimulus of local pride to manage the estate not only with profit for themselves but advantage to the public interests of our city and county. They are endowed with rare opportunities for usefulness, which there is reason to believe will not be neglected.

F. A. Hihn possesses the power of a marvelous grasp of details. He takes personal cognizance of the most trivial features of the enormous business interests the care of which has devolved upon him. With all this power there came to him no more hours in the day than to other men, and the result has been to make him for many years perhaps the busiest person in this city, and to concentrate his energies upon his personal affairs. The incorporation ought to bring to Mr. Hihn leisure and this leisure ought to be for the advantage of the public interests of this city.

The immense estate, the actual value of which can only be calculated by many millions, is all the acquirement of his forty years of residence in this city. He has now before him the prospect of a score of years that ought to be the most enjoyable period of life, and during which the home of his adoption may hope to profit in many ways from the advantages of his leisure, and the opportunities of his opulence."

A similar newspaper comment, from a different perspective gave a view of Hihn's fortune:

"F. A. HIHN & CO.

**An Important Incorporation in Immediate Prospect.  
LAND, WATER AND LUMBER  
In Enormous Quantities to be Controlled by a New Corporation.**

Learning that important changes were contemplated in the business office of F. A. Hihn, the largest land owner and capitalist of the county, our representative interviewed one of the interested parties and was informed that the report was true and that the plans were nearly perfected for the proposed changes.

It is the intention of Mr. Hihn to transfer his large landed estate and extensive business interests in this county to an incorporation, the stockholders in which shall consist of himself and wife and his sons and daughters, his heirs-at-law.

Mr. Hihn's family consists of himself and wife and six children; three sons, Louis W., August C., and Fred O., and three daughters, Katie (wife of W. T. Cope), Agnes and Tessie. The two latter are yet minors and their interests will remain in trust until they reach their majority.

The legal division of the property would be one half to the wife and one sixth to each of the children, and shares in the new incorporation will be issued to the children of age on that basis.

The new incorporation will be governed by a board of directors, and its first officers will consist of A. C. Hihn, President; W. T. Cope, Secretary, and F. O. Hihn, Treasurer.

The capital stock of the incorporation will be fixed at \$600,000, although the property conveyed to it will probably be of three times that value. It will consist mainly of F. A. Hihn's entire real estate in this county, excepting his homestead on Church and Locust streets, aggregating about 13,000 acres — the Aptos mill, Camp Capitola, and the Soquel Water Works.

The Santa Cruz Water Works will not be included, nor the loans, accounts and credits due F. A. Hihn, but his stock in the City Bank and other local enterprises will be conveyed and included in the assets of the new corporation.

Practically speaking, the corporation will conduct the Santa Cruz county business, while Mr. Hihn will still retain in his own name the vast property in San Francisco and elsewhere."

### 1889 Mar 1

Hihn offered to sell his water system to City of Santa Cruz. However, a protracted battle between Hihn and the City left the system intact and it wasn't sold to the City until after Hihn's death.

### 1889 Oct 29

#### Wealthy Taxpayers listed: (\$100 or more)

F. A. Hihn	8270.23
Davis & Cowell	4007.00
Santa Cruz Bank of Savings & Loan	4544.14
Bank of Watsonville	2363.53
California Powder Works	2266.41
City Savings Bank	2041.65
Mrs. M.F.S. Hopkins-Searls	2219.58
Claus Spreckels	1862.94
Santa Cruz Lime Co.	1613.00
Loma Prieta Lumber Co.	1381.49
L. K. Baldwin	1092.54
J. H. Logan	224.07
H. E. Makinney	361.05
J. H. Skirm	106.25

1889 Dec 11

[Advertisement]

**HOMES FOR 1,000 FAMILIES.**

**Annual Clearance Sale of Real Estate**

**On 10 Year Installment Plan with Life Insurance.**

**Buy a Home for your Wife for a Christmas Present !**

**LIST: Or Buy a Business Lot or Farm for Yourself !**

Business lot on Pacific avenue	\$2,500.	Residence lot on Grant street	\$ 400
Residence lot on Beach Hill	1,800.	" " " Avalon street	350
House and lot on Cedar street	2,500.	" " " Fern street	250
Residence lot on Walnut avenue	1,600.	" " " Encinal street	400
" " " Lincoln street	1,600.	" " " Garfield Park	150
" " " Market	550.	" " " Capitola	200

Residence and Business Lots in  
 Felton, Soquel,  
 Fairview Park,  
 Aptos, Valencia.

At from \$50 to \$300 each, and 1 to 5 acre lots at from \$100 to \$300 per acre.

An improved farm of 21 acres near Soquel	\$ 3,200.
34 acres of fruit and timber land near Soquel	\$ 2,800.
Another " " " 35 " " "	\$ 3,300.
An improved farm of 11 acres near Aptos	\$ 1,300.
7 acres of fruit and timber land near Soquel	550.
An " " " " 15 " " "	1,600.
" " " " 13 " " "	900.
An " " " " 25 " " "	2,000.
" " " " 43 " " "	4,500.
An " " " 100 " " "	4,500.

**Fruit and Vine Land near Aptos, at from \$20 to \$40 per acre.**

23 acres Vine and Fruit Land near Santa Clara summit	\$ 1,000.
15 " " " " " " Meyer's vineyard .....	700.
100 " of Timber, Fruit and Hay Land, above Felton .....	3,500.
10 " in Zayante Valley .....	600.
20 " " " .....	700.

**10 per cent Discount for Next 30 Days on Above Prices**

**LIFE INSURANCE.**

In the event of death, all installments of the purchase price and interest maturing before such death having been promptly paid, the heirs of the deceased purchaser are entitled to receive a deed without further payment.

**For further particulars enquire of the owners.**

**F. A. HIHN CO.,  
 32 Park Street, Santa Cruz.**

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

**1893 Nov 6**

Hihn returns after 5 months of travel abroad, including the first visit to his native Germany in 44 years.

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1896 May 16

**OCEAN HOUSE PROPERTY.**

**Sold at Public Auction Saturday to the  
Hihn Company.**

**Years of Litigation About to End —  
Sale Must be Confirmed by  
the Court.**

On Saturday the Ocean House property was sold at public auction in front of the jail building by Referee Dake. The property was divided into three parcels, and the only bidders were C[hristian] Hoffmann and F. A. Hihn. It was a battle of local financial giants, who talked of thousands with the flippancy of men accustomed to handling big investments.

The first parcel was a lot 40 x 120 feet on Vine St., which was sold to the Hihn Co. for \$825. The second piece of land is on the north side of the lot and is 18 x 100 feet in the rear of Wm. Ely's building, and sold for \$610.

The third piece is the **Ocean House** itself, covering a lot 101 1/2 feet front on Pacific Av. Hihn started the bidding, offering \$20,000. Hoffmann raised to \$25,000. Hihn without any embarrassment raised the bid to \$25,500. Hoffman [sic] after a short pause bid \$26,000. Hihn not to be outdone and still maintaining his composure, raised the bid \$50. By this time the spectators became excited, as it was a long time since they had witnessed such reckless bidding. Hoffmann now made his bid \$27,000. Hihn promptly raised it \$50 without moving his hands out of his pockets.

By this time it was discovered that Mr. Hughes of San Francisco was interested in the bidding, as with him Hoffmann consulted for a few moments before making another bid. Then he raised the last bid to \$27,1000.[sic] The bids went up to \$28,625, which was his last offer. Hihn calmly announced he would go \$50 better. The Referee's voice sounded, "Once, twice, going, going; third and last call—**sold to the F. A. Hihn Co. for \$28,675.**"

The Referee will report the sale, which amounts to \$30,110, to the Superior Court, and it will come up for hearing next Wednesday. This will be the last step in the litigation over the Ocean House property, which has been before the courts since 1872. **In September, 1881, F. A. Hihn purchased an undivided half of the property for \$13,500.** Since then improvements including the third story, amounting to \$14,000, have been added. The reason the property was sold at auction was for the fact that it could not be partitioned without detriment to the interests of some of the owners.

**1898 Sep 12**

F. A. Hihn commenced an action against Claus Spreckels, to recover the sum of \$10,000 damages for obstructing the waters of the east branch of Valencia creek, by the construction of a dam, thus preventing the water from flowing through the land of plaintiff.

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**1902 Jan 1**

The California Legislature, in its 1901 Session, created an academic institution, “the purpose of [which was] to furnish to young people of both sexes mental and manual training in the arts and sciences including agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economy and such other branches as will fit the students for the non-professional walks of life.”

**Governor Henry T. Gage** signed the Act on March 8, 1901 and on its effective date, January 1, 1901, **appointed F. A. Hihn as one of five Trustees** of California Polytechnic School (Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo). Hihn was appointed to a three-year term, the other four Trustees to staggered terms. Hihn was subsequently elected as Vice President of the Trustees.

Undoubtedly through Hihn’s influence, William Henry Weeks, prominent architect throughout California from 1894 to 1936, presented building plans and was elected to be the architect of the school. Hihn personally examined 16 tracts of land in San Luis Obispo, selected what he assessed as best (100 acres for \$4,000.) and paid \$10. out of his pocket to secure it until the State could buy it. Hihn negotiated with the landowner, then wrote the Deed before submitting it to the Attorney General. In a seven-page letter to Governor Gage, Hihn described each of the sixteen tracts, noting their location, soils, availability of water, slope of the land, distance from the railroad, vegetation, and price asked by the owner. Of the most desirable, Hihn wrote:

“I enclose a copy of the agreement. It was drawn by me; it is far from artistic; I had to write as Mr. Lowe and I talked, without legal aid but Mr. Graves approved of it before it was executed.”

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**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments  
Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**

[p. 124]

**Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	
<b>F. A. Hihn</b>	<b>Santa Cruz</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b>	
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	Remarks
[blank]	<b>3 years</b>	<b>1905 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>



**1906 Apr. 20**

John P. Cooper and L. E. Crane left for San Francisco by buggy on Thursday afternoon. They took with them an axe and some boards, so as to pass over any crevice in the road they may meet. **It is the gentlemen's intention to hunt up F. A. Hihn** who is in the metropolis, as his wife and children here fear some harm may have befallen him.

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**1906 Apr. 20****Survives the Great Earthquake and Fire in San Francisco****F. A. HIHN COUNSELS PATIENCE AND PRUDENCE.**

**F. A. HIHN** arrived home via San Juan and Watsonville, about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and was found after dinner in his private office busy giving instructions to his foreman and overseers in regard to the details of business, showing few evidences of fatigue or of the strain and loss which he had passed through.

It was a trying experience for young and robust people, who had little personal stake in the tragedy, but Mr. Hihn is a big loser—to the tune of perhaps a hundred thousand dollars—but he bore no traces of failing courage; had nothing but words of hope for the future, and no admonitions to offer the public except to be cheerful, to go to work, and to expect greater things for California than she had yet accomplished.

Mr. Hihn does not waver a minute in his belief that San Francisco will be rebuilt, and built better than ever before. There is a temporary duty to do, to provide for the homeless and the hungry, and he suggests caution in money matters until it is known just how the banks and insurance companies are coming out. He expects insurance to be paid to the limit of the ability of the companies, and that no effort will be made to escape liability on the plea of the destruction by earthquake.

But the people must be patient and prudent. It will be many days, possibly many weeks, before the condition of the contents of bank and safe deposit vaults will be fully known, and a resumption of business possible.

...

Few men of affairs in this State can speak today from personal experience as Mr. Hihn can. He remembers San Francisco as a town of tents and shanties and sand dunes in 1849 on the very outskirts of civilization. What man wrought in fifty years, he believes will be surpassed by what will now be accomplished in ten.

Besides, he believes in a better city, free from the blotches that disfigured old San Francisco. Of his personal experience, Mr. Hihn spoke in a modest way. He was stopping at the Palace Hotel. As soon as he could get abroad, fires had broken out along lower Market street. Mr. Hihn owned—at that time—a large and valuable building at the foot of Market street, on the south side. He found it impossible to make his way down Market street, and tried Mission and Howard with no better success. Finally by way of Folsom street he reached the water front. The fire had not yet reached the property owned by the Hihn Company and the Eastland estate [of which he was the Executor], but it soon did and it was speedily wiped off the

earth. Mr. Hihn was then anxious to reach his building on the corner of Kearney and Post streets. He tried to make his way from the north side, but found no way of getting up town south of Telegraph Hill. He then retraced his steps and succeeded in making his way up town again by the Folsom street route. By this time the Palace, the Claus Spreckels building and others in that vicinity were in flames. He went up as far as Fifth street, and then decided that he had better seek rest and safety for himself, and returned to the water front and crossed the bay to Berkeley by the Key Route, which was not obstructed.

He found comparatively slight damage in Berkeley, but the following day in Oakland he observed very serious signs of damage to buildings. He thinks that the shock in Oakland was severe. It is minimized only in comparison with the greater disaster which has befallen San Francisco.

He returned to San Francisco the next day and succeeded in some manner which he did not explain in passing the military guard. But by this time there was no building on the corner of Post and Kearney to be concerned about.

...

Mr. Hihn thinks there must be some postponement of tax payments, the last of which will fall due next week.

Of plans and suggestions for the future he is prolific. Mr. Hihn will not go as far as to concede the policy of municipal ownership of water works, but he admits that private corporations do not furnish adequate fire protection. He had not yet inspected his local buildings, but they will certainly be repaired and restored.

On his way home, at Watsonville, he stopped for consultation with Architect Weeks to prepare plans for a new building on his Market street lot in San Francisco, which he expects to rebuild at once."

### 1906 Apr. 20

After F. A. Hihn safely returned from San Francisco and assessed the damage caused by the earthquake, he personally estimated the value of repairs to be made and sent an letter to Donohue & Kelly Bank, his bankers in San Francisco.

### 1906 Apr. 26

**The amount of earthquake loss** in Santa Cruz is not estimated accurately up to today. The county is more heavily loser than any individual or corporation. The repairs to the Court-house will cost from \$12,000 to \$16,000. **The F. A. Hihn Co. comes next.** *Santa Cruz Evenng Sentinel*

### 1913 Aug 18

Source: *Santa Cruz Surf* Monday Evening, 1913-08-18 1:3-6 [Portrait]

## Saturday, the 16th of August

**BIRTHDAY OF FREDERICK AUGUSTUS HIHN, CELEBRATED BY A HOME GATHERING OF CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN AND BIRTHDAY BANQUET AT THE FAMILY MANSION ON CHURCH AND LOCUST STREETS**

## PORTRAIT OF F. A. HIHN

[same as appears in E. S. Harrison's *History of Santa Cruz County*  
[caption:] FREDERICK AUGUSTUS HIHN.

For many years Mr. Hihn's birthday was the leading social event of the year in Santa Cruz County.

In earlier days the festivities took the form of a barbecue at Capitola, in which the whole countryside had a share. Later it was confined to as many invited guests as could be entertained at dinner at the Hotel Capitola.

It is only in the few recent years that the festival has been confined to home and kin.

It was fitting that Mr. Hihn's birthday should be a public event, for "no little part" he had in the making of Santa Cruz what it is and has been.

Among the Argonauts who came to California as gold seekers and remained as state builders, Mr. Hihn was prominent.

Among those who selected Santa Cruz as their abiding place, he was conspicuously the foremost. He was the perpetual President of the Santa Cruz Society of Pioneers, which at one time included in its membership nearly two hundred men of marked individuality and strength of character.

For long years on public occasions whenever the Pioneers formed a feature, Mr. Hihn marched very proudly at their head and their regalia was the most prized insignia he ever wore.

It is difficult to comprehend even by the aid of the imagination the events and startling changes in a career as extended as Mr. Hihn's has been. He has been the generation with whom he was associated almost entirely pass away and the conditions and circumstances of life change beyond the conception of the present day population.

In the fifties and sixties and seventies Mr. Hihn was the dominant figure in this county. His will decided most public questions and things in general went his way. And in those days Mr. Hihn's will and ways were for advancement. He was a champion of schools and roads, a contributor to churches and charities in the early days when civilization in California was crude and public interests and home interests needed an aggressive advocate. For many years he was a Supervisor and he represented Santa Cruz in the Legislature.

During those years he acquired a vast landed property, which has become worth in many instances as many dollars per acre as it cost cents.

To Mr. Hihn's enterprise was due the construction of the first railroad that connected this county with the outside world, and long before this state had begun to acquire a reputation for homes he built the largest and finest house in the county.

When Elliot's "History of Santa Cruz" was published in 1879, the Hihn residence was described as "a conspicuous and prominent feature of the city, the pride of the citizens and a monument to the taste and good judgment of the owner." Of Mr. Hihn's standing in the community at that time it was said:

“He has always been active in all efforts to promote the welfare of his town and county, giving to all projects he considers for the best interests of Santa Cruz. He is a man of wonderful executive ability.’

\* \* \* \*

A few years later the shadow fell that as it lengthened and deepened largely changed the relations of Mr. Hihn to the people and of the people to Mr. Hihn. The time came in the course of human events when his way was not the best way, and thus the parting of the ways, to the detriment and loss of all concerned.

Only last week the Tale of this Tragedy appeared in the *Surf* and by a curious coincidence on the same day our attention was brought to an elaborate magazine article dealing with the recent reunion on the battlefield of Gettysburg, where the Yanks and Johnny Rebs met and clasped hands in forgiveness and fraternity.

The conflict which culminated at Gettysburg had torn this nation for two generations. The losses in blood and treasure are incalculable, yet the veterans who gathered at Gettysburg this year came with peace in their hearts and good will to recognize in the former foe a fellow citizen.

What a rejoicing there might be — there would be — in Santa Cruz if the internecine strife of the last thirty years could be settled in the only way it ever can be settled!

This nation could not endure half slave and half free.

This city can not maintain both public and private ownership of water to the advantage of either of the parties in interest.

We do not believe it was ever worth while to alienate the affections of an entire community to gratify self-will.

We believe that even now the strain and stain of all the years could be washed away with a word.

\* \* \* \*

Perhaps we are going beyond the function of a newspaper to discuss this matter, but with the recurrence of Mr. Hihn's birthday, with the Tale of a Tragedy, and the reunion at Gettysburg both lying before us, we can not keep our thoughts from wandering from what is, to what might be, with the restoration of amity between the city and the man who was once, and might again be, recognized as its foremost citizen; one who, though masterful of other men, seems unable to master himself and yield with grace to manifest destiny.

The City of Santa Cruz has survived the struggle. Water freedom is as firmly established as that of the former negro bondman. To accept the “results of the war” is the only way that municipal peace can be maintained, the only way that the owners of the private water works can be brought into cordial companionship and comradeship with their fellow citizens. There is no principle to be surrendered; it is only a matter of policy to be considered.

If the best policy could prevail, there are none who would rejoice more than those who have been the longest in the thickest of the “fight.”

\* \* \* \*

**1913 Aug 23**

Source: *Santa Cruz Surf* Saturday, August 23, 1913 1:1 [w/Portrait; from Harrison]

**DEATH OF F. A. HIHN**  
**Foremost Man in Santa Cruz County for Sixty Years!**  
**A MAN OF MILLIONS**  
**Acquired by a Long Life of Persistent Endeavor Along Many Lines of Business.**

F. A. Hihn passed away at 3:28 this afternoon at 84 years of age. Following his birthday celebration of last Saturday he had a relapse, followed by pneumonia, which resisted treatment.

Harrison's "History of Santa Cruz County," published in 1892 contained a steel engraving of Mr. Hihn as a frontispiece, a just recognition of his pre-eminence in the county. In a sketch of his life appearing at that time it stated:

Frederick A. Hihn was born on the sixteenth day of August, 1829, at Holzmindend [sic.], Duchy of Brunswick, Germany. He was one of a family of seven boys [in addition to himself] and two girls. His father was a merchant. One of his brothers lives in Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic; another at Berlin, Germany; and another brother and two sisters live in Zurich, Switzerland. He was educated in the high school at Holzminden, at the age of 15 entered the mercantile house of A. Hoffman of Schoeningen as an apprentice. In his eighteenth year, having completed his apprenticeship, he engaged successfully in the business of collecting medicinal herbs and preparing them for market. Disliking the German form of government and yearning for political liberty, he was preparing to emigrate to Wisconsin when the news of gold discoveries in California reached Germany. He learned of the great throng forming all over the world for the gold land and joined in. On the 20th day of April, 1849 [i.e., April 23, 1849], he and about 60 others sailed on the brig Reform from Bremen via Cape Horn for California. After two months' sail they reached the harbor of Rio Janeiro. It seemed a paradise; the beauties of the tropical scenery and vegetation and the balmy air, filled with the delicious odor of orange blossoms, entranced them, but they were all disenchanted by the monotonous ejaculations and dog trot of large gangs of slaves passing by loaded down with heavy burdens. After five days' sojourn they set sail again. Opposite La Plata river they endured a terrific storm; then they passed through the Straits of La Maire and came in full sight of Cape Horn, a tall cliff jutting boldly into the ocean. It was midwinter and the thermometer low, but all thronged the deck to view the great column and bid adieu to the Atlantic ocean. It seemed to them as if they were entering a new world.

In two weeks more they landed at Valparaiso, from where, after a four days' stay, they sailed for San Francisco, and on the 12th day of October, 1849 they entered the Golden Gate. The harbor was full of ships; they landed near the foot of Washington street, not far from Montgomery St. San Francisco was then but a small town, but every nationality seemed to be represented. Although near the rainy season most of the passengers of the Reform proceeded at once to the mines. Mr. Hihn joined a party of six for the same destination, led by Henry Gerstecker [i.e., Friedrich Wilhelm Christian Gerstacker, 1816-1872] After a world of trouble they reached the south

fork of the Feather river in the early part of November. They bought a mining claim and prepared to locate for the winter, but it commenced to rain and kept raining. The river rose and washed away their tools, and they had to subsist for a while on manzanita berries. After two weeks' vain attempts to make a living it was decided to return to Sacramento, which they finally reached about Dec. 1. Here the part disbanded. Mr. Hihn and E. Kunitz, later his near neighbor, remained and engaged in the manufacture of candy, then much in demand. They did a very good business for a few weeks, but about Christmas the Sacramento and American rivers overflowed their banks and the candy factory with all its contents was destroyed.

In the summer of 1850 Mr. Hihn worked in the mines at Long Bar on the American river, below Auburn, with moderate success. In the following year he returned to Sacramento, where he became one of the proprietors of two hotels on K St., named Uncle Sam house and the Mechanics' Exchange. Times getting very dull, he sold out during the next winter and opened a drug store in San Francisco, on Washington street, near Maguire's opera house. The great fire of May, 1851, took nearly all his worldly goods and what was left was consumed in the June fire of that year. Despairing of ever again succeeding, he was passing through the burned district on his way to take passage for his native land, when he saw one of his friends, who had been burned out, shoveling the burning coals out of the way.

"What are you doing?" was asked.

"Building a new store," was the reply.

"What! after having burned out twice within two months?"

Said the friend, "Oh, some one will carry on business here; I might just as well do it as some one else!"

This incident changed Mr. Hihn's mind. New courage pervaded him, and instead of returning home he formed a co-partnership with Henry Hintch to open a store in some town south of San Francisco, where it was supposed money was not so plenty, but the danger from fire and water less, and life more agreeable.

In October, 1851, they came to Santa Cruz, where they located at the junction of Front street and Pacific avenue. Mr. Hintch went back to the city soon after, but Mr. Hihn remained. Having the advantage of a good mercantile education, speaking English, German, French and Spanish fluently, besides having some knowledge of other languages, he soon succeeded in establishing a large and prosperous general merchandise business.

In 1853 he erected what was then considered a fine two story building. Then came the hard and trying times for Santa Cruz. Wheat, potatoes and lumber, the principal products of the neighborhood, were almost worthless. Wheat sold for a cent a pound, potatoes rotted in the fields, and lumber went down from \$55 to \$12 per thousand feet. But instead of despairing, this only spurred Mr. Hihn on to greater exertions. He could not afford to sell his goods on credit, so he exchanged them for the products of the country, paying part cash. The wheat was ground into flour, and large quantities of the latter and of lumber and shingles were shipped to Los Angeles and Monterey. Many days more than \$500 worth of eggs and chickens were taken in and shipped to San Francisco. Fresh butter was put up in barrels and sold in the fall and winter in place of eastern butter. In this manner the hard times

were converted into good times for our young merchant and his patrons, and in 1875 [i.e., 1857] he counted himself worth \$30,000, but his health had suffered by hard work and business worry, and he turned his business over to his younger brother, Hugo.

On Nov. 23, 1853, Mr. Hihn married his wife, Miss Therese Paggen, a native of France, of German parents. The issue of this marriage are Katie C., Louis W., Fred O., Theresa, [August C.] and Agnes. The first residence of the young married couple was in the second story of the store at the junction of Pacific Ave. and Front St.

In public office Mr. Hihn served as school trustee of Santa Cruz when there was only one teacher, and under his management a high school was organized and maintained by subscription. He next served Santa Cruz as a supervisor for six years. Times were dull then and money very scarce, the county was in debt, and county warrants sold at 60 cents on the dollar. Mr. Hihn distinguished himself by bringing county warrants up to par and largely reducing the county debt without increasing taxation. The county court house and a very substantial jail were erected under his careful management. In 1869 he was elected to the State Assembly, and during that term he performed a prodigious amount of work.

One of the most important measures he originated was that to refund the state debt, under which act about \$4,000,000 of state bonds were successfully refunded at a saving of a large amount of interest to the state.

Mr. Hihn was largely interested in the Spring Valley Water Works while these works were being constructed. He also owned large blocks of stock in the San Francisco Gas Company, and is yet interested in the Visitacion Water Company, the Stockton Gas Company, and the Donohoe Kelly Banking Company. He is the largest stockholder of the Patent Brick Company, which is one of the principal suppliers of brick for San Francisco and other points on the bay.

NOTICE.—The body of Mr. Hihn will lie in state at the family residence, Church and Locust streets, between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m., tomorrow, Sunday, Aug. 24. Friends and acquaintances will have an opportunity to view the remains during those hours.

**1913 Aug 23**

Source: *Santa Cruz Surf* Saturday, August 23, 1913 1:5-6 [same issue as above]

**Houses and Stores for Rent in Santa Cruz**

**17 Fern street.**

**140 Market street, 4 room house.**

**24 Encinal street, 5 room house with bath.**

**144 Lincoln street, 5 room house with bath.**

**60 Cedar street, 8 room house with bath.**

**2 Vine street, store. 4 Vine street, store.**

**5 room house in Soquel with barn.**

**Farming land for rent.**

**Apply F. A. HIHN CO. 22 Park Street, Santa Cruz.**

1913 Aug 23

Source: *Santa Cruz Surf* Saturday, August 23, [maybe 25th?] 1913 2:1

**MR. F. A. HIHN**  
*A Personal Tribute*

F. A. HIHN was a **tremendous** man. He possessed the power of ten ordinary men, apart from the influence of great riches. Crowds of people who count in the census are so meagerly endowed or so indolent in the development of their powers that their traits and characteristics can be easily defined and classified. Their attitude upon any question can be forecasted because they always do the same things. They get under the shelter of a church, of a political party, of societies' conventions, and they **follow**. They are **good** men. Or, they take another course and are easily classified as **bad** men.

Not so Mr. Hihn. He had his own mind upon every matter that he came in contact with; consequently he was sometimes right and sometimes wrong, but always the power of his personality was great.

He was born well. He gave his youth to energetic adventure — not to idle dissipation. His physical and mental activities were constant and unceasing, and he waxed strong and powerful and became a mighty oak.

Because, perforce, a newspaper deals with public affairs, and because Mr. Hihn was always interested in public affairs, and because his property interests were such that comparatively little could be accomplished of a public nature in this city and county without contact with his property, we were brought into close relations, and I had almost written of constant friction, but that would not be true.

We often co-operated. On the water question we were implacable foes, and often on other and lesser issues bitter opponents, but many a time, and often, we worked in harmony for the promotion of public welfare.

Often during the years in our dealings we were reminded of the ditty in the primer, of the little girl, who, when she was good, was very, very good, and when she was bad, she was horrid.

Petty men, microscopic men let their lives be governed by likes and dislikes, by prejudice, jealousy and hate, but because Mr. Hihn was a many sided man, of broad vision in many directions, we were able to be both enemies and friends, to fight and to fraternize.

He was a constant subscriber and a regular advertiser in the *Surf* during the long years of the "water war," and in times of public emergency when it did not seem politic for us to meet publicly lest it should be misunderstood, I was called like Nicodemus by night to his private office and there discussed and conferred upon matters of mutual public concern, and I wish to lay this sprig of laurel upon his grace, that Mr. Hihn was never indifferant toward any matter of public interest. He might be wrong, he might resist when he ought to yield, he might refuse when he ought to consent, but he was never indifferent or unconcerned, whether it was schools or sewers, indigents or criminals to be considered.

There was a sense in which he became endeared to me for this reason, for the

apathy of the average man in matters of this nature is one of the most exasperating things in public life. I can illustrate by recalling a never to be forgotten night in his library, after the earthquake and fire in San Francisco.

It looks easy now, but then the cheeks of strong men were blanched. Mr. Hihn had lost heavily. In fact his losses broke his spirit and he was never the same man afterward, but this night his own losses were not discussed, but measures and means for sending aid to distressed and restoring confidence. Mr. Hihn was 77 years of age at that time, but his courageous optimism was that of the typical argonaut, who might be downed, but could not be crushed. Mr. Hihn was a product of the times in which he lived. His like we shall never see again. He had "great possessions," but for many years those possessions were a pack upon his back, a burden and not a blessing.

The tenacity of purpose which served him well in the acquisition of wealth was a hindrance in its management. He had held on so long and so tight that he could not relax or let go. The will power that had been his servant became his master.

The week before his death I met Mr. Hihn in the alley by the Pacific Ocean House at the noon hour. He said his nurse was away and he had played hookey. He had not been on Park street before for several weeks. I congratulated him upon his healthful appearance and we walked together to his home. He carried a cane, but he did not lean heavily upon it.

Our conversation was not concerning the country toward which he was hastening, but he unfolded a new scheme for money making, regarding which he said he would soon write a letter to the Surf. It proved to be the last time he was outside his private grounds.

Sunday afternoon we found Mr. Hihn encoffined. The will and determination by which he had mastered his world and which gained mastery over him, lay rigid upon the features which nevermore would move.

We walked into the vacant library and through the beautiful grounds, recalling the times we had importuned the owned to lay aside the cares of the world to write the story of his life, which would have been the story of the first fifty years of California, an epic beyond comparison in history; to put himself in a position to accept the honors the people would gladly bestow upon him, and he would not — or could not.

A. A. T.

[by Arthur A. Taylor, Editor, *Santa Cruz Surf*]

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### 1913 Aug 23

Source: *Santa Cruz Evening News* Saturday, August 23, 1913 1:4-5  
[front page, with his portrait (same as Harrison frontispiece)]

### F. A. HIHN IS DEAD

F. A. Hihn, the well-known Santa Cruz capitalist, died at his home on Locust street at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon of pneumonia. Mr. Hihn was eighty-four years old one week ago today.

Many a rare old battle has F. A. Hihn fought with the destroyer and each time he emerged a smiling winner.

But it was noted at his eighty-fourth birthday anniversary a week ago today that he had lost hope of ever having his children and grandchildren about him at another such gathering. Though he had been ill for some time he became worse that night and pneumonia developed. This was the immediate cause of death.

Frederick A. Hihn was born on the 16th day of August, 1829, at Holzminden, Duchy of Brunswick, Germany. He was one of a family of seven.

He was educated in his native town and graduated from its high school.

In April, 1849, he sailed for California, attracted by the reports of the discovery of gold.

He reached San Francisco in October, 1849, and for a time worked in the mines.

He became a hotel proprietor at Sacramento, but quit it after the fire of 1851, coming to Santa Cruz in October of that year.

Having knowledge of several languages Mr. Hihn built up a large mercantile business here.

In November, 1853, he married Miss Therese Paggen, a native of France, of German parents. The issue of this marriage was Kate C., Louis W., August C., Fred O., Theresa and Agnes.

In 1857 he made his family home on Locust street, where he died today.

Soon after arriving in Santa Cruz Mr Hihn devoted himself to real estate and other investments and his properties extend all over the country and take many forms. He was rated a multimillionaire.

He assisted in the organization of the City bank and First National; he owned Capitola, owned the Hihn water system; owned great business frontage on Pacific avenue; and was interested in many milling enterprises.

With the advance of years he lost none of the clarity of mind which distinguished his early life and was in many respects the most remarkable man this section of California and produced.

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### 1913 Aug 25

Source:*Santa Cruz Surf* Monday Evening, 1913-08-25:3

#### FUNERAL OF F. A. HIHN

##### SIMPLE AND IMPRESSIVE SERVICES AT THE FAMILY RESIDENCE.

The funeral of F. A. Hihn was held this morning at 10 o'clock from the family residence. It was private, and only relatives, the Pioneers, close friends, and employees were present.

The casket was almost hidden by the beautiful flowers which Mr. Hihn loved, as his garden was one of the places which gave his closest attention and care.

The impressive Episcopal burial service was read by the Rev. C. O. Tillotson, rector emeritus of Calvary Church. The hymns, "Rock of Ages" and "Softly Now the Light of Day," were beautifully sung by Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fette.

The burial was at the family plot in the Odd Fellows' cemetery, where the commitment service was read by the officiating clergyman.

In the funeral procession following the clergyman was the carriage containing California Pioneers. In this carriage were Mrs. C. Dreher, Mrs. F. Alzina, F. W. Lucas,

P. Peterson, and William Short. Mrs. Frank Lewis and A. Noble were also among the pioneers present. The interest in the Society of Pioneers of the deceased kept up to the last.

The honorary pall bearers were F. D. Baldwin, Hon. L. F. Smith, Dr. J. P. Parker, Duncan McPherson, J. Z. Anderson of San Jose, and Walter Linforth of San Francisco.

The active pall bearers were all employees and were J. A. Chope, S. L. Gibson, R. R. Bixby, F. Reanier, A. S. Jansen, and C. A. Dunning.

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1913 Aug 25

Source:*Santa Cruz Evening News*1913-08-251:3?

### Flowers Sent By Employes [sic] Interred With Remains of Late Frederick A. Hihn

Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and many other relatives, gathered at the F. A. Hihn residence on Church street this morning and in company with a few intimate friends, members of the society of California pioneers, and employees of the F. A. Hihn company, past and present, attended the funeral services of the late capitalist and pioneer, F. A. Hihn, who passed away Saturday afternoon.

The simple services of the Protestant Episcopal church were read by Rev. C. O. Tillotson. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fette rendered "Softly Now the Light of Day" and "Rock of Ages," in sweet but impressive tones.

Interment was made in Odd Fellow's cemetery, where short services were held by the pioneers.

F. A. Hihn in his lifetime was passionately fond of flowers. In death today he was surrounded by the most exquisite and fragrant blooms that the season provides. An exquisite drape of white carnations, interlaced with greens and ferns, sent by the employees of the F. A. Hihn company office, was gracefully drawn over the coffin as it rested in its bower of flowers in the east room of the home this morning. This piece was lowered into the grave with the remains. Thirty other beautiful floral pieces were in evidence this morning. The Watsonville apple annual association tendered an exquisitely designed standing piece in the shape of a statuette about four feet high and formed of varigated blooms. A lavish display of orchids in many of the pieces was noticeable.

The pallbearers were J. Chope, Ed West, F. E. Reanier, S. L. Gibson, A. S. Jansen and C. A. Dunning, all employees and on intimate business terms with the deceased in his later years. The honorary pallbearers were President F. D. Baldwin of the First National bank, Dr. J. P. Parker, Superior Judge L. F. Smith, Duncan McPherson, J. C. Anderson of Santa Clara, a pioneer and father of former Lieutenant Governor Anderson, and Walter Linforth, a prominent San Francisco attorney and a friend of the deceased since his boyhood.

The thinning ranks of the state's pioneers were represented by former City Treasurer F. W. Lucas, William Short and Peter Peterson. Among the lifelong friends of the deceased who came from Watsonville to pay their last respects were F. W. Ruppert, J. A. Linscott, J. D. Rickard, O. D. Stoesser and W. L. Waters.

Members of the Hihn family from out of town who were attendants at the funeral this morning were Mrs. Agnes Younger and Mrs. Hattie Hihn of Berkeley and Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hihn of Hollister.

Yesterday afternoon the girls' choir from the chapel of Holy Cross convent assembled at the Hihn residence and sang several hymns sweetly for the dead.

### OUT OF RESPECT TO THE DEAD

The stores and business enterprises at Capitola were closed today during the hour in which the funeral and interment of the late F. A. Hihn were held. The First National bank of this city in which the deceased was a heavy stockholder, was also closed during the time of the funeral procession on Pacific avenue.

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**1913 Aug 25**

Source: *The Evening Pajaronian* Monday, 1913-08-25 3: 4-5

#### F. A. HIHN ENTERS THE GREAT BEYOND

#### **Santa Cruz County Lost a Valuable Citizen in Death of Mr. Hihn**

Frederick Augustus Hihn, one of the best known residents of the State of California and the leading pioneer and citizen of Santa Cruz county, died last Saturday afternoon at his home in Santa Cruz about 3:30 o'clock. Death came as the result of pneumonia contracted last Saturday when a celebration was held at his home in honor of his eighty-fourth birthday. He never arose from his bed since that time.

In the death of Mr. Hihn the county loses one of its leading citizens. He was one of the leading upbuilders of the county, he was the first and foremost in the development of the industries of the county and in his passing away the county loses a citizen, whose unique place in this county's history has been widely observed. He was a man of large enterprises. He took big risks and was invariably successful. He was a big business character and his industries are among the biggest in the county. He was a director of the apple show here and the friends and members of that organization will not soon forget his aid to the big show. The Monterey Bay Counties League, of which he was also a director, will miss a staunch worker in its midst and the ocean boulevard from San Francisco to Monterey, of which Mr. Hihn was the father, will now probably be abandoned.

Mr. Hihn was buried this morning at Santa Cruz after his body had lain in state at his home yesterday. Hundreds of citizens from all parts of the county paid a last visit to his bier and the funeral today was one of the largest ever held in the county seat.

In Harrison's "History of Santa Cruz county," is found the following biography of Mr. Hihn:

Frederick A. Hihn was born on the sixteenth day of August, 1820 [i.e., 1829], at Holzminden, Duchy of Brunswick, Germany. He was one of a family of seven boys

[in addition to himself] and two girls. He was educated in the high school at Holzminden, at the age of 15 entered the mercantile house of A. Hoffman of Schoeningen as an apprentice. In his eighteenth year, having completed his apprenticeship, he engaged successfully in the business of collecting medicinal herbs and preparing them for market. Disliking the German form of government and yearning for political liberty, he was preparing to emigrate to Wisconsin when the news of gold discoveries in California reached Germany. He learned of the great throng forming all over the world for the gold land and joined in. On the 20th day of April, 1849 [i.e., April 23, 1849], he and about 60 others sailed on the brig Reform from Bremen via Cape Horn for California. After two months' sail they reached the harbor of Rio Janeiro.

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Although near the rainy season most of the passengers of the Reform proceeded at once to the mines. Mr. Hihn joined a party of six for the same destination, led by Henry Gerstecker [i.e., Friedrich Wilhelm Christian Gerstacker, 1816-1872] After a world of trouble they reached the south fork of the Feather river in the early part of November. They bought a mining claim and prepared to locate for the winter, but it commenced to rain and kept raining. The river rose and washed away their tools, and they had to subsist for a while on manzanita berries. After two weeks' vain attempts to make a living it was decided to return to Sacramento, which they finally reached about Dec. 1. Here the party disbanded. Mr. Hihn and E. Kunitz, later his near neighbor, remained and engaged in the manufacture of candy, then much in demand. They did a very good business for a few weeks, but about Christmas the Sacramento and American rivers overflowed their banks and the candy factory with all its contents was destroyed.

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One of the most important measures he originated was that to refund the State debt, under which act about \$4,000,000 of State bonds were successfully refunded at a saving of a large amount of interest to the State.

Mr. Hihn was largely interested in the Spring Valley Water Works while these works were being constructed. He also owned large blocks of stock in the San Francisco Gas Co., and is yet interested in the Visitacion Water Co., the Stockton Gas Co., and the Donohoe Kelly Banking Co. He was one of the largest stockholders of the Patent Brick Co., which is one of the principal suppliers of brick for San Francisco and other points on the bay.

In 1875 Mr. Hihn, together with Claus Spreckels and Mr. Hale [i.e., Titus Hale], built the narrow gauge railroad from Santa Cruz to Watsonville, which was later bought by the Southern Pacific and broadgaged. The first engine on the road, "Betsy Jane", only weighed five tons but the road was a financial success. Henry C. Peckham of this city was the first express messenger on the road.

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1913 Aug 25

Source: *The Evening Pajaronian* Monday, 1913-08-25 4: 4

### PURELY PERSONAL

Mrs. James Waters, William Waters, Otto D. Stoesser, James A. Linscott, F. W. Ruppert, N. A. Uren and J. D. Rickard were in Santa Cruz today to attend the Hihn funeral.

1913 Aug 30

Source:*Surf* 1913-08-30 1:1

**WILL OF F. A. HIHN**  
**Document Executed in 1893 — With Codicil in 1896.**  
**ESTATE DISTRIBUTED TO IMMEDIATE FAMILY**  
**With Slight Tokens to Office Employees — Control Vested in Heirs.**

Therese Hihn, Kate C. Cope, August C. Hihn, Fred O. Hihn, and Agnes Hihn Younger petitioned this morning, through their attorney, C. B. Younger [Jr.], for the probate of the will and codicil of Frederick A. Hihn.

The will was executed May 23, 1893, and was witnessed by Charles B. Younger and James L. Dutton. The codicil was filed Oct. 15, 1896, and was witnessed by Agnes Wilkin (De Cray) and James L. Dutton.

The heirs at law are the wife, Therese Hihn, and children — Kate C. Cope, August C. Hihn, and Fred O. Hihn of Santa Cruz, Agnes Hihn Younger of Berkeley. The grandchildren are Eulice W. Hihn of Capitola, Theresa Hihn of Berkeley, Ruth Ready, Donald C. Younger, Bruce H. Younger, and Jane Younger, Emma, Charlotte, Carl, and Otto Hihn (all deceased). Hugo Hihn, Louise Hihn Hegele, Albert Hihn of Hollister, and Edward Hihn, Long Beach, are employees.

The total value exceeds \$500,000.

In the will he declares all the property as community property and belongs to himself and wife.

The executors named are the wife, Theresa Hihn, Kate C. Cope, Louis W. Hihn, August C. Hihn, Fred O. Hihn, Tessie Hihn, and Agnes Hihn.

He bequeathed to the wife all the household furniture, piano, etc. To his brothers and sisters, Charlotte, Emma, Carl, Hugo F. and Otto, \$50 each a month, reduced by the codicil to \$25 a month. With the exception of [balance of sentence missing from newspaper] have died.

To his niece, Louis [i.e., ?, Louise] Hihn Hegele, \$1500, reduced by the codicil to \$1,000; to each one of the clerks employed, to each one of the clerks employed [sic, i.e., the newspaper repeated, apparently, the forgoing phrase] in the offices of the F. A. Hihn Company at the time of his death, \$250.

Those at present employed who come under the head are Helen M. Lindsay of Capitola, J. E. Chope, S. L. Gibson, A. S. Janson, E. L. Williams, Helen March, Earl Hegele, Martha Richards, and Hazel Collins.

Those servants who get \$200 each are Sophia Brooks, Lizzie Rooney, and Sophie White; the gardener, George Williams; and the head stableman, William H. Steiner.

The nephews, Albert Hihn and Edward Hihn, 25 shares of the F. A. Hihn Company. The executors if they prefer can give them each \$2500 in cash. The codicil changes it to \$2500 for Albert Hihn and \$2000 for Edward Hihn.

He directs that the executors create a fund of \$10,000, to be known as the Hihn charity fund, to be invested in mortgages and real property in Santa Cruz County or in City Bank or City Savings Bank stock, and for a term of five years the profits or interest shall be divided equally in monthly payments as their judgment may determine. After the expiration of five years it shall be divided equally among the

children. He requests that unless prevented by necessity that they preserve the fund, or their share of it, and if convenient add to it and expend the profits for charity.

The codicil provides that the term be extended to 15 years and the fund shall not be divided among the children, and that it be invested in first mortgages on real estate in Santa Cruz County, which real estate shall produce sufficient income to pay all taxes and insurance against loss by fire and necessary repairs.

He desires that his body be interred in a suitable burial place outside the city of Santa Cruz, where it will not likely be disturbed by removal, and that his beloved wife and children be buried in the same plat with him and that a suitable monument be erected on which shall be engraved the two clasped hands united by a chain as shown in the corporate seal of the F. A. Hihn Company, and that the plat be planted out in flowers, plants and shrubs.

To each of the grandchildren he bequeathes \$5,000 or equivalent in F. A. Hihn Company stock.

The residue goes to the children, divided equally after deducting from each share the money or value of property already received by them during life and charged on the books as donations.

The real estate and other property conveyed to the F. A. Hihn Company in trust for certain purposes declared in the deed conveying the property is not to be affected.

The executors are asked to organize by electing a president, Secretary, and treasurer, and are to hold monthly meetings and each is allowed \$25 a month for attending the meeting. The president to receive \$150 a month, and secretary and treasurer \$100 a month.

No opportunity for contest seems likely to arise out of such "share and share alike" provisions.

### **1919 Apr 23**

Source: Santa Cruz Morning Sentinel 1919-04-23 5:1&2

#### **New Theater**

The plans for the new theater are now in Santa Cruz and the specifications will be this week. Local contractors will be invited to bid on all contracts, the major and minor ones, but time must be the essence of all of them.

We had hoped to see this structure rise to a height of four stories, and be a fitting monument to the memory of F. A. Hihn, the founder of the Hihn, fortune, the largest ever accumulated in the county of Santa Cruz, which he entered, almost empty handed, in 1851, and in which city he permanently resided till 1913, when the dark angel said: So far shalt thou go and no farther!

### **1922 Jan 28**

Source: Santa Cruz News 1922-01-28 1:4-5

#### **DUSTY RECORDS OF PIONEER HIHN INTERESTS CARTED TO INCINERATOR; MARKS END OF OLD REGIME**

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

Returned checks from banks totaling millions of dollars and six great auto truck loads of records, bookkeeping books, maps, old papers, dating back to 1868, were hauled to the city incinerator today from the offices of the former F. A. Hihn Company, on Park Street, to be consumed in the city's great furnaces as a final wind up of the affairs of this once all-powerful company in the city and county.

The offices were visited by a News man today and several rooms on the lower floor where half a dozen bookkeepers and four or five stenographers were once kept busy, were vacant, dark, dusty and littered with all sorts of office records and old papers which were being removed by workmen to a big truck outside.

Half a dozen rooms on the second floor, used for storing records, dating back over 50 years, had also been visited by the draymen and the floors of the rooms looked like a cyclone had struck them.

These offices contained the work of expert bookkeepers together with all the plans and forms as outlined by the late F. A. Hihn in conducting all the big enterprises of the former company. Many such records at one time were held almost priceless, but now are not worth the paper they are written upon.

In the room occupied by the late August Hihn as an office up to the time of his death, hangs a large picture of the pioneers of Santa Cruz, a picture of the late F. A. Hihn and also one of Fred Hihn.

It was in this building that Phil Francis started the Penny Press, a daily newspaper, which for a time was very popular in this city.

C. L. Gibson, who worked for the Hihn Company for many years is superintending the cleanup and trucking the records to the incinerator.

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1934 Jun 10

Source: San Jose Mercury Herald Newspaper, Sunday Morning, June 10, 1934: "GHOST TOWNS OF THE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS" by John V. Young. Chapter XII. Skyland and Highland. Subtitle at top of column 8: "PEDDLER BECOMES CZAR OF COUNTY; HIHN STORY TOLD — Arrived Penniless in Santa Cruz in '51 To Climb To Power And Wealth." Pages 19 & 20 [Third Section], columns 5,6,7,8.

### **Frederick A. Hihn**

The story of Skyland would not be complete without the story of the man who owned the forests that surrounded it and gave it much of its living, who paid at one time a tenth of all Santa Cruz county's taxes — Frederick A. Hihn.

Hihn was born August 16, 1829, at Holzminden, Duchy of Brunswick, in Germany. His early youth he spent as an apprentice to a mercantile house and for a time gathered herbs for market.

Little is known of this period of his life, but in April of 1849, he and a part of 60 others, all political refugees, embarked on the brig "Reform" out of Bremen via Cape Horn for California, following the gold rush.

He landed in San Francisco October 12, 1849, and the following month set out with Henry [sic] Gerstecker and a part of four others for the Feather river country.

### **LIVED ON BERRIES.**

A storm destroyed their supplies and equipment, and the party was forced for a time to subsist on manzanita berries before it made its way out to civilization again. The party then disbanded.

Hihn returned to Sacramento and went into the candy business with E. Kunitz, who later became his neighbor in Santa Cruz. Again a storm, flooding the Sacramento river, wiped out his property, and Hihn returned to the mines.

A marked lack of success dogged his tracks through a hotel venture later in Sacramento and a drug store in San Francisco. The latter establishment was destroyed by fire in 1851.

Hihn then turned to Santa Cruz.

### **HUMBLE START.**

With the great discretion evinced by historians of the period, little or no mention is made in contemporary works of Hihn's coming to Santa Cruz — simply is it stated that “with Henry Hinch he established a mercantile business in Santa Cruz in October, 1851.”

But it was not so simple as that. Hihn was broke and nearly down and out. He entered Santa Cruz in 1851 with all his earthly possessions in a pack on his back — a pack that carried trinkets and the paraphernalia of a typical country tinker.

It was this magical pack that gave Hihn his start, although few in the region at the time could have prophesied that here was the man who would one day dominate not only the city, but the county of Santa Cruz, and whose weight would be felt in the state legislature.

His arrival at Santa Cruz was remembered, and often remarked upon by C. C. Martin, pioneer of the Glenwood region and father of Herbert Martin, who recalls his father's story of Hihn and his pack.

### **BUSY MAN.**

Hihn set up business in a crude store constructed of packing boxes, and between trading from his “store” and making long forays into the country, was a busy man.

A man of many accomplishments, and of many friends, he had also many enemies, who delighted to recount stories, not without some foundation, of how Hihn acquired his thousands of acres of timber holdings.

How he traded a fortune in forest land for a silk shawl; another sizeable tract in return for repairing a cracked tea pot for one of the innocent Castro heirs — these are legends of the country, but legends they will remain without verification.

### **ACQUIRED LANDS.**

Whatever the means, he did acquire enormous redwood holdings, including 404 acres of Soquel rancho in partition in 1860, and 12-29 of Soquel augmentation rancho in 1864, partly from a mortgage of Joseph L. Majors and his wife dated 1856 on rancho interest of the couple. Mrs. Majors was a daughter of Martina Castro, whose involved land deals were explained in the installment of this series of May 6.

This portion was the area lying in the northwest corner of the augmentation, terminating at a point in Mountain Charley lagoon, and including the site of Laurel and the mills.

The Hihn company, operators of the mills, in 1892 was composed of F. A. Hihn,

his sons, Louis W., August C. and Fred O. Hihn, and his son-in-law, W. T. Cope. These formed a board of directors, with August C. Hihn as president, Cope as secretary and F. O. Hihn treasurer.

#### VARIED INTERESTS.

Hotels, railroads, beach concessions, forests, mills, manufacturing plants, shipping lines—there was little in the line of business and industry that the Hihn company did not enter actively in Santa Cruz county in this period.

Hihn married Therese Paggen, a native of France of German parents, November 23, 1853. They had seven children: Katie C., Louis W., August C., Grace Cooper, Fred O., Theresa and Agnes.

Buying, selling and building, Hihn gradually extended the scope of his enterprises until he became actively engaged in real estate promotion. He is credited by one Santa Cruz county history of 1892 with having founded Capitola. The Santa Cruz, **Soquel** and Capitola water supply lines, constructed of redwood pipe in 1860, was one of his projects, along with the City bank and City Savings bank of 1887, which he served as vice-president.

#### LEGISLATOR.

He assisted in the organization of the Society of California Pioneers of Santa Cruz county, was a trustee of the city's one-teacher school, and later became a supervisor for four years. He was elected to the state legislature in 1869.

The Spring Valley Water Works, the San Francisco Gas company, the Visitacion Water company, the Stockton Gas company, the Donohoe Kelly Banking company, the Patent Brick company—these are but a few of the early enterprises in which he was interested.

His Aptos mill, which had a capacity of 70,000 feet of lumber a day, it is recorded, was one of his largest projects, logging well up into the Aptos canyon on his augmentation [sic] lands. The upper portion of the holdings, in **Soquel** canyon bordering on Spanish ranch and Skyland, now the property of the Monterey Bay Lumber company, is still known as the Hihn forest.

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**1954 Jan 3**

Source: Santa Cruz Sentinel-News 1954-01-03 15:2

#### **Old Santa Cruz By Ernest Otto**

The second of the Germans who came to Santa Cruz and became a millionaire was Frederick A. Hihn. He was a California pioneer, a '49er and proud of being one. For years he headed the Society of California Pioneers and for many years he annually entertained the entire group at a dinner, in the later years in the Hotel Capitola.

He was a man who established industries. He founded Capitola, operated sawmills and was about the largest property owner in the county.

He owned a large part of the Soquel Augmentation Rancho, much of it covered with virgin timber. It was one of the old time Spanish ranchos.

Timber for his sawmills was cut from a vast forest of huge redwoods on this

property. His largest sawmill was several miles back in the mountains from Aptos in the section known as Valencia. He had the Valencia mill along Valencia creek, a beautiful stream which runs into Aptos creek in Rio del Mar, then the Aptos rancho of Claus Spreckels, a short distance south of the Santa Cruz-Watsonville freeway.

Valencia creek had its mill dam[,] in the mill section was a village where employe[e]s of the mill resided. In the village was the Valencia hall, still a building in the section, where church services, dances and social gathering were held.

After the timber had been cut off, much of the forest property was sold to ranchers, and the land became one of the finest places in the county for the production of high quality apples. Descendants of Hihn have orchards in the section to this day.

The next mill was at Glenwood in the Santa Cruz mountains where there was good rail transportation. Machinery from the Valencia mill was moved to Glenwood. These mills brought an industry within the Santa Cruz city limits as a planing mill operated on Washington street in the city.

The Hihn mills and the Loma Prieta mill made Aptos a lively village, especially on weekends.

In the Hihn forests were the Hihn Sulphur Springs where many went for health giving sulphur baths. These were below Loma Prieta and near what is now known as Highland Way. One crossed Soquel creek 26 or 27 times in going up the beautiful gorge after leaving the Hinckley creek section.

The developer from across the ocean was the leader in establishing the county's first railroad between Santa Cruz and Pajaro, where it connected with the Southern Pacific. The road was designated as the Santa Cruz-Watsonville railroad, a name which usually was shortened by local citizens to the Hihn railroad to distinguish it from the Santa Cruz-Felton railroad.

Later the dinky "Betsy Jane" was succeeded by two larger engines, the "Pacific" and the "Jupiter", and still later the railroad itself became a part of the Southern Pacific system with a round trip fare of \$10 between Santa Cruz and San Francisco.

Hihn also was a promotor of Santa Cruz' first street railroad. It was known as the "Red Line" because of its color. The color distinguished the first line from a later street railroad known as the "Yellow Line" which [sic] went down Pacific avenue to the beach.

The first road started at the Plaza and went by Mission, Vine and Cherry streets to a junction with the first steam railroad down Chestnut avenue to the beach.

Hihn owned property in every section of the city, including stores, residences and vacant lots. His holdings were particularly large [sic] in the center of the city. A large holding was in the district between Church and Locust streets where the family moved in the early 1870's. The Hihn family left a location on the north side of Locust street which was taken over by Madame Augusta Spornburger Lehman, the leading early teacher of piano. She, too, was from Germany. The home, still standing today, was used for many years as a bakery.

The F. A. Hihn home was the outstanding residence of the city. It now is the site of the city hall. Before the present city hall was built, the Hihn residence was used as temporary quarters by the city offices.

When it was the Hihn home, the site was more of an eminence than it is today. When the house was razed, the ground level was filled in and the sloping hillside removed. In older days, there was enough grade for boys to roll down the walks on their wagons. In the winters, overflowing flood waters would fill in the depression and the plank sidewalks would float off on the Church street side.

The home property extended on the rear to the Kunitz property, now the west end of the city hall property and the south end included the city library on to the Judge J. L. Atteridge property, then the Bartlett property. Pieces were sold to Henry Skinner, now the only residence remaining (it is opposite the First Methodist church); to John Ennor (now the city library parking lot for years a select boarding house operated by the Ennors).

The Locust street Hihn residence property was disposed of to D. C. Fargo and Harry Street.

## Robert Edgar Jack Sr.

**1891**

Source: Storke, Yda Addis A memorial and biographical history of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California ... Containing a history of this important section of the Pacific coast from the earliest period of its occupancy to the present time, together with glimpses of its prospective future; with ... full-page steel portraits of its most eminent men, and bio-graphical mention of many of its pioneers and also of prominent citizens of to-day. By Mrs. Yda Addis Storke ... Chicago, The Lewis Pub. Co., 1891. p. 303.

R. E. JACK, of San Luis Obispo, was born in the State of Maine, in September, 1841, and very early in life evinced a high order of talent for business. Accordingly he to New York, where he was connected with a commercial house on Wall street. In 1864 he came to California and at once engaged in wool-growing. He is now the owner of Cholame Ranch of 40,000 acres, but he devotes his time to banking, in his city, being cashier of the First National Bank of San Luis Obispo; is also the principal of the Bank of Paso Robles, in that town, the Bank of Santa Maria and the Bank of Lompoc in the county of Santa Barbara. Mr. Jack represents the progressive element in business, and is prominent in all matters connected with the welfare and prosperity of San Luis Obispo. In politics he is a leader, and at the present time is President of the city council.

He was married in 1872, to a daughter of Colonel Joseph Hubbard Hollister, and has a family of four children.

**1895 Apr 13**

Source: Paso Robles Record

1895 Apr 13 1:2

Display Ad

**Bank of Paso Robles  
PASO ROBLES, CAL.**

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**I. GOLDTREE** - - - - - **President.**

**R. E. JACK** - - - - - **Vice President.**

**F. D. FROST** - - - - - **Cashier.**

**AGENTS.**

**San Francisco } Anglo California Bank**

**New York } J. and W. Seligman & Co.**

**London } Anglo California Bank, Limited**

**Dublin } The Royal Bank of Ireland.**

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**The Bank of Paso Robles transacts a general banking business.  
 Interest paid on time deposits; loans allowed on good personal secur-ity;  
 exchanges bought and sold on San Francisco, New York, London and all other  
 desired points.**

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**1895 Aug 10**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1895 Aug 10 1:2 Display Ad

**Bank of Paso Robles  
 PASO ROBLES, CAL.**

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**R. E. JACK** - - - - - **President.**

**F. D. FROST** - - - - - **Cashier.**

**AGENTS.**

**San Francisco } Anglo California Bank**

**New York } J. and W. Seligman & Co.**

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 Limited**

**Dublin } The Royal Bank of Ireland.**

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The Bank of Paso Robles transacts a general banking business. Interest paid on time deposits; loans allowed on good personal secur-ity; exchanges bought and sold on San Francisco, New York, London and all other desired points.

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**1903**

Source: Guinn, James Miller, 1834- History of the state of California and biographical record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties. An historical survey of the state's marvelous growth from its earliest settlement to the present time, by J.M. Guinn. Also containing biographies of well-known citizens of the past and present. Chicago, Chapman Publishing Co., 1903. pp. 304-305

**R. E. JACK.**

To the permanent settlement of the west the citizenship of the east has made heavy contributions. From the densely populated regions of the Atlantic coast settlers have been drawn to the promise and fertility of the Pacific coast

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

environments. Mr. Jack came across the continent from Maine to California and in this state, so far remote from his early home, he has spent the active years of his life. He was born near the Kennebec river in Maine in September, 1841, and received his education principally in Maine Wesleyan Seminary at Kent's Hill, Kennebec county, from which he was graduated in 1860. When twenty-one years of age he went to New York City, where he secured employment with the shipping and commission house of William J. Dewey & Co.

During the Civil war Mr. Jack was a member of the New York militia at the time of Lee's raid on the Susquehanna. He was a volunteer in the Fifty-sixth New York Infantry, and sixty days after he had enlisted in that regiment the negro riot broke out in New York City, which called his company into active service. Among the several important engagements in which he took part was the battle of Gettysburg. After retiring from the army he came to California and at once engaged in sheep-raising with Col. W. W. Hollister, the two purchasing the Cholame ranch, in the northeastern part of San Luis Obispo county, and extending over the boundary line into Monterey county. At that time the ranch consisted of twenty-eight thousand acres, but its dimensions were later increased to fifty thousand acres. At the death of Colonel Hollister, his interests were purchased by Mr. Jack, who continues to operate the ranch as a sheep and cattle range and has become the largest wool-grower of Central California.

In 1870 Mr. Jack married Miss Nellie Hollister, whose father, Joseph Hubbard Hollister, was one of the wealthy pioneers of San Luis Obispo county. Born of their union are two sons and two daughters, namely: R. E., Jr., who is a student in the California University; Howard V., Gertrude M. and Ethel E. Since 1871 the family home has been in San Luis Obispo.

In connection with William D. Beebe and others, Mr. Jack took an active part in the organization of the County Bank of San Luis Obispo. For a time this institution had a prosperous existence, but the long-prevailing drought which affected every industry of this region so crippled the bank's resources that it was forced to go into the receiver's hands, through no fault or mismanagement, however, on the part of the officers, who were exonerated from all blame by those familiar with the circumstances. Fraternaly Mr. Jack is connected with the Knight Templar Masons. In politics he has been one of the leaders of the Republican party, and has served as member of both the county and state central committees. At one time he served as president of the city council, and in 1892 he was a delegate to the national Republican convention of Minneapolis, which nominated Benjamin Harrison for president.

[Transcriber's Note: The biography above does not use "Robert" for his first name; however, it is noted that his son "R. E. Jr., ... is a student in the California University." The biography was published in 1903. In *The Golden Book of California* [edited by Robert Sibley and published by the California Alumni Association in 1937] it is indicated that **Robert E. Jack Jr.** was a student in 1902. He did not graduate, and a notation indicates that he was deceased at the time of publication (1937).

The Great Register of 1890, San Luis Obispo County, lists him (p. 26, #3 of "J"s):

**Jack, Robert Edgar** 45 yrs. old (@ date of Registration:) July 20, 1887 birthplace: Maine occupation: Banker Local Residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2

It is also interesting to note that several of the documents filed in the Superior Court of San Luis Obispo County (Case # 3202) used "Ramon" as his first name, but the "Ramon" has been altered (Ramon) to simply "R. E. Jack."

Also, note the letter of Charles B. Younger Sr., below, in which he refers to Jack:

**1898 Mar 30**

Source: Inventory & Description of Younger Collection Box 52 [UC-NRLF W 31 293] SPZ SPEC YOUNGER BOX 52 1898-03-30 4 leaves (9.25" x 6") in envelope (3.5/8" x 6.5") (imprinted on verso: "Drink Paso Robles Soda Water.") postmarked Paso Robles, on return address, and letterhead of the Hotel El Paso Robles, E. F. Burns, Manager.

to Charles Bruce Younger [Jr.] from Charles B. Younger [Sr.]

"We [believed to be himself and F. A. Hihn] worked last night until midnight when the electric lights were extinguished, and were up this morning at six o'clock verifying the description of property mortgaged by the **James** to City Savings Bank and to **Mr. Hihn**: and when it came to the scratch, the granters refused to sign the deed. We have been all day trying to consummate the arrangement, but without result. **Mr. Hihn** will return home in the morning, and will go to San Luis Obispo, by the afternoon train, unless there should be a chance to go by team early in the forenoon. I will go there to have the foreclosure case

p. 2

set for trial. I have defendant lack a given name of "**Ramon**"? [Ramon E. Jack] which he declines to recognize, except the initial letter.

I suppose that you have been rushed with business.

To-night I talked with **Mr. James** from dinner until bedtime, as we were separating, he remarked to me that I had a bright son - that he saw you at San Luis Obispo, and that **Graves** said you were a bright fellow.

The office here is a very large room with two fireplaces large enough to burn four foot wood. These fireplaces are cheery and give heat sufficient to keep

p. 3

guest from putting their feet in prominence.

I have taken a sulphur bath every morning. Sunday afternoon I tried the plunge bath but found it too cold for enjoyment. The Soda Spring is near the mud baths and it has a large flow of water. The water is bottled by a firm here.

I think it not improbable that **Frank Ely** will be sent here as Superintendent.

Unless I have to return here, I think it probable that I may be home Friday; at any rate I will return Sunday if not before.

I met **Judge Venable** Monday

p. 4

for the first time in many years — he seems rugged. At San Jose, he seemed to be dying every month.

Two Paso Robles teachers, besides the Superintendent of the Schools, are boarders at this hotel. The towns people seem to be bitter against **Mr. James** as well as incensed against the manager.

I called on **Dan Blackburn** to-day, he is 82 years old.

Console your mother and **Helen** on account of my absence.

Yours,

To Charles Bruce Younger [Jr.]

Charles B. Younger [Sr.]

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## Warren M. John

**1895 Sep 14**

Source: Paso Robles *Record*

1895 Sep 14 3:1 LOCAL NEWS.

Among the attractions at the Mexican celebration at Pozo next Monday will be a Spanish oration by C. R. Sobranes, formerly of Monterey, and an English oration by **Warren M. John**, of San Luis Obispo.

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**1895 Nov 23**

Source: Paso Robles *Record*

1895 Nov 23 1:7

### Possible Candidates for the Assembly.

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San Luis Obispo, Nov. 18, 1895.

ED. RECORD: — The RECORD is rapidly making a name for itself as an organ which the people may depend upon for facts, and for a fair and impartial stand upon the various questions presenting themselves before the people. Its article of last week in which it said that it is wise for the people to look over the field for the best and most available timber to be placed in nomination for the offices of Superior Judge and Assemblyman at the next election, struck the people of this side of the mountains as very timely. It is one of the RECORD'S ways of saying the right thing at the right time. The man who is to be elected to any office in the future, should be perfectly well known to the voters. Every trait of his character and his probable action as a public official, should be as clear as the light of day.

That such should be the case, the probable candidates should be presented long before the meeting of the conventions, that the people may have every opportunity to study them carefully. The people of this county owe much to the RECORD for making this suggestion.

Now for the office of Assemblyman, I think, as the RECORD does, that the man who is to be elected to that position should take a stand, and a firm one, too, against the tide of legislative extravagance. The people want a man who comes from the people, and whose every sympathy is with them. It has been frequently suggested that the place be given to some young man, who has an ambition to go forward;

some young man who is thoroughly conversant with public questions, and who is patriotic. He should have a fair acquaintance with the people of the county and should know their needs. The name of **Warren M. John** is mentioned quite frequently for the Republican nomination. Mr. John is a born orator, a deep student in political economy and known to people in all sections of the county. He is regarded as one of the most popular young men in the county, and would have a strong following from all parties. C. H. Reed's name is also mentioned by the Republicans. He is a thorough business man and would be good for the place. The names of J. K. Tuley, Supervisor Waite and C. E. Carpenter, the latter of Arroyo Grande, are spoken of by the Populists for the place. They are all good men. The Democrats are as yet not active in naming a man for the position. Let us look well, as the RECORD says, for the very best man.

A VOTER.

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**1896 Jan 18**

Source: Paso Robles *Record*                      1896 Jan 18                      1:7  
**A Correspondent Suggests W. M. John for the Assembly.**

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San Luis Obispo, Jan. 13, 1896.

EDITOR RECORD: — Some time since the RECORD contained a number of articles touching upon the merits of several candidates for the Assembly next fall. Among others, I was pleased to note the mention of the name of **Warren M. John**, of San Luis Obispo, as a young man every way thoroughly qualified for the place. It is a known fact that a number of the leaders of the Republican party are working to give the nomination to **C. H. Reed** of this city, but their efforts seem to be lost sight of in the general movement, which has its origin with the great mass of the party, in favor of **W. M. John**. Mr. John is a young man of only 22 years, but he has already won fame in the county as an orator and as a deep student of political economy. He has a quality about him of knowing all people and treating them all upon a broad plane of honesty. His friendship [sic] is not of the mere pretense of the ordinary politician, but whole souled and well meant. With him the opportunity to do a favor for a friend is always welcomed and by the act he considers no person under obligation to him. He is a young man of the common people, and in sending him to Sacramento next fall the people of this county, as well as the state, will reap a decided benefit. His vote may be depended upon to further the interests of that class of people to whom legislation is justly due. He will be free from the trickery of the boss, and if I know him right, no railroad schemer need apply to him. He has warm friends in every section of the county and they are all demanding that he be given the Republican nomination. The younger element of the party, more especially, are enthusiastic for him. It is singular indeed, to see quite a number of Democrats and Populists speak for him. It only serves to demonstrate the great popularity of this stalwart young Republican. I, as well as others, would like to hear from members of other parties as to their men. It is a good idea to discuss the merits of the men who may be nominated, and in that way a first-class representative of the people may be secured.

CITIZEN.

**1896 July 25**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1896 July 25 3:1

**Local News.**

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The candidacy of Warren M. John for the office of Assemblyman appears to be receiving recognition among the people, and it would not be surprising if the young man captures the nomination.

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**1896 Dec 12**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1896 Dec 12 8:1

**FARMERS' INSTITUTE**

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EDITOR RECORD — Last week, during Friday and Saturday, Professors Jaffa and Wickson of the agricultural department of the State University addressed sessions of the institute at Maenucher hall. There was not an unusually large attendance of farmers, dairymen and fruit raisers, but the hall was well filled and the interest manifested was sufficient to demonstrate that a thoroughly non-partisan organization of farmers would prove a decided benefit to the county and would help to broaden out and extend a great many more advantages than are now enjoyed by the man who tills the soil, or makes butter and cheese.

Farmers and dairymen constitute a class of California's very best citizens and the faculty of the State University is doing a very wise thing in sending out its trained professors to disseminate the knowledge which they have gained from practical experiments.

In all probability another session of the institute will be held in this county in October next. At any rate it was deemed advisable to organize the institute permanently and the following committee was elected for that purpose: Judge Steele, Chairman; J. H. Orcutt, treasurer; Warren M. John, secretary; J. A. Girard, S. A. Dana, A. W. Dixon, G. A. Freeman, J. C. Lanner, P. H. Dallidet, jr., and Judge Venable. The committee hopes to enlist the active support of every granger in the county.

Warren M. John, Secretary.

San Luis Obispo, December 9.

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**1896 Dec 19**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1896 Dec 19 4:1

Warren M. John, secretary of the farmers' institute organized in San Luis the early part of the month, in his communication to the Record last week, stated that "the committee hopes to enlist the active support of every granger in the county." This seems inconsistent with the idea put forth by one of the college professors who stated to C. H. Findley when that gentleman asked for a representative for this side of the mountains, that the organization was solely for those of the southern

section. The people on the other side of the mountains have always played the part of hog when there was any representative offices to fill, but when co-operation was necessary, extend their hand - full of empty plums - figuratively speaking. No, Bro. John, we will have an institute and organization for ourselves.

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**1898 Jan 15**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1898 Jan 15 5:5

### LOCAL OCCURRENCES.

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#### Notes of Interest in and Around Paso Robles.

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Warren M. John, the popular journalist of San Luis Obispo, was elected Fire Chief for that city. Mr. John is an experienced fireman and this important office is in charge of the right man. Chief Payne, Mr. John's predecessor, has taken up his residence in New York, hence the vacancy.

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**1898 Jan 22**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1898 Jan 22 1:4

### THE OLDEST OF THE PIONEERS.

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#### Harry J. Bee, Who Came to California in 1830.

The following tribute to the oldest living pioneer in the state is from the pen of Warren M. John of the Tribune [San Luis Obispo]. With an apology to the author we publish in part only this interesting historical event. — Ed.

While the Golden Jubilee Celebration is in progress, it may be interesting to the people of this county to know that the oldest pioneer of California is now residing at the home of his son, Guadalupe Bee, near the little town of Pozo.

Harry Jubilee Bee was born in Tuttle street, Westminster, England, on August 22, 1808, his parents being of Welsh descent.

It was while in the service of the brig "Druid" that he had numerous quarrels with the officers and demanded his discharge. The captain refused it and at Monterey Bee deserted the brig and began his memorable career in California. The subject of this sketch remained but a short time in Monterey and began herding sheep in the Salinas valley. At the Santa Cruz Mission on Aug. 22, 1835, he was naturalized and became a citizen of Mexico, Father Antonio Maria Real officiating. In 1836 he joined the rifle company commanded by Capt. Isaac Graham, for the purpose of aiding in the attempt to liberate California from Mexico.

While in the service of this company he figured quite conspicuously in the warfare around Monterey. He captured General Francisco Figueroa, who was in command of the fort.

In 1837 Bee made a famous horse back ride from Los Angeles to Yerba Buena

(now the busy mart of San Francisco) in five days. He learned that an American vessel was to be captured as a smuggler, and he made the ride to give the warning and save the ship, in which he was successful.

In 1840 he was arrested at Monterey as a suspect by the native Californians and narrowly escaped being shot by order of court martial. All his property however was confiscated, his house burned and his cattle killed. He left for Santa Cruz and from there he went in 1841 to aid in building Sutter's fort. In 1843, after working in the lumber business awhile in Contra Costa county, he took up his residence in Yerba Buena.

Commodore Sloat selected Bee to carry a message to Gen. John C. Fremont to the effect that the "Bear Flag" be hauled down and the American flag be run up in its place. Fremont resented the orders of Sloat and placed Bee under arrest. Fremont's claim was that Sloat's command was solely upon the seas, but Sloat proved his superiority as an officer and Bee was released. "I did not vote for Fremont when he ran for President" Bee remarked in giving these facts for publication.

When the gold fever broke out in 1848, Bee went to the mines and returned to his home in San Jose with \$9000. On July 30, 1860, Felipe Hernandez shot Bee at a Fandango in San Jose. The bullet entered his right leg, necessitating amputation above the knee. Mr. Bee has resided in San Jose for 60 years. When seen at the home of his son near Pozo, this aged pioneer was found in excellent health.

Harry J. Bee was married in 1838 to Claro Morino of San Jose. Mrs. Bee died in 1853. There are now living three sons and one daughter. Bee has 14 grand children and 12 great grand children living in various sections of the state. This aged pioneer was the last born of a family of nine children who are all dead except him.

Mr. Bee has received a special invitation to attend the Golden Jubilee Celebration and Mines Convention in San Francisco.

Let us remember as we rejoice in the splendor of our state upon its 50th anniversary, that all this splendor is the result of the sufferings and hardships of our pioneers. States are not built in a day and the perfection of business affairs in the city and in the rural district is not a possibility upon inception. The state was made by the pioneers of California, and to them we owe a lasting gift of gratitude.

California, of the bright blue sky, of gentle airs that waft refreshing coolness to the brow — the favored land where blooms the poppy in a wilderness of white and pink, beside the deep green orange, the gray olive, the leafy fig, the clustering vine — California in whose crown gleams the yellow gold, may your glorious sunbeams long preserve the lives of our old pioneers, and may happiness and good health, in long years to come, greet Harry J. Bee.

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**1898 Aug 20**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1898 Aug 20 1:4-5

**Republican Convention**

**A Large Delegation Attends**

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

## All Sections of the County Represented

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### Paso Robles Swarms with Delegates, Politicians, etc.

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Republicans they were who assembled in the Opera House last Thursday morning to select candidates for the coming election.

At 9:30 C. H. Reed, chairman of the county central committee, called the meeting to order. J. D. Fowler and Dr. Glass were placed in nomination for chairman of the convention. A ballot was taken and Mr. Fowler was elected temporary chairman.

**Warren M. John** and W. Woods were nominated as temporary secretary. John withdrew and Wood was elected by acclamation. T. W. Henry was elected assistant secretary.

The following committee on credentials was appointed: Dr. J. H. Glass, J. K. Truesdale, Capt. Clark, Smith Shaw and J. F. Beckett.

...

**Warren M. John** was nominated for Assemblyman by C. H. Reed, and there being no opposition the nomination was declared unanimous.

**1898 Nov 12**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1898 Nov 12 1:4

### Election In This County.

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#### The Head of the Ticket goes Demo-Populistic.

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#### Honors Divided on the County Officers.

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Election day in this city passed off with the usual amount of enthusiasm. Groups of men were gathered in significant knots all day long holding street corner caucuses. Carriages hurried hither and thither in the usual busy manner. All in all it was an ordinary election day without particular event. ...

Although the Republicans made an unusual effort to capture the county the head of the ticket went against them.

The State ticket carried in the county by a good majority while the county ticket gives a majority of the offices to the Republicans. Rating the offices according to salary and importance honors are about equally divided.

The Assembly, Sheriff, Auditor, Tax Collector, District Attorney and Superintendent of Schools go to the Democrats and Populists, while the Republicans get the Clerk, Recorder, Assessor, Coroner, Surveyor, Public Administrator and Treasurer. Following are the returns for county offices:

#### ASSEMBLY.

J. K. Burnett, p p d		1772
W. M. John, r		<u>1747</u>
	Plurality	25

[Transcriber's Note: The California Blue Book, or State Roster, 1899, p. 255, indicates a slightly different result: Sixty-seventh District San Luis Obispo.

J. K. Burnett (Dem. P. P.) 1,774

Warren M. John (Rep.) 1,743

Burnett's majority, 31. {Burnett served two terms of two years each.}

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**1898 Nov 26**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1898 Nov 26 1:4

**Candidates' Expenses.**

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Following is a list of candidates' expenses so far filed:

...

W. M. John, for Assembly, \$72.70.

...

J. K. Burnett, for Assembly, \$55.50.

...

[Transcriber's Note: The largest amount spent for an elected office, as reported by this list, was that of E. C. Ivins, for Sheriff, \$424.65.]

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**1900 Aug 4**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1900 Aug 4 2:1

Grove L. Johnson's letter of "Condemnation" to Warren M. John must have made a stir in the Tribune office force. Of course the fellow who corrects proof "didn't mean to" but the blunder is like some of the numerous blunders made by the young Republican candidate for the Assembly. All people are liable to mistakes and the man who has none to his account never set the world afire, but with some people they happen a little too often to bear excuse, and we fear the mistakes of the young aspirant are fatal to a political career which he seems anxious to follow.

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**1900 Jul 28**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1900 Jul 28 2:1

**Not a Candidate.**

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The Independent announces that the Editor of this journal [S. D. Merk] is a candidate for supervisor. We don't know where his informant abides but we presume he is generally found at the Independent sanctum. We are not a candidate for any old thing or at all for that matter. As to the Independent man we feel safe in saying that he is a candidate for an office not that we have heard his name generally mentioned but judging from precedent. Let us see if he will deny being a candidate for the J. P.

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The political pot seems to be boiling with considerable vigor considering the new and insignificant offices to be filled. The assembly fight is the all absorbing topic. The Democratic field is yet open to any one who puts up strength enough.

The Republicans at present center on **Warren M. John**, but for that matter he usually makes a big stir about election time. Judging from the sentiment of the Republicans in this quarter he is like a sheep in a flock of goats and it now looks doubtful if he would get a vote in the convention from here unless sentiment changes. It seems to be a case of too much John being constantly shoved under the unwilling attention of the party leaders. The assembly requires an able man and both parties should endeavor to nominate such a man for then only an able man can be elected.

**1900 Oct 27**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1900 Oct 27 3:4

**San Miguel Items.**

**Notes of Interest from the Mission Town.**

There was a Republican Rally here on the 20th instant, the house was fairly filled with an intelligent and attentive audience. **Warren M. John** spoke on his own candidacy for assembly and also on the issues pending in a neat and well chosen speech thoroughly Republican with kind words to his Democratic friends. He was followed by the Hon. C. S. Smith the big gun of the evening. He was a week burlesquer with a wonderful conceit, and self satisfied air, who sized up his audience in a glance as in his supreme estimation, of small intellectual [sic] calibre. His speech was very long and of that character which is impossible to report. With him the Republican party was the "salt of the earth" and Pres. McKinley the great high priest, the purest, the noblest and the wisest man in America. There were three parties — the Republican, the Democrats and the Bryants — and here he became personal using the word cowards over and over again and other choice and funny sayings which fell harmless up on his opponents, but damaged himself and his party badly. ...

**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments**

**Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**

[p. 124] **Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	Remarks
<b>Warren M. John</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b>	
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	
<b>1902 Feb 11</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>1904 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>

**1903**

Source: California Blue Book, or State Roster. 1903. p. 102

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.**

Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Warren M. John (R.), of San Luis Obispo** Term expires **January 31, 1904.**

**1903**

Source: California Blue Book, or State Roster. 1903. p. 300

WARREN M. JOHN (Republican) was born in Allen County, Kansas, November 27, 1874; came to California in 1887; educated in the public schools of San Luis Obispo County; engaged in the newspaper business; elected Member of the Assembly from San Luis Obispo County in 1900; appointed a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Polytechnic School in 1902; elected Member of the Assembly from the Sixty-third District, November 4, 1902.

## Charles H. Johnson

**1861**

Source: California Blue Book 1903 pp. 403, 458

State Legislative Sessions	Twelfth Session 1861	Assemblymen
<b>Johnson, Charles H.</b> (Breck[enridge] Dem.)		San Luis Obispo 12th

**1891**

Source: Storke, Yda Addis A memorial and biographical history of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California ... Containing a history of this important section of the Pacific coast from the earliest period of its occupancy to the present time, together with glimpses of its prospective future; with ... full-page steel portraits of its most eminent men, and biographical mention of many of its pioneers and also of prominent citizens of to-day. By Mrs. Yda Addis Storke ... Chicago, The Lewis Pub. Co., 1891. p. 563-564.

HON. CHARLES H. JOHNSON'S biography would form an interesting chapter in the history of San Luis Obispo, were all the material at hand, as his life has been one of stirring activity in travel, adventure and public affairs. His early years were passed in Maryland, his native State, and after graduating at college he left his home for the sake of travel to distant countries. He first visited the Pacific Ocean and China, and returned home. In a few months he again set out, this time for England and the East Indies, and China again, in company with an uncle who went as agent for a Baltimore East India house. He made the tour and safely returned home again. Meeting John Finley [\*], and acquaintance of the family, and forming with him a partnership, he loaded the ship *Rhone* for a voyage to the west coast of South America, Sandwich Islands and California, while the Mexican war was in progress. He had assurance from the authorities in Washington that the Government intended to possess California. The *Rhone* sailed from Baltimore December 22, 1847, visited the various ports on the west coast of South America, and arrived at Honolulu July 18, 1848. There the news of the discovery of gold was received; and, instead of disposing of his goods shipped for that port, he and his partner purchased

a large addition to their cargo, and on the thirty-first sailed for San Francisco, arriving August 11. His vessel was the first merchantman to enter the harbor of San Francisco after the publication in California of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The gold discovery and the rush of business in San Francisco caused a change in all the plans of these young merchants. Their design had been, after disposing of the cargo for Mr. Finley, to take the ship to Canton and purchase a cargo of tea for the New York market, while Mr. Johnson would purchase land in San Francisco, take an overland trip to Baltimore, and return and settle in California in the mercantile business; but the times did not permit the execution of these plans. The cargo of the *Rhone* brought over \$100,000 in San Francisco, and the opportunity for establishing a great mercantile house offered itself and required prompt attention. Accordingly, the house of Finley, Johnson & Co. was soon established, and in a short period it became the leading house in California, importing heavily from Peru, Chili, Sandwich Islands and Mexico. Their prosperity was all that could be expected or even desired. Great warehouses were built and stored with hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of goods; but the great fire of May 4, 1850, swept away \$4,000,000 of the property of the merchants of San Francisco, the firm of Finley[\*], Johnson & Co. being among the unfortunate. No insurance could be obtained, and their loss was total. However, they, with the pioneer merchants generally, proceeded forthwith to resume business and build up as if nothing had happened. Ships poured in their cargoes, business prospered and all seemed in a fair way of regaining the fortunes lost. The merchants of that period were generally quite free from debt, and when they lost a few hundred thousand they generally had cargoes of their own on the way, or at least a credit that secured them consignments.

But scarcely had they rebuilt their stores and filled them with goods when, June 14, 1850, a still more extensive fire swept them away, involving a loss of \$5,000,000. Again the work of rebuilding was begun and business resumed. The buildings erected this time were more expensive, many being deemed fire-proof; but on the night of May 3, 1851, the cry of fire was again raised, and during the next day — which was the anniversary of the first fire mentioned — eighteen blocks of the business portion of the city went down before the flames, involving a loss of between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000! Finley, Johnson & Co. then had in store over a quarter of a million dollars' worth of merchandise, all of which was destroyed by the fire. This so greatly reduced their resources that they settled with their creditors and retired from business.

Mr. Johnson removed to Monterey, and soon thereafter was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs of the district, and afterward Inspector of Customs for the port of San Luis Obispo, coming to this county in 1852 and settling here permanently in 1856. The position of Inspector he held until 1860, when he resigned to take the seat in the Legislature, he having been elected to the Assembly of 1860-'61. During his long residence in San Luis Obispo he has always been known as a public-spirited citizen and a close student of the affairs of the world. He has written and spoken much on the early history of this county, and many extracts from his writings have been given in other works, some of which have drifted into this volume. His eloquent and instructive oration delivered before the San Luis Obispo Grange, in 1874, was

published in pamphlet form and most superbly printed. On account of its rich historical allusions, we wish we had space to reprint the oration entire. [sic] ###

\*Hubert Howe Bancroft's History of California (Vol. IV, p. 693), in the brief biography of Charles H. Johnson, identifies this firm's name as: "Findley, J[ohnson], & Co."; in the brief biography of John M. Finley, he refers to him as "F. (John M.), 1848, of firm F., Johnson, & Co., traders at S.F."

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### 1903

Source: Guinn, J. M., History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1903. p. 295-297

On the fertile island of Guernsey, off the coast of Normandy, the Johnson family were living during the latter part of the eighteenth century. There was born and reared Charles H. Johnson, Sr., who for many years during his early life was an officer in the French navy. When the battle of Waterloo with its fatal consequences had given a death blow to the imperial hopes of Napoleon, this officer, compelled to seek another occupation, crossed the ocean to America and settled in Baltimore, Md., where he married a daughter of William Green, of an old Irish family. Their son and the father's namesake was born in Baltimore in 1826, and received his education principally in Asbury College, but, owing to poor health, was obliged to discontinue his studies before the completion of his collegiate course. Travel being deemed advisable, he was sent to Europe with an uncle, who was agent for an East India house.

The first independent venture with which Mr. Johnson was associated began in 1847, when he and John Finley fitted out a ship for the purpose of trading along the west coast of South America. The *Rhone* sailed from Baltimore December 22, 1847, visited the various ports on the west coast of South America, and arrived at Honolulu July 18, 1848. While there, the owners received word that gold had been discovered in California. At once their plans were changed. Instead of disposing of their goods in Honolulu, they purchased a large addition to their cargo, and set sail for San Francisco, where they arrived August 11, their vessel being the first merchantman to enter the harbor of the Golden Gate after publication in California of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The cargo of the *Rhone* brought its owners \$100,000, and with this amount as a capital, the firm of Finley, Johnson & Co. was established, being the first large house started in the city. Their prosperity exceeded their most dazzling hopes. For a time everything went well. Heavy importations were being constantly received from South America, Mexico and the Sandwich Islands. Large warehouses were built and crowded with valuable stock. The owners were among the wealthiest men in the city, when, suddenly, as success seemed assured, everything was swept away. Old timers will recall vividly the great fire of May 4, 1850, with its disastrous consequences. The firm of Finley, Johnson & Co. were among the heaviest losers, and to add to their misfortunes, no insurance could be obtained.

However, with a faith and courage that misfortune could not subdue, the owners of the business began once more. Their credit being good, they were enabled to purchase stock, and soon ships were pouring in their cargoes as before. Stores were rebuilt, business revived and prosperity again seemed assured. Once more the demon of fire swept away in a moment the labor of months, and this second fire was even more destructive than the first, involving a total loss of \$500,000. Not permitting themselves to be disheartened by this adversity, the members of the company again put up buildings, and this time they were declared by experts to be fireproof, but they met the fate of their predecessors, May 4, 1851 on the anniversary of the first fire, eighteen blocks of business houses were destroyed by fire, involving a loss of almost \$12,000,000, Finley, Johnson & Co. losing not only their new buildings, but also \$250,000 worth of merchandise just received. The complication of disasters so greatly reduced their resources that they settled with their creditors and retired from business.

During the early '50s Mr. Johnson removed to Monterey, where he was for a time officer at the port and later deputy collector of customs for the port of Monterey, having charge of the coast to the south. While filling the latter position, he took advantage of favorable openings for investments in San Luis Obispo county and purchased large tracts of land. In 1856 he settled permanently in San Luis Obispo county, where he has since managed his real-estate interests. Some frame buildings that he erected in San Luis Obispo burned down in 1898, but he has since replaced them with substantial brick buildings. His holdings include large tracts in the Chorro valley, where he has a section of fine land.

In politics Mr. Johnson is a Democrat. During 1860 and 1861 he served in the state legislature, where he introduced several bills. His popularity was great and his name was favorably mentioned for congress. Indeed, he would without doubt have been elected had it not been for the Civil war, which started factions before unknown. For eleven years he served as chairman of the town board, and it was largely due to his efforts that the city was incorporated, under act of congress, in 1867. In the same year he drafted the bill to settle the town titles to the actual occupants and secured its passage by the legislature, thus preventing any litigation. For many years, while serving as school trustee, he was able to promote the educational interests of the city. Through the system of breakwater which he started at Port Harford, a good harbor was made possible there, which in itself is of the greatest benefit to the county. In 1860 he took up his home on a ranch near town, where he erected a large adobe residence and made other improvements. Since then he has made his home on this place. Years ago he brought some cuttings of grape vines from Los Angeles, which he set out, and now has the oldest vineyard in the county.

Added to his other abilities Mr. Johnson has a taste for literature and wields a ready pen. In 1882 he wrote a history of San Luis Obispo county, which was published in the *San Luis Tribune*. At different times he has contributed articles to local papers, and often assumed the editorial chair of the *Tribune* when it was under the administration of Walter Murray, its founder. Additional weight is given to his writings from the fact that he has been identified with the county for a longer period

than almost any other man now resident here. Besides his fondness for literature, he has another "hobby," love of travel. During his early life he traveled much and widely, thereby acquiring a fund of cosmopolitan information whose value cannot be overestimated. In later years he has retained his fondness for a study of life in other lands and with other people. During 1894 he made a tour of the world, at which time he visited not only the points seen in his voyages nearly forty years before, but also traveled through Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Germany, India, China and Japan.

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### 1917

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860- History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 78.

### Charles H. Johnson

Coming to this county as deputy collector of customs in 1852, Mr. Johnson came here to reside permanently in 1856, purchasing land on Stenner creek just west of town on the Morro road. He had visited China, India, the islands of the Pacific, and was on his way with a cargo of goods for the Orient when, learning of the discovery of gold, he turned about and entered the port of San Francisco. The goods were sold at a big profit and Mr. Johnson went into the mercantile business. He was a heavy loser in each of three big fires that swept that town, on on May 4, 1850, another June 14, 1850, and the third May 3, 1851. No insurance was collected and Mr. Johnson was financially "broke." He was appointed inspector of customs at Monterey and later at Port San Luis. He retained that office until 1860, when he gave it up to take his seat in the legislature as assemblyman. In 1859, when the town government of San Luis Obispo was organized, Mr. Johnson was elected president of the board of trustees, and up to the time of his death was prominent in all business and social life. He acquired valuable property, but will go down in history as a man whose literary ability contributed many valuable lectures, and articles for publication, on the history of the county. From his writings many interesting facts have been gleaned for this volume. C. H. Johnson was a member of the Vigilance Committee of 1858 [of San Luis Obispo County]. He died on April 8, 1915.

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### F. W. Keller

**1901 Jan 12**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Jan 12 1:5  
**Improvement Club Meeting.**

The Improvement Club held a regular meeting at the office of the president of the club, R. W. Putnam. The election of officers for the ensuing term took place. The same officers being re-elected. They consist of R. W. Putnam, pres.; S. D. Merk, vice pres.; E. M. Bennett, cor. sec.; H. G. Wright, fin. sec.; F. Sparks, treas.; A. Pfister, A. R. Booth and E. C. Watkins, finance committee.

A resolution was introduced to change the by-laws so as to provide for an executive committee of five members. The new clause will be read again at the next meeting and adopted.

It was passed by motion that the club give an "Old Folks Concert" on Feb. 22d and F. Sparks, A. Pfister and **F. W. Keller** were appointed a committee on concert.

Treasurer, F. W. Sparks' report showed that over \$200 had been collected and spent for the city's good during the term just ended and a balance of about \$40 on hand.

The recent concert given by Mr. Marquart and others netted the club \$25. A vote of thanks was extended to those who appeared in the concert.

## Thomas J. Kirk

**1903**

Source: California Blue Book, 1903. p. 276 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

### **Superintendent of Public Instruction.**

THOMAS J. KIRK (Republican) was born near Richmond, Ray County, Missouri, September 9, 1852; resided on a farm near North Salem, Linn County, Missouri, until 1870; educated at the State Normal School of Missouri; for three years was a teacher in Knox County, Missouri; came to California in March, 1873, and for two years was a teacher in Colusa County; removed to Fresno County in 1875; elected County Superintendent of Schools of Fresno County in 1890; re-elected in 1894; elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1898; re-elected November 4, 1902.

## Dawson Lowe

**1890**

Source: **Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890**

Lowe (Dawson Lowe) (p. 31 L#152) Dawson Lowe, **45 yrs. old @ September 7, 1888; nativity: England; occupation: Farmer; local residence: Cuesta [; (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown)]**

**1901 Nov 16**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Nov 16 3:2  
**County News.**

The residence occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Victor Woods was badly damaged by fire Thursday. The building was owned by Dawson Lowe and was insured by \$1000 and the contents owned by Mr. Woods was insured for \$1,800.

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### 1917

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860-

History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 390.

**DAWSON LOWE.**—The late Dawson Lowe was a pioneer of California in the early sixties. He was a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, September 1, 1842, a son of Richard and Elizabeth (Tisdale) Lowe. Dawson Lowe came with his parents from England to the United States, when nine years of age, and was reared in Wisconsin. From a lad he had a longing for the Golden West and often told how he would stand on the hill at his home at Cross Plains, Wisconsin, gazing at the sun going down with a desire that he might some day live on the Pacific Coast. So he worked the harder on farms at eight dollars per month, until he had accumulated enough to take him to New York and thence across the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco.

On his arrival here, at the age of twenty-one, he at once struck into the country, and at Benicia obtained employment with a blacksmith, by whom he was cheated out of his pay after he had worked some time. Then he made his way to Sonoma county, and in the vicinity or [sic] Petaluma worked for wages until he settled on a rented ranch and began farming for himself; and ever since that time he was successful, from a financial standpoint, and his early boyhood wish was realized.

He continued farming in Sonoma county until in 1880 he sold out and located in San Luis Obispo County. Settling near Morro, he farmed two years and then moved near San Luis Obispo, where he purchased one hundred sixty acres of land, which he cultivated, raising large quantities of hay that commanded high prices in the local trade. Later he acquired ranches in different parts of the county, the largest being the Filmore ranch. When the state located the polytechnic school in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Lowe sold two hundred eighty acres, which comprises the present polytechnic school farm. He also owned valuable business property in San Luis Obispo and was at one time a director in the San Luis Obispo Bank.

Mr. Lowe was untied in marriage with Mary Linebaugh, who was born in Sonoma county, a daughter of John and Katherine (Fruits) Linebaugh, both natives of Missouri. They crossed the plains to California with ox teams in 1852 and settled in Sonoma county, where they became well-known pioneers.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson Lowe three children were born— Robert, deceased; S. Jackson; and Mrs. Clara Brooks. Mr. Lowe died May 14, 1908. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Lowe erected the beautiful Monterey Theatre block in San Luis Obispo on Monterey street, on one of the properties left by her husband.

Mr. Lowe was always a liberal supporter of any worthy movement for the betterment of the citizens and the upbuilding of the county with which he was for so many years actively and prominently connected, but all that he did was accomplished in an unostentatious manner.

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## Bernard D. Murphy

{Source: Clyde Arbucke's History of San José (San Jose: Memorabilia of San José, 1986, p. 38):

The City was still in good financial condition when Bernard D. Murphy took over as Mayor on April 16, 1873. Murphy, a son of Martin Murphy, Jr., was a born politician with a propensity for law, banking, land ownership, and more than an occasional game of cards. He had already served a term in the State Assembly. After becoming mayor, he served four-and-a-half consecutive years before taking off for Sacramento to assume the duties of State Senator. {Source: California Blue Book, or State Roster. 1903, p. 422: State Senators - Murphy, Bernard D. (Dem.), Santa Clara [County]; 22d [1877-78], 25th [1883] [Sessions]; Assemblyman, 18th session 1869-70; Trustee Hospital for Chronic Insane, 1889-93; Bank Commissioner, 1890-1902.]

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## George Cooper Pardee

1903

Source: *California Blue Book*, 1903. p. 275 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

### Governor.

GEORGE C. PARDEE (Republican) was born at San Francisco, July 25, 1857; educated in the public and private schools, one of the first being the old City College of San Francisco; later, when the family removed to Oakland he attended the College School in that city, and afterward the Oakland High School; entered the University of California in 1875 and graduated in 1879; then spent two years in the Cooper Medical College; went to Europe and took a four-year course in the University of Leipsic; returned to California in 1885, and commenced practice in his specialty as oculist and aurist; was member of the City Board of Health of Oakland, 1889-91; member of the City Council of Oakland, 1891-93; Mayor of the City of Oakland, 1893-95; Regent of the University of California, 1899-1903; elected Governor, November 4, 1902.

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1978

Source: Hart, James D. *A Companion to California*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978. p. 321

PARDEE, George Cooper (1857-1941), 21st governor of the state (1903-07), and first native-born to be elected to that office, was a graduate of the state university. A mayor of Oakland, regent of the University, and active in Republican politics, he was also an oculist. He devoted much time to matters of conservation of natural

resources. A reservoir of the Mokelumne River, from which Oakland gets its drinking water, was named for him.

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## Chauncey Hatch Phillips

**1883**

Source: Angel, Myron. History of San Luis Obispo County, California, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men and Pioneers. Oakland, Cal. : Thompson & West. 1883. [portrait facing p. 60; biography following portrait on two unnumbered pages]

### C. H. PHILLIPS.

THROUGHOUT this history, particularly in the chapter relating specially to the city of San Luis Obispo, the name of C. H. Phillips frequently occurs. There are men whose inventive genius, leading enterprise, and great energy make history while they live and wherever their lot may be cast. Mr. Phillips has thus made history in his endeavors to build the San Luis Obispo Railroad, in his organization of the San Luis Obispo Bank, and in the company to supply the city with water. His extensive operations in real estate have made his name familiar to all the people of the county. With his activity he has made business a success, and advanced all the interests surrounding him. Many people are so dependent on the circumstances of the times that they wait until opportunities have passed before they decide, but Mr. Phillips makes circumstances conform to his desires, and is at once ready to reap all the advantages that may arise. Tall in form, of strong physique, and commanding appearance, he represents the type of energy and force. Such is one of the principal business men of San Luis Obispo.

Chauncey Hatch Phillips is the full baptismal name of this gentleman. He was born in Wadsworth, Medina County, Ohio, July 5, 1837. His father was Nelson Phillips, and his mother Almira Hatch, the first being a native of New York, born in 1807, and the latter of Vermont, born in 1808. The father was of the old pre-Revolutionary stock, of New York, his grandfather having served in the war for independence, and was taken prisoner by the Indians. Mr. Phillip's [sic] mother was a descendant of one of the early settlers of New England, coming from England in the colonial days. In their early married life they were farmers in the State of New York, but became pioneers of the West, locating first in the wilds of Ohio, then at a later day making their home in the lovely land of Wisconsin, by the shores of Fond du Lac. Wherever young C. H. Phillips was in those early days, there he went to school, and wherever he has been through life, there he has been a student, thus fitly claiming an education of the first-class for every rank of social and business life. Removing to Fond du Lac at the age of eight years, he there remained for eight years more, when, at the age of sixteen, he left his home to make his own way in the world. He went to Walworth County, in the same State. With his ambition, he sought the higher plains of life, teaching school, reading law, and various pursuits in the way of earning a livelihood.

In 1862 he returned to Fond du Lac, married, and early in 1864 came by steamer to California, leaving his wife and child at home. He remained in San Francisco but ten days; then continued his journey to Napa. There he engaged as teacher, opening his school April 4, 1864. His first term was for three months. At first his success seemed doubtful, as he adopted a new system which took the people by surprise. But at the end of his term, he had given such satisfaction that he was re-engaged for a term of five months. After this he entered the law office of Hon. Chancellor Hartson to continue the study of the law. In a short time he received the appointment of Deputy County Clerk, under J. Maurice Carter, afterward of Marshall & Carter, of Salt Lake, a noted law firm. After this he was appointed Chief Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue of the Fifth District, by the Collector, Hon. W. C. S. Smith.

This was in the spring of 1865, and was the opening of a business peculiarly adapted to Mr. Phillips, being the handling and accounting for of large sums of money, in transactions requiring the utmost exactness, and pursuing minute ramifications. He was in the Internal Revenue service five years, till April 1, 1870, and part of the time was also clerk in the bank of James H. Goodman & Co. At one time, while thus employed, he organized a bank at Woodland, Yolo County, but it did not open for business. Mr. Phillips was then appointed Chief Deputy Collector of the Second District, at San Jose, by Dr. L. H. Cary, the Collector. In the following year the district was consolidated with the First, or San Francisco District, and the office removed to San Francisco. There the office was entirely under the charge of Mr. Phillips, and the receipts aggregated \$5,000,000 annually, he having control of this vast sum without bonds, none being then required. Formerly he had given bonds in a large amount, with James H. Goodman, C. Hartson, Judge Crouch, and H. H. Knapp as his sureties. These were men with whom he had been associated at Napa.

In the fall of 1871 he sought a new home in San Luis Obispo, and proceeded to organize a bank for that place, which until then had no such institution. In this he was associated with H. M. Warden. The bank was opened for business on the 13th of December, 1871, and continued successfully in business as a private institution until October 15, 1873, when it was merged into a corporation, styled the Bank of San Luis Obispo, with a capital stock of \$200,000. The incorporators were C. H. Phillips, H. M. Warden, E. W. Steele, George Steele, P. W. Murphy, J. P. Andrews, Hugh Isom, D[rury] W[oodson] James, M. Gilbert, John Harford, Wm. L. Beebee, James H. Goodman, and I. G. Wickersham. H. M. Warden was President and C. H. Phillips Cashier, and the organizer without the knowledge of any but the incorporators. Mr. Phillips was Cashier four years, then President one year, and was its manager at all times.

In the history of the bank are many interesting incidents, but a few of which will illustrate the character of the manager. In August, 1875, came the great revulsion, and the failure of the Bank of California, then the financial dictator of the Pacific Coast. All ordinary banks feel as if they must succumb, and suspend payments in such cases, spreading the ruin. Mr. Phillips did nothing of the kind. The news of the failure of the Bank of California was received by telegraph. Any nervousness or exhibition of fear would have been taken as evidence of weakness, and would have

caused a panic, a run, and failure. But Mr. Phillips at once posted a notice that all demands would be paid, and met his customers with perfect coolness and reassuring confidence. This averted a panic, and saved the bank. A few of the wealthy depositors stood by him manfully. R. E. Jack had on deposit \$18,000. This was told, and he declared his confidence in the bank and that the money should stay. Nathan Goldtree had \$10,000, which he at first proposed to withdraw, but the explanation of Mr. Jack and the coolness of Mr. Phillips reassured him, and he allowed it to remain.

Mr. Phillips' residence was, in 1878, in the northern part of the city at some distance from his neighbors.

On the 1st of April, 1878, at about 8 o'clock in the evening he was called to the front door, where he found a suspicious looking character, who invited him to come out. This Mr. Phillips declined, and was stepping back into the house, when the villain caught him and struck at his breast with a large knife. A struggle ensued which was witnessed by a young daughter of Phillips, there being a bright light in the hall shining out of the door. Mr. Phillips at last escaped and closed the doors, and the robbers decamped. Several had been seen, but two had been so closely observed by himself and daughter that a description was given by which they were subsequently arrested and convicted. The robbers, as that was proven to be their business, and robbing the bank was their intention, were two Mexicans, one Frenchman, and one Swiss.

In October, 1878, he retired from the bank after being five years its manager, during which it had paid its stockholders \$100,000 in dividends. It had a credit of \$50,000 in San Francisco.

After leaving- the bank he engaged in the business of real estate and insurance agency, which, with a few experimental episodes, he has continued to the present, making a grand success. The present style of the firm is C. H. Phillips & Co., being associated with Mr. P. H. Dallidet, Jr., a young gentleman, a native of San Luis Obispo, and who for four or five years was a deputy in the office of the County Clerk.

The transactions of Mr. Phillips, both before and after his association with Mr. Dallidet, have been very large. In 1875 he was the purchaser of the Morro y Cayucos Rancho of 8,100 acres, but the title was not then satisfactory, but at a subsequent date the title was perfected and the land sold on terms very satisfactory to all. The town of Cayucos was laid out in 1875 under Mr. Phillips' supervision, and he gave broad and straight streets, one of which, Ocean Avenue, is one mile in length and 100 feet in width.

In May, 1882, he made arrangements with Steele Brothers to sell for them their lands on the Corral de Piedra, Balsa de Chemissal, Arroyo Grande, and Pismo Ranchos, and these lands were sold at good prices. In September, 1882, he bought the Corbitt tract of 1,900 acres for \$8,000, and sold it in ninety days for \$16,000. In 1883 he took the San Miguelito Rancho to sell, and many other large transactions are recorded. His business has been so successful that from June, 1882, to April, 1883, his profits aggregated \$30,000.

Mr. Phillips, although so absorbed in business, takes much interest in politics and public, educational, and social affairs. In 1879 he received the nomination by

the Republicans for the position of Railroad Commissioner for the Third District of California. He was opposed by Gen. George Stoneman, nominated by the Workingmen's Party, by the New Constitution Party and by the Democrats. As an example of how outside, or class parties, are governed by principle is shown the fact that the Prohibition Party, professedly temperate, indorsed the nomination of General Stoneman, who was openly opposed to their principles, and rejected Mr. Phillips, a strictly temperance man. With the strange combinations against him Mr. Phillips was defeated. In 1879 he commenced the publication of the *Advocate*, a newspaper which he edited and conducted with ability for nearly one year, when he sold it. He has occupied many positions of public trust and influence, being for four years a member of the Town Council and part of the time President, during which many important improvements were made in the city, building the bridges over San Luis Creek, etc. He has also been school trustee and President of the Board of Education, in all instances being the active power of the different bodies of which he was a member.

Mr. Phillips is a member of the Masonic Order, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Chosen Friends, and of the Knights of Pythias. In religion he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics a Republican.

He has a very interesting family of wife and seven children, one being married and residing with her husband, Mr. Sperry, on the Arroyo Grande, and the others occupying their splendid home in the suburbs overlooking the city of San Luis Obispo. Mr. Phillips was married at Fond du Lac, January, 18, 1862, to Jane Woods, a native of Vermont. Their children are Mary Woods Phillips, now Mrs. Sperry, born at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, January 10, 1863; Jane, born in Napa, September 17, 1867; Eliza, born in Napa, August 29, 1869; C. H., Jr., born in San Francisco, August 28, 1871; Josephine, born in San Luis Obispo, January 24, 1874; Chester D., born in San Luis Obispo, September 10, 1876, and Nelson Burnham, born in San Luis Obispo, September 15, 1881.

## Truman Reeves

1903

Source: *California Blue Book*, 1903. p. 276 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

### Treasurer.

TRUMAN REEVES (Republican) was born at Chardon, Ohio, August 17, 1840; attended district school; was apprenticed at the watchmaking trade, which he followed until the beginning of the Civil War in 1861; enlisted at the first call for three months' volunteers, and at the expiration of that term of enlistment entered the service for three years; in 1864 re-enlisted for three years, or during the war; lost his left arm in the battle of Cold Harbor in 1865; was appointed Postmaster at Orwell, Ohio, in 1865; elected Recorder of Ashtabula County, Ohio, in 1868, serving in that capacity six years; arrived in California in 1875 and engaged in the jewelry business; was a member of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Assemblies, representing the County of San Bernardino; appointed by the United State Census Bureau to take

the recorded indebtedness of the Seventh Congressional District of California in 1890; Treasurer of San Bernardino County, 1891-99; elected State Treasurer in 1898; re-elected November 4, 1902.

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## Richard Mathew Shackelford

**1891**

Source: Storke, Yda Addis A memorial and biographical history of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California ... Containing a history of this important section of the Pacific coast from the earliest period of its occupancy to the present time, together with glimpses of its prospective future; with ... full-page steel portraits of its most eminent men, and biographical mention of many of its pioneers and also of prominent citizens of to-day. By Mrs. Yda Addis Storke ... Chicago, The Lewis Pub. Co., 1891. p. 347-348.

HON. R. M. SHACKELFORD, an eminent business man of El Paso de Robles, is a native of the Blue Grass State, where his ancestors for generations, both on the maternal and paternal sides, have lived. The Shackelfords of Kentucky claim both Scotch and English progenitors, while Mr. Shackelford's mother's family, the Dickersons, claim English forefathers only. Mr. Shackelford was born in Kentucky, and came to California in 1853, when a lad of seventeen years. Having been identified with California during the whole of its history as a State, and having received his education here, he claims the right and distinction of being a Californian in the fullest sense. While Mr. Shackelford has made a remarkable business success in life, yet like most pioneers he has seen hard times and many reverses, not withstanding the misfortunes and trials have been to him, as he expresses it, "golden experiences." To appreciate health we must know what it is to be sick; and to enjoy sunshine we must have been in the deepest shades.

Mr. Shackelford's business career has been a remarkable one. A portion of his boyhood was spent in Missouri; and he was but fourteen years of age when the gold excitement occurred in California. As soon as he was old enough he came to this coast, a poorly educated boy, seventeen years of age. In Tuolumne County, he worked hard all day, and at night studied until ten and eleven o'clock, in the winter time, and in this way he received his education. For five years he dug in the mines in Tuolumne and El Dorado Counties, both placer and quartz, with but fair success. In 1858 in engaged in draying and handling freight with ox teams over the mountains. He received eighty cents per hundred for a single trip, the price of a pair of oxen. They took their provisions and camped out at night; he followed this business successfully for eighteen months. At Marysville he engaged in a flour-mill, forwarding and commission business until 1863. By this time he had made a little money and had it invested in this business; his warehouse was full of flour and grain, but the floods of 1862 and 1863 filled the warehouse with water, and the accumulation of years of industry was destroyed. He was compelled to start out again with ox teams, hauling freight from Marysville to Virginia City. He then went into the lumber business, which he manufactured until 1865. In this year he was

Compiled by Stanley D. Stevens

elected a member of the first Legislature of the State of Nevada, by the Republican party, and served one term. In the fall of 1866 he returned to Los Gatos, California, where he opened a general merchandise store and lumber business connected with it. In 1868 he sold out, and in connection with two other gentlemen bought 22,000 acres of land, on which the town of King City now stands. In 1873 he sold out his interest and settled at Hollister, California, and engaged in a mill and warehouse. In this business he is still interested, the property having been transferred to the Central Milling Company. In November, 1886, he removed to El Paso de Robles, and engaged in the construction of warehouses, and started lumber yards along the line of the railroad between Soledad and San [sic] Margarita. He organized the Southern Pacific Milling Company, etc., and they have nine warehouses fifty feet wide and aggregating nearly a mile in length, and as many lumber yards.

Mr. Shackelford has purchased 1,700 acres of land adjoining Paso Robles, and has organized a company known as the Stock and Fruit Company's Association. On this land they have established a breeding farm, are raising fine horses, and have also a very large orchard. Mr. Shackelford is one of the directors and a stockholder of the water works of the town, and is a stockholder and director in the Central Milling Company. Mr. Shackelford, with Messrs. Steele & Wheelan, organized the Southern Mill and Warehouse Company; they have six warehouses and lumber yards, and the planing-mill at Ventura City.

Mr. Shackelford's father and grandfather were both born in Kentucky, and both bore the same name, James Shackelford. The grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution, and in the war of 1812 died fighting the Indians, at the battle of Hall's Gap. James Shackelford, Jr., married Sarah A. Dickerson. Her father, Beverly Dickerson, was a stock-raiser and tobacco planter. Mr. Shackelford's parents had twelve children, of whom ten are living. He was the fourth child in this numerous family, and was born in Kentucky, January 17, 1835. He was married in 1861 to Miss Mary Louise McQueston, a native of Wisconsin. They have one son, Otto Shackelford, a promising young merchant of El Paso de Robles. Mrs. Shackelford's father, John McQueston, is a native of Michigan, of Scotch descent. Mr. and Mrs. Shackelford are members of the Methodist Church, and were important factors in the building of the neat church and parsonage in their town. Mr. Shackelford was a trustee, and gave the ground and \$1,200 to aid in the building.

In March, 1887, Mr. Shackelford built on a block of good ground, purchased for that purpose, a beautiful cottage, in which he resides with his family. He is a Knight Templar, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He has been a Republican since the organization of that party.

1897 Jan 16

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1897 Jan 16 5:1

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.**  
**Notes of Interest in and Around**  
**Paso Robles.**

R. M. Shackelford is at Sacramento making the acquaintance of law makers.

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

**1898 Aug 27**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1898 Aug 27 3:3

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.  
Notes of Interest in and Around  
Paso Robles.**

R. M. Shackelford has returned from Alaska and is expected in Paso Robles this evening.

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1901 Feb 2

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Feb 2 3:3

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.  
Notes of Interest in and Around  
Paso Robles.**

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Shackelford [sic] are preparing to remove to San Francisco.

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1901 Feb 9

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Feb 9 3:1

**LOCAL OCCURRENCES.  
Notes of Interest in and Around  
Paso Robles.**

R. M. Shackelford [sic] departed Wednesday evening for San Luis.

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1901 Feb 16

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1901 Feb 16 1:6

Petition of Insolvency Filled. [sic]

Mr. R. M. Shackelford for many years a resident and extensive business man of this city filed a petition of insolvency last Saturday [Feb. 9th] at Los Angeles.

Mr. Shackelford has been one of the prime movers in inaugurating several important business enterprises in this city and has rendered material assistance in the building up of Paso Robles. His failure is much regretted by his friends in this city.

The official schedule of Mr. Shackelford's liabilities which has been filed with L. Lamy, commissioner in bankruptcy of San Luis in as follows:

<b>SECURED CREDITORS</b>	
<b>AMOUNTS</b>	
<b>City Bank Santa Cruz</b> [F. A. Hihn, Vice President]	\$27,000
<b>City Bank, do</b> [F. A. Hihn, Vice President]	2,500
C. J. Lathrop	6,000
Grangers Bank	8,000
Estate of L. P. Drexter	4,300
J. C. and Edward Coleman	19,470
Southern Pacific Milling Co.	6,133
Bank of Paso Robles	9,300
Montell Taylor	3,000
County Bank of San Luis Obispo	9,000

County Bank, do	28,274
First National Bank of San Jose	7,000

**UNSECURED.**

Bank of Monterey	\$5,000.00
Andrews Banking Co.	8,388.35
Estate of W. W. Stow	4,700.00
Estate of W. P. Daugherty	6,000.00
Commercial Savings Bank of San Jose	268.00
San Francisco Board of Trade	1,500.00
Baker & Hamilton	650.00
Studebaker Bros. Mfg. Co.	50.00
Estate of E. W. Steele	3,500.00
Southern Mill & Warehouse Co.	726.79
Tribune Printing Co.	12.00
<b>Santa Cruz Sentinel</b>	12.00

The total liabilities aggregate \$174,275 and the assets amount to \$84,495.

**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments  
Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**

[p. 124] **Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission
<b>R. M. Shackelford</b>	<b>San Luis Obispo [sic]</b>	<b>1902 Sep 19</b>
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires
<b>1902 Sept 24</b>	<b>Term prescribed by law</b>	<b>[1903 Jan 31]</b>
Remarks <b>Vice Wm. Graves Deceased</b>		

[Transcriber's Note: R. M. Shackelford was a resident of Paso Robles. Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County, 1900: **Richard Mathew Shackelford**, Paso Robles Precinct #141; age: 64 yrs.; residence: Paso Robles]

**1902 Feb 15**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Feb 15 1:4

**LAID TO REST.**

**Death of Mrs. R. M. Shackelford.**

The many friends of the late Mrs. R. M. Shackelford were shocked at the news of her death which occurred in San Francisco last Monday. Mrs. Shackelford had been seriously ill for sometime, but it was hoped was improving.

The remains were brought to Paso Robles on Tuesday afternoon to Paso Robles

The Hihn-Younger Archive, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz

on Tuesday afternoon and taken immediately to the Methodist church. The funeral was held Wednesday, the Rev. Mr. Clague of San Luis Obispo conducted the beautiful ceremonies of the church in a most impressive manner. Appropriate music was rendered by a specially selected choir. The altar and casket were covered with choice flowers, sent by loving hands. Old friends from many places came in loving sympathy to pay their last tribute of respect to her beautiful Christian character, and to assist in putting away all that was mortal of their well beloved friend.

A choir composed of Mesdames Earl, Ladd, Cliff and Smith and Messrs. Passmore, Barnett, McIntyre and Cliff rendered several beautiful hymns. The pall bearers who accompanied the remains to their final resting place in Odd Fellows cemetery were Messrs. Frost, Bowen, Tolle, Chas. Steinbeck, J. D. Armstrong and C. A. Farnum.

### 1902 Sep 13

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1902 Sep 13 3:1

#### LOCAL OCCURRENCES.

#### Notes of Interest In and Around Paso Robles.

Mr. R. M. Shackelford left for Los Angeles Tuesday.

### 1903

Source: Guinn, J. M., History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1903. pp. 306, 309.

#### R. M. SHACKELFORD.

A career which is worthy of emulation from many standpoints is that of R. M. Shackelford, who is affectionately called the "father" of Paso Robles, and who, in his capacity as superintendent of the warehouses of the Southern Pacific Milling Company, has not only given employment to thousands, but has occupied the public eye as a humanitarian, and general promoter of all that is excellent. This much beloved citizen was born in Washington county, near Mackville, Ky., January 17, 1836, a son of James Shackelford, also born in Kentucky. A planter by occupation and a stonemason by trade, James Shackelford contracted for public buildings, afterwards engaging as a tobacco planter. He removed to Missouri in 1842, settling near Fayette, Howard county, but after the war taking up his residence in Montgomery county, where he bought the farm upon which he died. The paternal grandfather was also born in Kentucky, and met death at the hands of an Indian, beside whose dead body his own was found at Halls Gap, Ky. He represented the first generation of his family in America, his brothers, John, James and William, settling respectively in Virginia, Kentucky and Alabama. The mother of R. M. Shackelford was Sarah A., daughter of Beverly Dickerson, of Montgomery county, Ky., a planter who raised corn and tobacco in large quantities.

When eight years of age R. M. Shackelford went with the rest of the family to Missouri, and as he was one in a family of nine daughters and two sons, it became

necessary for him to make an early start to support himself. His education was acquired under difficulties, for while in Missouri he had little opportunity to do anything but work around the home farm, and in later years he made up for lost time by attending night school after working in the mines during the daytime. He was sixteen years of age when he started to drive a bull team across the plains, and the memorable journey was begun March 14, 1852, and ended in Sacramento, September 23, 1852. He was variously occupied until 1857, in which year he became identified with the Marysville milling enterprise owned by A. D. Starr & Co., with whom he stayed for several years. He afterward established the Merchants' Forwarding Company, but sustained severe loss during the floods of 1862. He then started in freighting across country to Virginia City, Nev., and while in the latter state was elected to the assembly convened directly after Nevada's inauguration as a state.

In 1866 Mr. Shackelford located in Los Gatos, Santa Clara county, Cal., where he started and maintained a general merchandise store, and in connection therewith operated a lumber yard business. In 1869 he removed to Salinas, and with a partner bought twenty-two hundred acres on the Salinas river, called the San Lorenzo ranch, which he disposed of in 1873. During that year he removed to Hollister, San Benito county, and engaged in milling with a company in which he was interested, and which is now the Sperry Flour Company. Since 1886 he has been identified with Paso Robles, and has been the manager of the warehouses of the Southern Pacific Milling Company, an enormous responsibility requiring just such ability as is credited to Mr. Shackelford by all who know him. Forty-one stations located all along the line of the railroad handle about two hundred and fifty thousand tons of grain yearly, including wheat, barley and beans, and it is needless to say that several hundred hands are required to carry on the enterprise. It is worthy of note that the genial superintendent takes a personal interest in the young men who come under his direction, and many kindnesses [sic] are reported of him in connection with those who appealed to him for aid. His early struggles are never lost track of in the success which has crowned his mature years, and he honors all who are striving in the same way for influence and money, and general advancement. He is noted for paying good wages to all who work for him, and his employes [sic] feel that they are appreciated. One and all are enthusiastic in their praise of their benefactor and friend.

In addition to his other responsibilities Mr. Shackelford is manager of the Salinas Lumber Company. When he first came to California he was a Democrat through and through, having been converted through Horace Greeley's articles in the *New York Tribune*. His first presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont. He was a school trustee in Hollister from 1874 until 1886, and two weeks after arriving in Paso Robles was appointed to a similar position; thus he has served continuously on the school board for nearly thirty years. He is the friend of education, and by his enthusiasm on the subject has brought about many improvements in the localities in which he has lived. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, being a charter member of the latter organization at Hollister.

Mrs. Shackelford was formerly Mary L. McQuestin, a native of Galena, Ill., and

of this union there have been born four children, of whom two are living: Otto, employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad in Nevada as a contractor and civil engineer; and Lulu, living at home. Mr. Shackelford is possessed of splendid personal attributes, and the kind of determination which more than aught else has developed the latent resources of the west and established a precedent in business and citizenship.

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### 1917

Source: Morrison, Annie L. Stringfellow, 1860- History of San Luis Obispo County and Environs, California, with Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs Who have been Identified with the Growth and Development of the Section from the Early Days to the Present. History by Mrs. Annie L. Morrison and John H. Haydon. Illustrated. Complete in one Volume. Los Angeles, California: Historic Record Company, 1917. 1038 p. : plates, ports. ; 28 cm. pp. 263-264.

**RICHARD M. SHACKELFORD.**—Born in Washington county, near the town of Mackville, Ky., January 17, 1834, the late Richard M. Shackelford of Paso Robles was the son of James and Sarah (Dickerson) Shackelford, who were natives of the Blue Grass State. When he was eight years old his parents took him to Missouri; and as he was one of a family of eleven children, it became necessary for him to make an early start to support himself. His opportunities for attending school were limited, but later in life he made up for lost time by going to night school. At the age of eighteen he started across the plains, driving an ox team; and the journey that began March 14, 1852, ended in Sacramento on September 23, of that year.

Young Shackelford was variously employed until 1857, in which year he became identified with a milling enterprise in Marysville. He later established the Merchants' Forwarding Company; but after sustaining severe losses during the floods of 1862, he began freighting across the country to Virginia City, Nev., and while in the latter state was elected to the Assembly [of Nevada] which convened immediately after Nevada was admitted to statehood in the Union.

In 1866 Mr. Shackelford located in Los Gatos, Cal., where he conducted a general merchandise store and a lumber yard; and in 1869 he sold out and went to Salinas, purchased the Lorenzo ranch and farmed until 1873, when he sold and moved to Hollister, and engaged in the milling business. The mill he then owned is now one of the many belonging to the Sperry Flour Company. Since 1886, Mr. Shackelford has been identified with Paso Robles. For many years he was connected with the Southern Pacific Milling Company as manager of their warehouses, and later was president of the Salinas Valley Lumber Co.

When he first landed in California, Mr. Shackelford was a Democrat; but he was converted by reading Horace Greeley's articles in the New York Tribune, and he cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. Two week after he arrived in Paso Robles, he was appointed a trustee of the school, and for thirty years served continuously on the school board. He was a friend of education and did much to raise the standard of the schools. Mr. Shackelford was often affectionately called

"Father of Paso Robles." He was a Mason and a man of splendid character. In 1880 he was united in marriage with Miss L. McQuestin, who was born in Galena, Ill., and died about 1900, and four children were born of that union. In 1907 he was married the second time, to Mrs. Alice Eugenia Follansbee, a native of Ogle county, Illinois, who still survives him. Mr. Shackelford passed away January 12, 1915, and his death was a severe loss to both San Luis Obispo County and the state.

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## Sylvester Clark Smith

**1884**

Source: California State Library. California Information File. [Microfiche edition]

Registration record	Kern County Great Register, 1886
Name:	Smith, Sylvester Clark
Age:	25
Nativity:	Iowa
Occupation:	Teacher
Residence:	Glennville
Registration:	June 25, 1884

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**1892**

Source: California State Library. California Information File. [Microfiche edition]

Smith, Sylvester Clark      Registration record      Kern County Great Register, 1892

Name:	Smith, Sylvester Clark
Age:	33
Height:	5' 7 1/4 in.
Complexion:	Light
Color of eyes:	Gray
"    " hair:	Lt Brn
Occupation:	Editor
Nativity:	Iowa

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**1897 Jan 16**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1897 Jan 16 1:5

### Petition for a Normal School.

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A meeting of the representative citizens of San Luis Obispo was held in the City Hall of that city last Saturday. The purpose of the meeting was the preparation of a petition to the Legislature for the establishment of a Normal School in San Luis. Myron Angell [sic] was made chairman of a committee to compile the petition and representatives will be sent to Sacramento in the interest of the project. Building

sites have been offered and much local aid is promised. Assemblyman [James Kennedy] Burnett of this county and **Senator Smith** of Kern county will be prime movers in the legislature for the proposition.

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**1899 Jan 14**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1899 Jan 14 3:4 & 3:5  
County News.

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Senator Smith has introduced a bill asking for the appropriation of \$100,000 for the establishment of a Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo county.

...

The bill for the Polytechnic School has been introduced by Senator Smith, joint senator for San Luis Obispo and Kern counties.

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**1900 Oct 27**

Source: Paso Robles *Record* 1900 Oct 27 3:4

**San Miguel Items.**

**Notes of Interest from the Mission Town.**

There was a Republican Rally here on the 20th instant, the house was fairly filled with an intelligent and attentive audience. Warren M. John spoke on his own candidacy for assembly and also on the issues pending in a neat and well chosen speech thoroughly Republican with kind words to his Democratic friends. He was followed by the Hon. C. S. Smith the big gun of the evening. He was a week burlesquer with a wonderful conceit, and self satisfied air, who sized up his audience in a glance as in his supreme estimation, of small intellectual [sic] calibre. His speech was very long and of that character which is impossible to report. With him the Republican party was the "salt of the earth" and Pres. McKinley the great high priest, the purest, the noblest and the wisest man in America. There were three parties — the Republican, the Democrats and the Bryants — and here he became personal using the word cowards over and over again and other choice and funny sayings which fell harmless up on his opponents, but damaged himself and his party badly.

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**1902 Jan 31**

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

**Executive Appointments**

**Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage**

[p. 124]

**Trustees of the California Polytechnic School**

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	Remarks
<b>S. C. Smith</b>	<b>Bakersfield</b>	<b>1902 Jan 31</b>	
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	
<b>1902 Feb 11</b>	<b>1 year</b>	<b>1903 Jan 31</b>	<b>None</b>

**1903**

Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1903. p. 102

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL - SAN LUIS OBISPO.**

**Appointed by the Governor. Term, four years. No pay. (Statutes 1901, p. 115.)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

George C. Pardee	Governor, and ex officio member of Board.
Thomas J. Kirk	Superintendent of Public Instruction, and ex officio member of Board.
<b>S. C. Smith (R.), of Bakersfield, <i>President</i></b>	<b>Term expires January 31, 1907.</b>
F. A. Hihn (R.), of Santa Cruz, <i>Vice President</i>	Term expires January 31, 1905.
R. M. Shackelford (R.), of Paso Robles	Term expires January 31, 1907.
Warren M. John (R.), of San Luis Obispo	Term expires January 31, 1904.
E. J. Wickson (R.), of Alameda County	Term expires January 31, 1906.

**1904**

Source: California State Library. California Information File. [Microfiche edition]

Smith, S[ylvester] C[lark]  
State Senator 34th dist., 1894      native Iowa; teacher; lawyer;  
"Republican nominees for Congress from California 8th dist."

S. F. Chronicle, Oct. 20, 1904.      4-6 port.      5-7 sketch

Smith, Sylvester Clark  
Elected to Congress

Chronicle	Nov 10 1904	4-1
	Dec 2 1904	3-4

**1905**

Source: California State Library. California Information File. [Microfiche edition]

Smith, Hon. Sylvester C  
Sketch.      Guinn J M  
History..of the San Joaquin Valley. 1905. p. 289.

**1911**

Source: *California Blue Book, or State Roster*. 1911. p. 454.

**EIGHTH [Congressional] DISTRICT.**  
COUNTIES: Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura (11 counties). Population (1910), 346,691.

[continued next page]

SYLVESTER CLARK SMITH (Republican), of Bakersfield, was born on a farm near Mount Pleasant, Iowa, August 26, 1858; was educated in the district school and at Howe's Academy, Mount Pleasant; moved to California in the fall of 1879; farmed and taught school in Colusa County, and in 1883 went to Kern County to teach; while teaching he was studying law, and in 1885 was admitted to practice and located at Bakersfield, California, where he still resides. In 1886 a number of farmers bought a newspaper plant with which to establish a paper to represent their views on a question of water right, which was then engrossing their attention, and Mr. Smith was employed to edit the paper—the Kern County *Echo*; three years later he bought the paper and continued to edit it till 1897, when he returned to his law practice; is still the principal owner of the paper, now a morning daily, and does occasional editorial writing for it. He was elected to the State Senate in 1894 and again in 1898, serving eight years; was elected to the Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth, and Sixty-first Congresses, and reelected to the Sixty-second Congress, receiving 28,202 votes, to 18,958 for W. E. Irving (Democrat).

### 1913

Source: California State Library. California Information File. [Microfiche edition]

Smith, Sylvester C  
Death

Examiner Jan 27 1913 1-2

### 1914

Source: Morgan, Wallace M. History of Kern County, California, With Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women of the County Who Have Been Identified With Its Growth and Development From the Early Days to the Present. History by Wallace M. Morgan. Los Angeles, California : Historic Record Company, 1914. p. 299-307. Portrait facing p. 299.

**HON. SYLVESTER CLARK SMITH.**—The Smith genealogical records indicate an identification with American soil dating from the arrival in Massachusetts of John Smith of Puritan fame and continuing through all of the succeeding generations, each member stanch of purpose, earnest of soul and positive in achievement. The family remained resident in New England until finally the westward drift of emigration bore Sylvester Smith [the subject's grandfather] in its tide and planted him upon the then frontier of Northern New York. Nor did this represent the end of his journeyings. With true instinct he followed the star of empire in its course toward the prairies and plains of the west. When his son, Edward, a native of New York, was still a small child the family removed to Ohio and later traveled by wagon to Illinois. In that state Edward grew to manhood, rugged in body and resolute in character. The vicissitudes incident to frontier existence had developed within him self-reliance and independence and he was admirably qualified to contribute to the development of the middle west. As early as 1835, when Iowa was yet in the

infancy of its agricultural progress, he removed to that state, where he met and married Celia Shockley, a native of Ohio. She, too, came of staunch pioneer ancestry. In infancy she had been taken from Ohio to Iowa by her parents, who became residents of the last-named state at a time when it was very sparsely populated.

Taking up land in the rich but undeveloped section of southeastern Iowa Edward Smith gave himself entirely to the task of changing the homestead into a productive and remunerative farm. As the years went by he and his wife had the capable assistance of their children, numbering five sons and three daughters. While riches did not come to them, they gained that which is more to be desired, the deep respect of acquaintances and the implicit confidence of all with whom they had social intercourse or business dealings. In type they were representative of the splendid element whose labors were the foundation of the ultimate agricultural development of Iowa and whose sincere characters reappeared in a later generation of practical, sensible daughters and talented sons.

The life which this narrative depicts [**Sylvester Clark Smith**] began in the home of **Edward and Celia Smith** near Mount Pleasant, Henry county, Iowa, August 26, 1858, and closed at Hollywood, Cal., January 26, 1913. In early years there came ever and anon glimpses of the splendid mental endowment and resolute nature that were to bring subsequent national prominence, yet those years were far from eventful. More fortunate than the sons of many pioneers, he was allowed a term in an academy after he had completed the studies of the country schools. The few months spent in Howe's academy at Mount Pleasant aroused his ambition for higher educational opportunities and at the age of eighteen he began to teach in the spring and summer months in order to earn the money necessary for attending school in the winter. Coming to California in 1879 he secured a position as teacher in a school of Colusa county, where, May 7, 1882, he was united in marriage with Miss **Maria Hart**, a native of Franklin county, Mo., and soon afterward they removed to San Francisco in order that he might have the best advantages for the study of law. **The summer of 1883 found them newcomers in Kern county**, and from that time until his death the history of Mr. Smith was in many respects a history of the county itself, so intimately was he associated with its moral, educational and political growth. An ambition to complete his law studies led him to teach school at Tehachapi and Glennville in order that he might earn expenses during the course of his law education.

After having been admitted to the bar in October of 1885, Mr. Smith opened an office in Bakersfield. Chance directed that his fame should come in another field than that of the law. A great struggle was being waged between the riparian owners and the appropriators of the waters of Kern river. In 1886 the Kern County Echo was founded as a militant factor in the controversy and Mr. Smith became editor. The controversy ended, but the Echo, having established a place of its own in the journalistic field, has continued with increasing circulation and popularity up to the present time and now, as the Morning Echo, wields a high influence for good in every avenue of local activity. During the early years of the existence of the paper, when funds were low and the future prospects at times discouraging, the editor made his home on a claim at the extreme southern end of the Kern mesa, riding

horseback to and from the editorial rooms in Bakersfield. Meanwhile he had become a member of the first company of the National Guard organized in this city, had helped to organize debating clubs and street improvement associations, and from the very first had been a local leader in the Republican party. Editorial work then, even more than now, necessitated the possession of both physical and moral courage, and that he possessed such qualities is evidenced by an incident that still is told among his friends. One evening a citizen, armed with a gun, rushed into the office exhibiting a clipping from the morning paper that had aroused his wrath. Presenting the gun at the head of Mr. Smith, he demanded that the editor literally eat the offending article. It was useless to argue with the infuriated man. Still covered with the weapon, Mr. Smith quietly asked a clerk to telephone for the sheriff. As he resumed writing at his desk, the angry man had time to become ashamed of his fury and the affair ended amicably. Nor was Mr. Smith less brave morally. Always he expressed his personal convictions in the paper, no matter how unpopular they might be or how much they might seem to augur his personal defeat. Indeed, his high moral courage was one of his most notable attributes, and while at times bringing him criticism, in the end it became the foundation and the root of his great influence. From the day the first issue of the Echo appeared until the last day of his life (a period of twenty-six years, seven months and twenty-one days) his name appeared at the head of the editorial columns of every issue. In addition he was the leading editorial writer during much of that time. Even when official duties kept him from the city he still directed the policy of the paper. In every step of its advancement might be seen his quiet but decisive influence. Not only was he one of the oldest editors in the state in point of continuous service, but he also had the distinction of being one of the most able, forceful and influential.

The distinction attached to the career of Mr. Smith derives much interest from the public service of the man. Even more important than his labors as editor were his disinterested services in behalf of his state and country. Broad as was his work on the Bakersfield Board of Trade and Board of Health, progressive as was his cooperation with many organizations of the community, he realized that there was need of reform movements in the commonwealth and he desired to aid in the legislative work of the state—hence his first campaign for the state senate in 1894. Elected not only then, but again in 1898, he served for eight years with honor and fidelity. Usefulness as a legislator paved the way for a later service in congress. As senator he was the author of a counties government act, the registration law of 1898, the constitutional amendment authorizing the use of voting machines, and **(this he regarded as his most important public service) a bill establishing the state polytechnic school at San Luis Obispo.** This institution became a pioneer in the field of manual training. The author of the bill had in mind a training in agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economy and indeed all occupations except those dealing with the professional walks of life. When he first presented the bill in 1895 the senate passed it, but failure came in the assembly. In 1897 it was passed by both houses, only to be vetoed by the governor. Session after session he labored persistently until finally in 1901 it became a law and the school was established. His theory in urging so persistently the establishment

of the school was that labor must be made more efficient and better trained, then it will be better paid and less irksome; and every trained worker, if industrious and frugal, may reasonably hope to support his family and educate his children, in turn preparing them to be trained specialists in some avenue of employment.

When he first announced himself as a candidate for congress in 1902 Mr. Smith was defeated in the convention on the forty-ninth ballot. The contest, begun in Sacramento and ended at Ventura, had been peculiarly strenuous and even bitter, but no trace of the bitterness lingered in the mind of Mr. Smith, for with characteristic enthusiasm he threw himself into the campaign on the side of his successful competitor, Captain Daniels, and the latter was elected. His own laurels came to him at a later date. August 25, 1904, he was nominated by acclamation and in November he was elected by a majority of more than ten thousand. From that time until the day of his death he continued to represent the Eighth California district. Meanwhile he had been recognized in congress as a ready debater and an excellent committee-worker. As a member of the original commission appointed to revise the banking and monetary system, he served until the loss of health necessitated relinquishment of such duties. The present postal savings bank bill is a monument to his labors, supplementing those of other congressmen. When the speaker of the house was shorn of much of his power, Mr. Smith was elected a member of the new rules committee, to which was given much of that power.

As was natural to one coming from Kern county, the interest maintained by Mr. Smith in the oil industry led him to make an effort to promote the permanent welfare of that business. A bill presented by him sought to extend to the taking up of oil land the essential provisions of the homestead law, varied of course to suit the different need. No provisions had been made to secure to a locator of oil land any legal right of possession until such time as he might make an actual discovery of oil. Before any such discovery it was necessary to spend thousands of dollars, which under the then law was jeopardized. The bill limited the amount of oil land which a man or company could acquire, but also insured peaceful possession of an oil claim during the time necessary to complete a well. However, although the bill passed in the house, it failed of the support of the senate, and before the next session the deluge of oil land withdrawals swept over every district of the west where the presence of oil was suspected. Then followed the Yard decision with its disastrous results; the visits of delegations of oil men to Washington; the presentation of memorials to congress; and finally, under a suspension of rules, the Smith remedial bill was passed in February, 1911, when Mr. Smith, so ill that he was supported by fellow-members and so weak that his voice could hardly be heard a dozen paces away, asked consent for the passage of the measure.

Another measure of importance presented by Mr. Smith prevents the monopoly of patented articles and processes by permitting any person to make use of an invention on the payment of a stipulated royalty to the inventor, and providing for government supervision of these royalties so that favoritism might be eliminated. Through his labors an appropriation of \$2,000,000 was secured to protect the settlers in the Imperial valley from the ravages of the Colorado river. His highest honor in congress came with his appointment in 1908 as a member of the national monetary

commission. During 1910 he secured an appropriation of \$20,000 for a site for a federal building in Bakersfield. Later a recommendation was made to appropriate \$135,000 for the erection of a postoffice, and this will ensure the erection in the near future of a building here for federal use. In all of his official career his affection remained deeply rooted in Bakersfield. When he returned hither after an absence he noted with intense eagerness every phase of industrial development, every improvement made, whether in an electric light or sewerage system, in the residence district or the business center, in the streets, the paving or the roads. Along every line of civic activity he had pronounced and progressive opinions and he had studied park systems, fire departments and indeed every department of importance to a growing municipality. One of his ideas was the establishment of comfortable rest rooms in the lodging-house districts, where the men, necessarily idle at certain seasons of the year, might congregate in their old clothes without any feeling of discomfort, but with a genuine enjoyment of their own club room. Many of these men, disliking to loaf on the sidewalk or in the saloons, would greatly enjoy a plain but pleasant club room where they might meet their friends and enjoy conversation or games during the days of their unemployment. Parks also would aid in promoting the happiness of the people and give them healthful outdoor exercise, hence he earnestly advocated them.

Through a long illness Congressman Smith never lost touch with the world of progress and particularly with his own home county. The mails kept him in touch with Bakersfield and Washington, the two spots of his deepest interest. To his friends he sent the most encouraging messages. No word of discouragement was allowed to leave his room at the sanatorium, but in illness as in health he was brave, hopeful and dignified, always interested in others and constantly urging measures for the benefit of the people. In one of his last letters he urged better church equipment and pledged his full cooperation to that end. On his last day a public document called his attention to the fact that sixteen members of the sixty-first congress had passed from earth. Before the sun had risen he was the seventeenth. He had fallen with his armor on, with mind alert, with reputation at its highest and with honor unimpeached. Surviving him were his wife and two daughters, Mrs. E. S. Larsen, of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. A. W. Mason, of Bakersfield. Relatives and a delegation of friends accompanied the body from Hollywood to Bakersfield, where the magnificent funeral cortege with marchers representing military, labor, civic and fraternal organizations attested to his deep hold upon the affections of his fellow-townsmen. Thus passed into eternal silence one who had lived nobly and well and whose name will long stand in the annals of Bakersfield as that of a distinguished citizen, who climbed by sterling worth from obscurity into an honorable place in the councils of the nation.

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**1961**

Source: Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1961.  
Biographies p. 1623.

**SMITH, Sylvester Clark**, a Representative from California; born near Mount Pleasant, Henry County, Iowa, August 26, 1858; attended the district schools and Howe's Academy at Mount Pleasant; taught school in Winfield, Iowa; moved to California in 1879 and engaged in agricultural pursuits; taught school in Colusa and Kern Counties in 1883; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1885 and commenced practice in Bakersfield, Calif.; employed to edit the Kern County Echo; resumed the practice of law; member of the State senate 1894-1902; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1902 to the Fifty-eighth Congress; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-ninth and to the three succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1905, until his death in Los Angeles, Calif., January 26, 1913; interment in Union Cemetery.

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## McDowell R. Venable

McDowell R. Venable, 50 yrs. old @ July 21, 1887; nativity: Virginia; occupation: Lawyer; local residence: San Luis Obispo No. 2 [Source: Great Register of San Luis Obispo County for 1890, p. 55 V#1. (ages are given as of the "Date of Registration" as shown)]

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## Ulysses S. Webb

**1903**

Source: California Blue Book, 1903. p. 276 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

### Attorney-General.

U. S. WEBB (Republican) was born at Flemington, West Virginia, September 29, 1864; removed with his parents to Kansas in 1870; came to California in June, 1888, and engaged in the practice of law in 1889 at Quincy, Plumas County; elected District Attorney of that county in 1890; re-elected in 1892, 1896, and 1900; resigned as District Attorney in September, 1902, and was appointed Attorney-General, September 15, 1902; elected November 4, 1902.

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## William Henry Weeks

For a biography of William Henry Weeks, including references, and an artist's drawing of the two Cal Poly buildings "built in 1905"\*, see Betty Lewis: *W. H. Weeks, Architect*. Fresno, CA. : Panorama West Books, 1985. p. 72. Articles and Information on Architect William H. Weeks is on pp. 87-91. A Weeks' Genealogy is on page 93.

\*The same artist's drawing appears in *California Blue Book, 1903*, p. 103.

## Edward James Wickson

Born, Rochester, N. Y., August 3, 1848 — Died, Berkeley, July 16, 1923

### 1902 Jan 31

Source: California State Archives F3638-3 C576

#### Executive Appointments

#### Administration of Gov. Henry T. Gage

[p. 124] Trustees of the California Polytechnic School

Name	Residence	Date of Commission	Remarks
E. J. Wickson	Berkeley	1902 Jan 31	
Oath Filed	Term	Term Expires	
1902 Feb 10	4 years	1906 Jan 31	None

### 1902 Feb 13

Source: Letters from Book 46, Letters of F. A. Hihn and F. A. Hihn Co.  
#1701 1902 February 13 Book 46, p. 819

To: Edward James Wickson [1848-1923. (Professor, UC Berkeley)] Berkeley, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— Having been honored by being appointed as one of the Trustees of the California Polytechnical School, of whom you have been appointed for the longest term, and as two of the Trustees are residents of San Luis Obispo, and Mr. Smith of Bakersfield is to serve only for one year, I should be pleased to confer with you personally or by letter before a meeting of the Trustees takes place for the purpose of comparing views and coming to an agreement as to the best course to be pursued. I shal [sic] remain at the Palace Hotel until Friday morning, when I shall go to the Hotel Metropole at Oakland, leaving here at 8 A.M. I shall be engaged at the Metropole for an hour and must leave there at 11 A.M. and go from there to Alameda and then to my home at Santa Cruz. If convenient I shall be pleased to meet you Thursday afternoon at 4.30 or 5 P.M. at the Palace or at 10 A.M. Friday morning at the Metropole. My room number at the Palace is 166. Trusting you will excuse this intrusion, I remain

Yours truly, (Signed) F. A. Hihn.

### 1902 Feb 19

Source: Letters from Book 46, Letters of F. A. Hihn and F. A. Hihn Co.  
#1681 1902 February 19 Book 46, p. 809

To: Edward James Wickson [1848-1923. (Professor, UC Berkeley)] Berkeley, Cal.

From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Dear Sir:— It will be convenient for me to attend a meeting of the Polytechnical Board at the Palace Hotel, or elsewhere, on the 25th inst. at say 7:30 P.M. or during the day.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

**1902 Feb 24**

Source: Letters from Book 46, Letters of F. A. Hihn and F. A. Hihn Co.  
#1733 1902 February 24 Book 46, p. 832

To: Edward James Wickson [1848-1923. (Professor, UC Berkeley)] Berkeley, Cal.  
From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Prof. E. J. Wickson, University of California, College of Agriculture, Berkeley, Cal.  
Dear Sir:— Have received a like advice from Senator Smith and expect to attend at the proposed meeting at the Palace next Saturday.

Truly yours, /s/ F A Hihn

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**1902 Mar 13**

Source: Letters from Book 46, Letters of F. A. Hihn and F. A. Hihn Co.  
2057 1902 March 13 Book 46, p. 979-980

To: Edward James Wickson [1848-1923. (Professor, UC Berkeley)] Berkeley, Cal.  
From: Frederick Augustus Hihn

Professor E. J. Wickson, March 13, 1902.  
University of California, Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Sir:— I beg leave to present to you herewith:

- 1st — The offer of Dawson Lowe with his receipt for \$10 attached.
- 2nd — A map of the Goldtree tract.
- 3rd — A map of the Slack tract and a description of same tract.
- 4th — A map of Breed tract.
- 5th — A copy of my letter to Governor Gage.
- 6th — A sketch of the Dawson Lowe tract.

Senator Smith having been called away, I wrestled with Mr. Lowe as best I could. He may be uneducated, but he has very decided views of what he wants. It was past midnight before the papers were signed and the \$10 paid. The dam, he would not have it higher than ten feet, I wanted it twenty feet. Nor would he allow us to excavate the rock in the knoll more than ten feet below the highest point. He may, of course, go lower should we buy.

He insisted that the 100 foot roadway should be laid out in the whole front of his land else he would not give it across the remainder of his land. I deemed it wise to yield, particularly as the land can be partly used for ornamental and shade trees and for shrubbery.

Mr. Graves read the option contract before it was signed and approved of it. [page 980]

Please advise me whether you approve the option. I may be able to have it changed if you deem best.

Our task was arduous, but being in good company I enjoyed the work.

Yours truly, /s/ F. A. Hihn

**1923 Oct 14**

Source: *In Memoriam, Edward James Wickson*. Berkeley: University of California Printing Office, 1924. p. ii: portrait of Edward James Wickson.

p. 3: Addresses at Memorial Services in Honor of Professor Edward James Wickson, College of Agriculture, University of California, October 14, 1923. Chairman of Meeting: [remarks by] President W. W. Campbell.

[Transcriber's Note: Without question, the focus of this work was on his contributions to U. C. Berkeley; however, I was surprised to find not a word of his Cal Poly experience and essential role in its founding, even in the Bibliography.]

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## Victor H. Woods

**1898 Dec 24**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1898 Dec 24 3:4  
**County News.**

Mr. Victor Woods, County Surveyor, and Miss Adelaide Spafford, County Superintendent-elect, were married at San Luis Obispo Monday morning, by Rev. Father Aguilera. They departed on the morning train for a short visit to relatives in San Jose.

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**1901 Nov 16**

Source: Paso Robles Record 1901 Nov 16 3:2  
**County News.**

The residence occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Victor Woods was badly damaged by fire Thursday. The building was owned by Dawson Lowe and was insured by \$1000 and the contents owned by Mr. Woods was insured for \$1,800.

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**1903**

Source: Guinn, J. M., *History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties*. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1903. p. 740.

### VICTOR H. WOODS.

In the capacity of surveyor Mr. Woods has been intimately connected with the growth and upbuilding of San Luis Obispo county for the past eight years. He was born in Keokuk county, Iowa, in 1868, and came to California with his parents when five years of age. His father, James E. Woods, was also a surveyor, and was clerk of Keokuk county for eight years after the Civil war. During the war he served under General Rosecrans, and was wounded in battle in September of 1863. The family came to America long before the Revolutionary war, and the paternal grandfather was an old settler in Vermont. On the maternal side Mr. Woods is allied with a prominent Ohio family, his mother being before her marriage a Miss M. C.

Hulderman, whose father died in distinguished company, for on that same day the immortal Washington breathed his last. It is supposed that some of the Hulderman family fought in the Colonial army, although there is no authentic record to that effect.

The education of Mr. Woods was acquired at the public schools of San Francisco, and at the university of the Pacific, from which he was graduated in 1886. In the meantime he had learned surveying from his father, and applied himself to this occupation for a time on the railroad in Arizona, and also spent a year in Fresno. He finally entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company as surveyor, and remained in that capacity for five years, afterwards in the employ of the government went to Central America. About eight years ago he came to San Luis Obispo, and has since made this his home.

In the Old Mission in San Luis Obispo, December 19, 1898, Mr. Woods married Miss A. C. Spofford, daughter of J. M. Spofford, head of one of the well-known families of this county. The Spoffords claim distinguished lineage, and distant members have been allied with events constituting the landmarks of American history. Foremost among the men who have added luster to the name may be mentioned Daniel Webster, and many of the prominent and well-known families of the south claim kinship with the Spofford heroes who stacked their muskets on the battlefields of the Revolution. Mrs. Woods, who is a Daughter of the Revolution, is well known as an educator throughout this part of the state, and taught for seven years in the schools of San Luis Obispo. In 1898 she was elected county superintendent of schools on the Democratic ticket, and the same year her husband was elected surveyor on the Republican ticket. To Mr. and Mrs. Woods has been born one daughter, Ellen Evelyn. Mr. Woods is identified with the Independent Order Odd Fellows and with the Elks. With his family he lives at the Ramona Hotel.

### 1903

Source: *California Blue Book*, 1903. p. 276 - with portrait, p. 277 with State Officers.

#### **Surveyor-General.**

VICTOR H. WOODS (Republican) was born at Sigourney, Iowa, February 13, 1868; came to California when a boy and received his preliminary education in the public schools of San Francisco; afterward completed his education in the University of the Pacific; is by profession a surveyor; served two terms as County Surveyor of San Luis Obispo County; elected Surveyor-General, November 4, 1902.

[Transcriber's Note: Victor H. Woods, elected in 1898 as County Surveyor on the Republican ticket, the same year that his wife, A. C. Woods, was elected Superintendent of Schools of San Luis Obispo County, on the Democratic ticket. <Source: p. 740, J. M. Guinn's History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1903.>

Subsequently, on Nov. 4, 1902, Victor H. Woods was elected State Surveyor General and took office Jan. 5, 1903. Source: *California Blue Book*, 1903, p. 502]

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