

If one were to stand on the corner of Front and K Streets in Old Sacramento and use a little imagination, you would see and hear what the Christian Brothers student might have experienced on his way to the dedication of Christian Brothers College at 12th and K Streets on July 16, 1876.

The quaint horse and carriage found in Old Sac today would be replaced with the clatter of many hoofs drawing street cars, wagons loaded with goods, omnibuses moving travelers to the various hotels, and buggies full of excited passengers dressed in their very best, arriving from or leaving for far off destinations.

The California Steam Navigation Company would have built many wharves, piers, and docks along the river, to accommodate the increased traffic and freight. The shrill blast of their steamship whistles would break through the din of the horses' hoofs, sounding the arrival of passengers heading East or neighbors arriving home. Also, the hissing of steam engines and the clanging of their bells would make you aware of the presence of two busy railroads.

The buildings around you would not be reminders of the past, but would now be new structures in the heart of Sacramento's exciting commercial district.

In order to get to the dedication ceremony, you would jump on the twenty-two passenger streetcar at Front and K Streets. The pull for the horses today would be an unusually difficult one as the car would be packed with many of the 5,000 people who would attend the school dedication.

As you pass over 2nd Street, S Coldman's family groceries on J St will be having a big sale. For \$1.00 you could purchase any one of the following: 8 pounds of sugar; 5 cans of oysters (2 lbs); 5 cans of blackberries; 5 cans of string beans; 15 pounds of soap or one box of macaroni (6 lbs). Also on 2nd St. between J & K is the Saddle Rock, with lunch and coffee for 15 cents.

You will pass The City Baths, one of many in town, between 3rd and 4th on K Street. One block over on J Street at the Antelope Restaurant for \$5.00 you can rent a room for a week with 3 meals a day.

As you cross over 4th Street look to your left and see Sweetser and Alsip Real Estate Agents with the following properties for rent:

Two fine brick dwellings on M St between 3rd and 4th \$30.00 each;

Brick cottages on 11th Street between O and P Sts. for \$15.00 and \$16.00;

Frame dwelling on I St. between 16th and 17th -5 rooms \$15.00.

On 4th and K Streets notice the advertising at the Metropolitan Theater which in three days will feature Georgia Minstrels - 20 star acts. \$1.00 for general admission and fifty cents for children. Also on 4th Street is the Mechanics Store (later Weinstock-Lubin) which has been featuring a set sales price, a novel change from the traditional practice of bargaining for the price of an item. This is causing a lot of concern with the other merchants as this method seems to satisfy both the customer and the ~~grocer~~ *OWNER*.

Over on 5th and 6th on J Street is the American Clothing House which has the following items for sale: men's black dress suits \$16.00 to \$45.00; white shirts \$1.00 to \$3.00; hats twenty five cents to \$5.00; overalls fifty cents to \$1.50.

Back on K Street, as you are crossing 6th look to your right and notice Brueners Furniture Store. On the same block on J Street is the Crescent City Hotel, with meals at twenty five cents and board at \$4.00 a week.

The Sacramento Exchange is down the street between 7th and 8th on J Street with its famous oyster bar: fried oysters fifty cents and raw or stewed oysters twenty-five cents. McMurry's Pharmacy across the street features Ayres Hair Vigor at 75 cents, Imitation Florida water at 40 cents, and Burnett's cocaine at 75 cents (completely legal).

Back on K Street and 7th, you will see the impressive St. Rose Catholic Church, finally erected in 1861. The land on which the church sits was donated by Peter Burnett, the first governor of California. Burnett happened to be at a mass celebrated in a private home by Augustin P. Anderson, a Dominican priest sent by Bishop Alemany of Monterrey (later the Archbishop of San

Francisco) in 1850 to establish the first Catholic church in Sacramento. As Father Anderson had no land to build his church, Burnett stepped forward and offered a parcel of his own. Construction began on the project and by 1855 the first mass was celebrated in the basement of St. Rose on Christmas Day. Despite flooding and winds, St. Rose will serve Sacramento's Catholic population until the construction of the Cathedral in 1889. Burnett's original property will then be sold to the government who will erect a post office on the site.

On 8th and J Streets is the Stewart and Co. ladies store, featuring "The ONLY First-class Goods in the market." Skirts will be 75 to 80 cents, chemise 87 cents to \$3.00, and night dresses 75 Cents to \$3.00.

Moving on, you might notice that there are several different types of street surfaces: gravel; tar; and cobble stones (mainly on K Street). Eventually these would all be changed to asphalt.

Approaching 10th St., the end of the line, you will see the State House with room and board from \$6.00 to \$12.00 a week. An ad posted makes the claim that "a street car will pass every 6 minutes." From here you will have to get out and walk. The streets, 11th to 13th, will be rough so watch your step. They will not be graded and surfaced until 1877.

In three years J. H. and D. H. Coles will establish an ice manufacturing company on K St. between 10th and 11th. It will manufacture ten tons of ice every 24 hours and will sell for 1 cent a pound. This will greatly reduce the price of ice as it will no longer have to be hauled down from the mountains and stored during the summer.

Passing the corner of 11th and K Sts. you will see the site of the future Cathedral. Through a Papal Bull, His Holiness Pope Leo XIII established the Diocese of Sacramento in May of 1886. Bishop Patrick Manogue was the founder of this new diocese and he will begin construction of the Cathedral in this same year. Construction will be completed in 1889, whereby the students of Brothers will have a short walk to mass.

Walking a little further you will come upon the the new Brothers College at the corner of 12th and K Streets.

The Sacramento Union describes the school as being "plain in style, yet not cold and formal. It is of wood with rustic finish, and is three stories high, with ornamental arched openings and tasteful trimings." The kitchen, storeroom, dining room and closets make up the west half of the first floor. The rest of this floor is left unfinished for future classrooms. The second floor has two classrooms, the rear stairway and landing, two parlors, and the President's room. On the top floor there are two more classrooms, two dormitories and several rooms for the faculty. The water closet and wash-room are at the end of the east wing, the latter fitted with seven marble basins. The balconies across the back afford a great view of the Capitol (just completed in 1874) and the capitol grounds. The Sacramento Bee stated in an article after the ceremony that "a platform was set up on 12th Street, the shady side of the building," and "the immense audience occupied conveniently placed benches as seats." The article went on to state, "Gas is in, with frequent burners in every room in the house, and in the main rooms handsome chandeliers are hung." (In 1879 Thomas Edison developed the incandescent light. However, It would not be until 1895, when hydraulic electricity was transported from Folsom, that it would be cheap enough to be used by the Christian Brothers.)

Speeches were given by Archbishop Alemany, Governor Irwin and state Adjutant-General Walsh. After the ceremonies the clergy and forty guests were invited to dinner in the dining room.

~~Now you need a conclusion to end your narrative!□.~~