

CHULA VISTA AND COMMUNITY

PART ONE

A HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

By THELMA A. KRANTZ and FRANCES L. READ

ILLUSTRATED BY FRANCES L. READ



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Preface

Our Chula Vista community has grown stronger year by year. Today's strength has come through the contributions of many people. A city must have hard working citizens in order to improve. Our leaders have been people with understanding, knowledge, and courage. They have known the importance of honesty and fine service to others.

You, the young citizens of today, are learning about your American heritage and the growth of your country and community by studying and by participating in school government. You are making an effort to understand and contribute to current happenings in your community. You are gaining strength by learning and thinking about the experiences of other people. You will build upon their understanding and, in time, create an even finer tomorrow.

This book has been written to help you learn about your community before and after Chula Vista became a city. The authors are native daughters of this county. Mrs. Thelma Krantz came from a pioneer family in the Chula Vista area. Her grandparents settled in Chula Vista in 1900. Miss Frances Read's parents arrived in San Diego in 1910 and 1911. The authors, who are regular members of the school staff, have brought the spirit of other times into their stories through careful reading of records and through talking with people who lived in Chula Vista many years ago. They are to be congratulated upon their creative work.

Burton C. Tiffany
Superintendent

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Acknowledgments

Many individuals have given generously of their time and knowledge so that the children of the Chula Vista City School District may have a better understanding of their community's past. Some of the pioneers of this area who graciously shared experiences are: Richard and Morris Allen, Charles L. and C. H. Austin, Wilbur Bradley, Laura and Emilie Crockett, Harriet A. Crowley, Rolin O. Downs, Marjorie A. Freeman, Rose Guatelli Goepel, Leonora Guatelli, Florence Guatelli Karner, John H. Greife, Mary Hansen, Carl H. Helm, Genevieve A. Mays, Angie V. McKissen, Bertha Rhodes, Josephine Roberts, and Lewis C. Pinkham.

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In compiling this record of Chula Vista's past, the authors have gathered material from many sources. For giving helpful information, thanks are due the California Water and Telephone Company, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce, the San Diego Gas and Electric Company, the Chula Vista Post Office, the Chula Vista Public Library, and many other branches of Chula Vista City Government. We wish to thank the Union Title Insurance Company which provided the historical photographs and opened new avenues to history through the volumes and vertical files of the John F. Forward, Sr. Memorial Library and Museum.

The production of the two historical filmstrips was possible through the gracious contribution of knowledge and materials by Dr. Henry R. McCarty, Director, Audio-Visual Section, and Anne L. Hoihjelle, Audio-Visual Coordinator, Department of Education, San Diego County; Robin Daley and Grace McQueeney, Chula Vista City School District; Larry Peoples, Public Relations Department of Rohr Aircraft; and Hamilton Marston of the Marston Company, San Diego.

Cooperation has been the magic word which has made this project possible. The authors are indebted to Margaret L. Paradise, Director of Curriculum, for her guidance and inspiration; to Leslie Beatty for her organizational suggestions; to Dr. Burton C. Tiffany and Joseph Odenthal for administrative assistance; to the secretaries, Ruth Adams, Elizabeth Behrens, and Katherine Cline; and to the members of the publications department, Evelyn Chase and Eugene Militscher.

We regret that we cannot mention by name all individuals who have given time and assistance, but we gratefully acknowledge our indebtedness to them.

Thelma A. Krantz

Frances L. Read

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Introduction

The knowledge of ways in which the present has developed from the past is important to intelligent citizenship. It is a tenet which underlies the teaching of the social studies. It is hoped that the historical information about their local community presented in this booklet will develop children's appreciation of life in the past and the present, and will lead toward understanding of the changes which occur as communities grow.

The booklet may be used in a number of ways, for example:

1. As the focal point of units of study in Grades Three and Four.
2. As children's reference materials for social studies in Grades Five and Six.
3. As material from which to select pertinent information to read or tell to children in Grades One and Two.

Other ways of using the material will become apparent to teachers as they work with it. You are urged to forward your ideas to the Curriculum Department at the Education Center.

We hope that you will find this publication helpful and that you will contribute to its further development.

Margaret L. Paradise
Director of Curriculum

1 Local Indian Culture

Before 1769

Many, many years ago Indians lived on the land around what we now know as Chula Vista. The land and the climate were almost the same then as now. Streams flowed down from the mountains to the bay and ocean, for the waters were not held back by dams as they are today. Along these river beds were cottonwood trees, sycamores, and willows. In the valleys were scrub oaks, live oaks and mesquite, and in the mountains were pines. Of course there were other trees, too, but many of the trees we know around Chula Vista were brought by people who came here after 1769. The Indians lived here before the pepper, eucalyptus, and our other shade trees arrived. The Indians had never seen lemon orchards, olive groves, or fields of celery or tomatoes. The land had never been plowed.

Can you imagine our land covered with sagebrush, wild grass, and cactus? Can you imagine the hills without modern houses and the land without streets? If you lived on our land a long, long time ago, what could you have found for food, clothing, and shelter?

You would not be able to find half as many foods as the Indians did, since they had been gathering wild foods for centuries. They had to make use of all possible foods in order to have enough on which to live. Most of the things you would find for food, clothing, and shelter you would use in an entirely different way than the Indians used them. Remember that the Indians never saw people farm the land, wear clothes, or build a house with modern methods or materials. Many of the ideas developed in other cultures did not begin to reach the Indians until the Spaniards came to stay in 1769.



ACORNS



YUCCA



AGAVE



PRICKLY PEAR

Before white men came to live on the land around Chula Vista, Indians roamed the countryside gathering wild foods, hunting game, and fishing. These brown-skinned, black-haired people traveled from one food-gathering place to another depending upon the season when food would ripen. Each fall they returned to their clan lands near the scrub oaks or live oaks in the foothills or inner valleys. They gathered acorns, dried them, and stored most of them for later use. The acorns were prepared in small quantities as they were needed. Before using them, the Indians ground the inner meat in a stone mortar. They removed the tannic acid by leaching the meal with water. From the meal they made acorn mush. Sometimes they made a very thick mush, let it cool, and then cut it into dried cakes.

In the spring the Indians gathered yucca plants. They roasted the stem and also ate the flowers. The leaves were saved to roll into a string or rope. They feasted upon the agave blossoms and stalks. They ate the prickly pear fruit and the young pads.

The early people in our valleys gathered wild seeds and native fruits. Some of them dug for roots to eat. They searched for rabbits, rats, lizards, snakes, coyotes, and grasshoppers. These people walked to the bay to fish and feast upon shore animals such as mussels and clams. On occasion they made tule balsa rafts and poled along the marshy shores searching for bird eggs and small fish. In fact these people ate almost anything that could be eaten.

Any Indian group could take food from the shores for they were "owned" by all. Inland,

these groups had their own food-gathering lands. No fences separated these lands, but everyone knew the limits of the food-gathering grounds.

In this food-gathering economy the men had the more mobile jobs of hunting and fishing; the women had children to take, so they could travel less swiftly. Women did the harvesting, grinding, and the basket weaving. There was little surplus food. Trading was done only on a very limited scale.

How man uses the "natural resources" depends on the ways he has learned to use them. Adaptation to environment depends upon the cultural skills available. The Chula Vista lands were not rich farm lands to the Indians, for they knew nothing about farming. In their seasonal traveling as food-gatherers, these Indians had not contacted cultural groups that farmed. The mountains, desert, and ocean formed natural barriers to the spreading of culture or the borrowing of ideas from another group.

The Indians on Chula Vista lands were fortunate that the climate was mild, for they wore few, if any, clothes. The warm climate did not cause the scarcity of clothing; again, the cause lay in their cultural learnings. These people had not lived near people who wore clothes. Indians on Tierra del Fuego, at the southern extremity of South America, were less fortunate. In spite of the very cold weather they did not learn to wear clothing.

The Indian women around Chula Vista sometimes wore a skirt made from the inner bark of the willow tree. The skirt looked like two aprons. The front one hung from the waist to a little above the knees; the back one was longer and



TULE RAFT



OAR



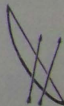
BASKETS



CLAY OLLA



GRINDING STONE



BOW AND ARROWS



SKIRT

could be sat upon. Sometimes the back skirt was of rabbit skins. The men either wore nothing or a breechcloth of skins. The brown-skinned children did not wear clothes. Girls began wearing skirts when they were eight or nine years old.



ORNAMENTS

These people wore permanent ornaments in the form of tattoos. Soot was rubbed into cactus prickles in the skin. They marked the skin with black or white paint. Necklaces, earrings, and arm bands of shells or seeds were worn.



HOUSE

During sunny, warm days the family had little need for shelter. When shelter was needed, they built huts of sticks, brush, and grass. First they cleared grass, stones, and sticks from the ground. The floor of the dwelling was a saucer-shaped hole. They put poles into the earth and tied them to make an "upside down basket." Over this framework they tied bunches of grass. Sometimes they made a more temporary lean-to of poles covered with grass.



LEAN-TO SHELTER

The men had a small sweat house. It was built the same way as the homes but was taller. A fire was built inside to make it very hot there. The men went into the sweat house regularly to sweat, relax, and visit with others.



SUMMER ARBOR

The Indians on our lands were a happy, busy people. Their clothing, houses, and food were simple. They lived together in blood clan groups. The men in each group were related. Each man chose a wife outside his clan and brought her to live in his group. A person who broke any law was out of favor for a while. Therefore, the people remained friendly and usually obeyed the group laws.

The Indians had their own customs, beliefs, language, and folk tales. They carefully followed the customs of their fathers. The children learned the Indians' ways by listening to their parents and leaders. But most of the Indian ways have been lost or forgotten, for the Spaniards who came to this land were interested in spreading their own ideas and not in saving the old culture of the Indians.

The Spaniards later named all of the Indians served by the San Diego Mission the Diegueño Indians. They were a part of the Yuman language group. The Diegueños were divided into Northern and Southern Diegueños. Twelve clans made up the Northern Diegueño groups. The Otats (Otai, O'Tay, or Ahjai) lived on land in and about Chula Vista. The Spaniards called the villages rancherías.

A few artifacts remain from this early culture. They are mainly the baskets, clay cooking pots, weapons, and tools of stone, wood, bone, and shell. Some flutes and rattles have been found. Exhibits can be seen at the Museum of Man, Balboa Park, and the Junipero Serra Museum at Presidio Park.



Courtesy of THE MAPLOWERS, by Richard F. Pourade and James S. Copley, The Union-Tribune Publishing Company, San Diego.

2 The Spanish Period

1769-1822

The Spanish people in Mexico and Spain had known about the lands and the harbors to the north for several centuries. Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo discovered the bay, now known as San Diego Bay, on September 28, 1542. He named the harbor San Miguel, for the next day was Saint Michael's Day. Cabrillo and his men left and sailed on up the coast. It was not until

November 10, 1602, sixty years later, that other ships sailed into the bay. Sebastian Vizcaino, the leader, named the port for San Diego de Alcala whose special day was on November 12th. The Spanish soldiers went ashore and made a brief trip inland.

It is possible that these Spaniards reached the lands near Chula Vista, but Father Serra in 1769 was the first to write about the land as he traveled over it. On the last day of the journey from Baja California to San Diego, July 1, 1769, Father Serra and the other Spaniards left the north side of the Tia Juana River Valley. According to Pourade in The Explorers:

"They . . . crossed the Otay River at some point east of National Avenue and west of Third Avenue in Otay. Here the river bed is a wide, dry wash. Then they went north and gradually northwest, skirting the hills, yet keeping back from the shore to avoid sloughs and marshes. They crossed the Sweetwater River probably in the vicinity of Fourth Avenue in Chula Vista. . . . " On this road that day they passed by "three encampments of gentiles."



The Spaniards came to Alta California to start a Spanish settlement so that the English, Dutch, and Russians would not claim the lands. The soldiers were under the command of Gaspar de Portola, who was the governor of Lower California. Father Junipero Serra was the main Franciscan missionary who came. He intended to build missions in order to teach the "heathen Indians" the ways of Christianity. He had already built fourteen mission villages in Lower California.



The coming of the Spaniards made a great change in the lives of the people whose ancestors had lived for centuries on the hills and coastal plains. The Indians were invited to go and live at the San Diego Mission which was soon rebuilt in the valley of the San Diego River. This was the nearest mission to the Indians on Chula Vista lands. Some Indians went to the mission but disliked the life there. They tried to leave. They were captured by the soldiers and returned to the mission. The soldiers went on trips into the country to find Indians to civilize. The Spaniards wrote about how proud, independent, and hard to handle some of the Indians were. Indians from a rancharia in the Otay area took part in the 1775 raid on the San Diego Mission. The Spaniards had more fighting skill and more modern weapons than the Indians. Gradually the Indians near the Chula Vista lands who wished to be free moved farther and farther into the foothills and mountains. Thus some bands of Indians were not touched by the missions.

It has been true throughout history that when a more complex people meets a less complex group, the latter is weakened and loses its link with the past. The Spaniards had good intentions for the Indians. They wished to civilize them and teach them Christian ways. With the white man, however, came diseases such as small pox, measles, and tuberculosis. Thousands of Indians died from these diseases; others could not adjust to civilized ways.

The Spaniards brought many new ideas to the Indians. Instead of wandering to gather food, the Indians learned to farm and irrigate crops. The families still lived in their grass, mud, and stick homes which they built beside the



mission. They were awakened at sunrise and collected in the church for prayers and mass. After an hour they went into the yard where they ate a hot barley porridge. They had to work until the church bells rang at noon. They ate lunch and returned to work until about five. Then they went to church for another hour before eating the final porridge meal.

The Indians learned special jobs. Some of them worked in the fields. They planted corn, beans, and squash. They learned about growing lettuce, cabbage, carrots, peas, and onions. The missionaries brought fruit tree cuttings from Spain. In their gardens the oranges, olives, plums, apricots, and grapes flourished. Some Indians worked in the shops. Tools were made of iron or steel. The Indians had not known about metals before this. Some Indians learned to make adobe bricks and tiles. They learned to prepare and use leather. Women learned new ways to prepare food and make clothing. Some men learned to ride horses as vaqueros (cowboys) and watch over the grazing herds.

In 1795 the Spanish King thought of his soldiers in the faraway land of Alta California. He wished for them to have good grazing lands for the cattle and sheep. He set aside forty-two square miles of land south of San Diego. This land had been called "La Purisima de la Concepcion" by the friars. The soldiers called



CORN



SQUASH



CABBAGE



ONIONS



ORANGES



GRAPES

the land "El Rancho del Rey," Ranch of the King. This rancho included most of the lands known as Chula Vista and National City.

Mission Indians took care of the grazing animals. When the men at the Presidio had enough beef, mutton, tallow, and hides, any extra was taken by the friars for the San Diego Mission. Once in a while a friar or padre would ride his burro over the rancho to see that all was well.

Cattle ate the grass on the lands of Chula Vista for many seasons. Meanwhile the people in Mexico became restless. They wished to be free from Spanish rule. After several years and many battles, the people of Mexico became free. This happened in 1821, but it was not until April, 1822 that the Mexican flag was raised over the Presidio at San Diego. With this act, the Spanish era closed.

3 The Mexican Period

1822-1846

The news that California was no longer under Spanish rule meant little to the few people on the lands around Chula Vista. The land continued to be used as grazing land for cattle and horses. Vaqueros herded the animals to richer pastures and watered them in the rivers. Rancho del Rey, used by the San Diego Presidio as grazing lands, was renamed Rancho de la Nacion (National Ranch) by the Mexican authorities.



The Spanish soldiers and priests had not agreed upon who owned the land in California. The soldiers said that the land belonged to the king; the missionaries said that the church was holding the land which would belong to the Indians when they became civilized. During this time there were only about twenty private ranchos (ranches) in all of California.

The hide trade opened in the San Diego Bay area in 1822 when a Boston ship came into the harbor. The Spanish had been against ships from other countries coming into the ports to trade. But the Mexican government made different laws. A custom tax was paid by the ship captain so that he could buy or sell in any California harbor. Yankees from the East sent many ships in order to buy hides for a low price. Herds were killed for their hides and tallow; the meat was left to the buzzards. Salt was sent in small boats from La Punta to the hide houses along the bay. Hides were cleaned first. Then they were cured in the salty brine. The Boston ships brought many



things to trade for the hides. Among other things they brought woolens, cotton goods, perfumes, shoes and guns.

Those who owned cattle became rich. More and more people wished to own ranches in California. In 1824 and 1828 the Mexican Congress passed new laws about owning land. They said that any Mexican citizen of good character or anyone who became a Mexican citizen could get land. This land was to be granted (given) to the person. A person had the right to choose the land he wished to own. He sent a map along with his proof of citizenship to the Mexican governor in California. The governor had people study the claim. Then he decided whether to give the land grant or not.

At the same time, the Mexican government was trying to get control of all of the mission lands. This was not a new idea, for in 1813 the Spanish had passed a law which said that all missions over ten years old should become churches and not have the right to control the life and work of the Indians. But by 1823 there were twenty-one missions. Thousands of Indians still harvested crops and tended vast herds of cattle for the missions.

The Mexican government passed several laws between 1827 and 1834. These laws took the lands from the church and put them under the control of the government. This was known as "secularization of the missions." The padres left the missions. Many of the buildings were sold; others were left to the sun and rain. The Indians did not understand about owning land, so they lost rich land to other people. In all there were 800 Mexican land grants in California by 1846. Twenty of these were in San Diego County . . . three of them were on lands around Chula Vista.



The first Mexican land grant in this area was the Janal Rancho. The 4,436 acres were granted to José Antonio Estudillo in 1829.

Indians had lived on this site for centuries, but the Indians could not keep the land when a person from a well-known Spanish family wished to have the land.

In the early days Janal was used as grazing land. Lemons and oranges were grown there in the 1880's when the Kimballs owned it. In 1894, E. S. Babcock, builder of Hotel del Coronado and director of the construction work on the Otay Dams, got the title to Janal Rancho. Ever since the late 1890's a large part of central and eastern Janal has been covered by the stored up waters of the Otay Dams.

Otay Rancho was also granted to a member of the Estudillo family. In 1829, Dona Magdalena Estudillo, sister of José, was given this 6,657 acres of fine land. An Indian rancheria had been in this area many, many years. Indians from this place had taken part in the 1775 raids on the San Diego Mission.



The Otay River ran through the land. In later years (1895-1901), John D. Spreckels, E. S. Babcock, and Rube Harrison became interested in the land as a dam site. The Otay Dams were built. Along the river several miles west of the Otay Rancho a town began to develop. The town of Otay began to boom in the days of 1887-1889 and had no direct connection to the Otay Rancho.



The last of the twelve Mexican governors of California was Pio Pico. On December 11, 1845 he granted Rancho de la Nacion to John Forster. The grant included all of what is now National City, Chula Vista, Bonita, and Sunnyside. (See map.) John Forster was born in England in 1815. He went to Mexico in 1831 and came to California two years later. Don Juan Forster married Isadora Pico, the governor's sister, in Los Angeles in 1837.

In order to keep the forty-two square mile grant Rancho de la Nacion, Forster had to build a house, live there a year and cultivate a piece of land. It is believed that Don Juan Forster's adobe house was built near the good water supply in the Sweetwater Valley. On the grounds of the present Bonita Valley Country Club there are adobe walls. Other adobes were washed away from this area in the 1916 flood. This is probably the site of the Forster ranch house.

It is thought that Don Juan spent little time on Rancho de la Nacion. His main home and land were at San Juan Capistrano. He also owned San Felipe Rancho east of Julian. He lived at a time when the Dons were rulers of their cattle empires. Indians worked on the ranchos for little if any pay other than food, clothing and shelter. Life on the rancho meant little actual work for the Dons. They could spend time at fiestas, "horseshows," and in visiting neighboring ranchos.

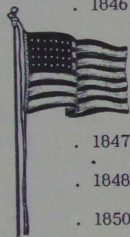
There were two other large ranchos on the lands near Chula Vista--Otay Rancho and Janal Rancho. The owners of these ranchos may have lived in Old Town (San Diego) rather than on their "country places." At any rate, it is probable that John Forster had gay times in Old Town and elsewhere.



4 New Rancho Owners

1846 to 1868

During the time John Forster owned Rancho de la Nacion, several changes were made in California.

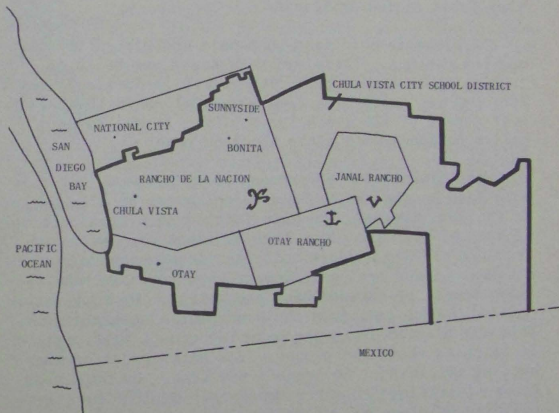


- . 1846 . . The United States was at war with Mexico. Americans raised the "California Republic" Bear Flag at Sonoma. The American flag was raised later. California became American territory.
- . 1847 . . The last fight with the Mexicans ended.
- . 1848 . . Gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill.
- . 1850 . . September 9, California became the thirty-first state.

John Forster asked the United States for a clear title to his ranch. He received it from President Andrew Johnson in 1866. In the meantime the land had been sold and resold to several members of the banking house of "Pioche, Bayerque and Company." In 1868 three Kimball brothers (Frank A., Warren C., and Levi W.) bought the National Ranch from Pioche for \$30,000.

The Kimball brothers had decided to leave their native New Hampshire and go out West in 1861. They took a Boston ship to the Isthmus of Panama. After crossing the Isthmus, they caught another ship which docked in San Francisco. The custom house men in San Francisco looked through their belongings carefully for those were Civil War days. The next year the wives came to be with their husbands. The brothers gradually developed a fine

business building schools, churches, and other large structures. But by 1868 Frank was tired of this work. When he traveled south and saw the Sweetwater Valley, he knew that the National Ranch was what he wanted.



AREAS COVERED BY THE THREE RANCHES

5 The National Ranch

1868-1886

Frank Kimball had big plans for his National Ranch. In August 1868, he and his wife walked from New Town (San Diego) to the small cabin on the Sweetwater River. In the days before they had a wagon and mules, they walked to the southwest marker of the ranch at La Punta. On other days while walking in the Sweetwater gorge, they found Indian artifacts.

The Kimballs sold land to people who wished to stay and build homes. Their own town house was built on land which is now 21 West 10th Street in National City. They had set aside over five square miles in the northwest corner of the ranch for a city. It was to be called National City after the land grant.

Frank Kimball was a very ambitious man. He not only sold land to men who began developing it; he also worked on the land himself. He experimented with tree cuttings of many kinds. The olive tree cuttings were gathered from the old San Diego Mission and from neighboring ranches. After trying different ways to raise new olive trees, he decided upon one method. He took a cutting a foot long from the branch of a mature tree. This was planted at an angle in the ground with part of it sticking above the ground. The best sprout on the cutting was saved. So began a new tree. He sold thousands of cuttings to other ranchers. By 1886 he started building an olive oil mill, and as his business grew, he shipped pickled olives and oil to other parts of the United States.

Californians were hungry for fresh fruit. People who had come during the Gold Rush boom to California needed fruit. For years on the National Ranch Mr. Kimball experimented with various fruits and trees . . . lemons,

oranges, limes, figs, tangerines, citron, grapefruit, apples, grapes, and others. He sold cuttings from his nursery and orchards. In 1888 he became State Commissioner of Agriculture and held this position for ten years. He received many plants from the U. S. Department of Agriculture for his experimental station on the ranch. He traveled in the state and sent in reports.

Other trees were planted on the National Ranch, too, for the native trees were few: sycamore, scrub oak, cottonwood, and willow. Acres were planted with eucalyptus trees. This gum tree came originally from Australia. It had been planted successfully around San Francisco and elsewhere along the coast. The eucalyptus proved to be a fast growing tree which made inexpensive firewood. Of course people also enjoyed the grace and beauty of the trees in those early years.



Mr. Kimball sold land to ambitious men. Four large ranches flourished in the Sweetwater Valley. Mr. H. M. Higgins was a music publisher, poet, and song writer from Chicago. In about 1872 he began planting his Bonnie Brae Groves. This Scotsman built a two-storied house on his high land on the north side of the valley. He grew several kinds of thin rind lemons and sold young trees to other ranchers. He began irrigation in the area. The lemons disappeared before 1961, but the house can still be seen overlooking the lower valley and San Miguel Mountain.

W. W. Whitney came in 1873. He bought ninety-two acres from the Kimballs. His land was named "Highlands."

J. C. Frisbie purchased over 240 acres of land on the east side of the Sweetwater River in about 1876. He named his ranch "Sunnyside." At once he began to improve the land. He studied about soil, climate, and fruit, therefore he knew what he was growing. Oranges, lemons, and grapes were his main fruits.

In 1884 Henry E. Cooper bought land and named it Rancho Bonita. He began subdividing his land in 1887. But Bonita was sold to the Sweetwater Fruit Company in 1890. Mr. Russell C. Allen became the head of the company which planted 15,000 lemon trees. A citrus packing house (the "Old Red Barn") was built at Bonita by the Sweetwater Fruit Company in 1894. It was used by Mr. Allen and his neighbors for years. A branch of the National City and Otay Railroad ran north of the packing house. The fruit was shipped by rail to other cities.

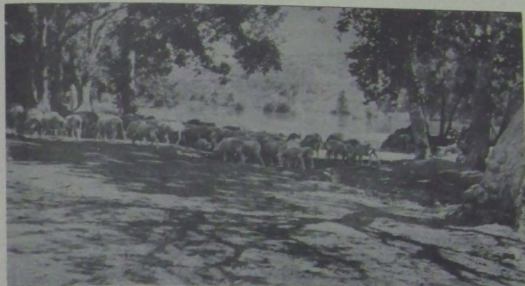


During the 1916 flood sections of the track and barn were washed away. Gradually the barn was abandoned as a packing house when the valley's heavy production of fruit stopped. From time to time the "Old Red Barn" was used for a variety of things. It was a home, a blacksmith shop, a horse and mule

stable, an antique shop, and a feed store. It served Bonita as a social center housing 4H farm fairs and booths during horse shows. It was a temporary woman's club. The barn was torn down in 1959 to provide space for a costly shopping center. Little did Mr. Cooper realize that his 1887 dreams for the growth of Bonita would come true.

The children in Sweetwater Valley went to the Bonita School which was on the southwest corner of what is now Bonita Road and Allen School Road. The Bonita School was used from 1888 to 1921.

From 1873 to 1883 Mr. Kimball raised many sheep in the Sweetwater Valley. Indians, Mexicans, and Chinese helped to herd the sheep. Fleas, fires, and freezes were problems that had to be overcome. Wool was shipped to the East at a profit. When suitable grazing land was lacking, Mr. Kimball sold his sheep.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

SHEEP ON THE NATIONAL RANCH

Other industries were tried in the valleys. Honey was a business which made money. Some of the ranchers would follow a swarm of bees hoping they would settle. If the bees did, they were placed in a hive where they produced honey. Some people believed that silkworm raising could be an industry here. Thousands of mulberry tree cuttings were set out in the Sweetwater Valley. The trees grew well, but the cost of having people make the silk was too great. It was found that the worms could live on buckwheat which grew wild in the fields. This caused interest for a while but cheap man power to make silk was lacking. However, a few ladies in the valley made silk for years.

A stage route crossed the National Ranch. The stage left the Ferris and Ferris Drug Store at Fifth and H (Market) at 6:00 a.m. and arrived at Campo twelve hours later. It was a two-horse, two-seat stage which held

three or four passengers besides the driver. The road was paved only as far as 16th and H. One can imagine the clouds of dust which followed the stage as it traveled from the west corner of the National Ranch and diagonally east over Olivewood Terrace. It kept to the Sweetwater Valley and took what would be the Otay Lakes Road just east of the present Ella B. Allen School in Bonita. The teams were changed twice during the trip. Lunch was eaten at Jamul.

According to Leonora Guatelli, part owner of Ferris and Ferris Drug Store at that time, the stage had two separate teams of animals which arrived at the drug store. The two mules seemed to make the trip as fast as the horses. By 1925 the stage route boasted of a motor car which had three rows of seats. The journey was over dirt roads most of the way and on occasion was less sure than the animals, for the car broke down! In later years the stage route was changed slightly to become Highway 94.

For years Mr. Kimball had worked to get the railroad to National City. He knew the importance of good direct transportation cross-country. The fruits, eggs, honey, and vegetables had to reach the markets faraway without delay. In trying to get companies to build a railroad, he had traveled to San Francisco by ship several times and even went across the country on the Union Pacific to Philadelphia in 1879.

Mr. Kimball had lived on the National Ranch for twelve years and had watched the growth of orchards and homes. In 1880 he went East again. This time he went to Boston. There he agreed to give large parts of the National Ranch to help pay for the cost of bringing and building the railroad. Other people in and near San Diego had agreed to give land also. A "Syndicate" from Boston agreed to build a railroad which would connect to a northern cross-country road.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

EARLY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION

Back in 1871 the Kimball Wharf had been built on the bay. It had collapsed in 1877 since worms had eaten the untreated wood. Now in 1881 the "Railroad Wharf" was built. Ships from Antwerp, Rotterdam, Liverpool, and Australia brought supplies for the railroad. They brought steel, ties, and coal. By the mid 1880's a branch line of the railroad reached the packing house in Bonita . . . and even beyond. The fruit provided freight for the train, and the train in turn opened up the possibilities of selling more fruit.

The next few years saw many changes in the area, for Mr. Kimball had insisted that the "Boston Syndicate" work on three main things: a railroad ("Motor Road") to connect future communities, a dam in the Sweetwater Valley, and the development of a townsite south of the Sweetwater River. The town is now known as Chula Vista.

Then he cut these blocks up into lots of five or ten acres and had each one of them face an eighty-foot street.

The Town Is Named

Members of the Land and Town Company needed to find a good name for the new town. A man by the name of James D. Schuyler suggested Chula Vista. He said that it meant "superlatively beautiful view." So the Land and Town Company chose that name. No one seems to know exactly what Chula Vista means. If you will look in the back of the book, you will find the meanings that people know for the words. It was a good name to choose because everywhere you look, even now, you can see beauty, clean streets, wide roads, and neatly kept homes and yards. Though the scenes of the bay and the mountains are sometimes hazy, the rest of the town has its own beauty.

Because the Land and Town Company wanted the town to be pleasant to live in, they made other rules for the buyers. They said, "No one may buy here unless he will promise to build within six months a modern-style home which must cost at least \$2,000." Now \$2,000 in those days was a lot of money. Can you figure about how long it would take a man to save this much money if he saved all he made? This will help you. Most coal miners in Illinois at that time were making about \$385 a year. Of course they didn't have to spend as much of their money for food and clothing as they do now. Your mother could buy a loaf of bread for five cents and a beef roast for twelve cents a pound. Do you know how much she has to pay for them now?

You see the houses they had to build were very expensive. People liked the idea of the town so much that within a year over thirty-five people had bought land. Within two years, by 1888, one hundred houses were being built. Within the boom period the price of lots varied from \$500 to \$350 to \$250. That was more than many of the men in the East earned in a whole year.

This period (1886-1888) was called a "boom" period and everyone wanted to buy land. A "boom" period means a time of very rapid growth. The San Diego Land and Town Company wanted to sell land, too. They made all kinds of deals with the people. They said to some of them, "If you will buy ten or twenty acres and plant the land with citrus trees, we will furnish the water. We will also give you half of the trees you need. Then if you will take care of the trees for five years, we will let you have half of the acres for yourself. We will take the other half to sell to someone else." Many people bought part of Chula Vista this way.

Homes Are Built

The first houses built were large houses. Most of them had basements, a first floor, a second floor, and an attic. Many of them had a high small tower on top. This was called a cupola. When the owners would stand in the tower, they could see Point Loma, the strand, the bay, ocean, and the mountains. What a lovely view they had! When the family needed a place to store food, they put it in the basement because they didn't have iceboxes or refrigerators as we do now. What fun the children had playing there too. They could crawl along under the floors and hide behind the foundation stones. They could bury hidden treasure and then pretend to be discoverers like Columbus and find it later. They could pretend that they were crawling in caves and sneaking up on the wild animals lurking inside. They could even hide from their mothers when it was time to do the chores!

The children had fun in the attic too. It was so high and where the steep, steep roof came down it seemed just like a little playhouse of their own. Families stored things in the attic that they did not want to use. It was always full of treasures. Mother stored the old clothes she had brought from the East. She could no longer wear them because of the warm weather in Chula Vista. There were pieces of furniture that did not seem to fit the new

house as well as they did the one in the East. Barrels of old family treasures that had not been unpacked since the trip west in the boxcar were pushed into the corners.

Just everything that children wanted for that exciting game of "dress-up" and "pretend" was stored in the attic. On rainy days when they could not play outside, the attic became everything and every place in the imagination of the children. Many happy hours were spent in their attic castles in the sky.

Since there were no recreation centers, no television, no radios, no movies, you probably wonder what the people did besides work. There was much reading aloud for one thing. Mothers and fathers would read to their children. Often children would read to each other. They sang songs together. They always went to church, to Sunday school, and to the many activities of the church. They had ice cream and strawberry socials. They went on hayrides. They went on wild flower-hunts and you know they did lots of "pretending."

What People Talked About

At this time, between 1886 and 1888, fathers and mothers were talking about the electric lights which were just being used for street lights in San Diego for the first time. They talked about the new dam being built, called Sweetwater Dam. They talked about the new railroad, the National City and Otay Railroad, which opened in 1887 for business. Mothers were talking about the new styles they had read about in the paper from back home. They were wondering whether they would be able to buy such clothes in National City or San Diego. They talked about their neighbors in Otay and in San Miguel, El Nido, and Daneri School Districts in the eastern part of the Otay Valley. They talked about Sweetwater (now Bonita). The children talked about picnics under the lovely sycamore and cottonwood trees in Sweetwater Valley. Of course, fathers talked about their young orchards and

the happy thought of more money for the family as soon as the trees were old enough to bear fruit. "But," they said, "they won't be worth much for the first five years. It will take that long for the trees to really produce lemons."

This was the way our town got started. Someone had an idea. He told it to other men. They laid out streets and building lots. They planned where the center of the town should be. They found out what crops would grow well so that men could make a living for their families. The men of San Diego Land and Town Company did all this but did their plans make the town? Of course not. The people who bought land, built homes, and raised their families made the town.

You will notice, as we read along, how the ideas of other men changed Chula Vista as it began to grow..

Sweetwater Dam

We know that a town cannot be made by streets, by plans, or by ideas alone. Someone must do something about the ideas or nothing will happen. The men of the



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

SWEETWATER DAM UNDER CONSTRUCTION

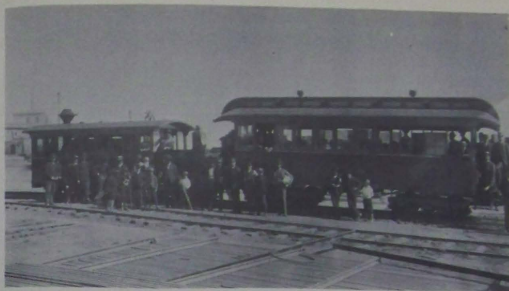
San Diego Land and Town Company knew that, too, and they put many ideas to work. The most important one for Chula Vista was the building of the Sweetwater Dam. The man knew that there would not be enough water from the wells which had been drilled during the boom period. Soon there would be more orchards, homes, and people. Water would have to be found somewhere! At that time water flowed down the Sweetwater River Valley all year round. The men thought that if they could build a high wall or dam to keep the water back, it could be saved for the time when it did not rain. They looked up and down the river valley until they found a narrow gorge. It was about eight miles east of National City. They decided that this gorge would be a good place to build the Sweetwater Dam.

They knew that it would be hard to build a dam, but they thought that it could be done. They asked an engineer, James D. Schuyler, to help with the plans and with the work. He was famous for his engineering work. The dam was built to the height of ninety feet without the use of mechanical equipment. There were no steel cranes, bulldozers, or tractors to help move the heavy granite used to form part of the dam. The granite was dug out of the hillside a quarter of a mile downstream. Cement was also used. You know how fast and carefully your father must work when he uses cement. Can you imagine how hard it must have been to build a wall ninety feet high with granite and cement without using cement trucks or other kinds of mechanical equipment.

The men started their work on November 17, 1886 and finished it on April 7, 1888. They built the Sweetwater Dam in this short period. People said it was one of the wonders of the world at that time. You get your water today from the same dam, so they must have been good planners and workers.

National City and Otay Railroad

The directors of the San Diego Land and Town Company had another idea which helped Chula Vista grow. They



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

NATIONAL CITY AND OTAY RAILROAD TRAIN

thought, "If people are to live in Chula Vista, they must be able to get supplies. They must be able to communicate with other people. It would also be easier for us to sell land if people could see Chula Vista. We will build a railroad."

By the end of the year 1888 a railroad line had been built from San Diego through National City, Chula Vista, Otay, Oneonta to Tia Juana (now San Ysidro). The line branched in the Sweetwater Valley just below Second Avenue in Chula Vista. One branch went up the valley through Bonita, Sunnyside, Bonnie Brae to Sweetwater Dam and La Presa.

La Presa soon developed into a resort or picnic place. A hotel was built and the Land and Town Company took many people to the resort to see the wonder of the dam. In fact, one of the very special trips to take in those days was an all-day trip on the new National City and Otay

Railway. The trip took people from San Diego or National City through Chula Vista and Otay to Tia Juana. It took the passengers back to National City for lunch at the International Hotel where it is said that two menus had been planned. One menu and price list was made for the passengers and another for the train crew. Who do you think had to pay more for their lunches, the crew or the passengers? In the afternoon the train took them to the Sweetwater Dam for a look at "one of the wonders of the world."

Can't you see the happy "excurionists" as they boarded the steam train for a day's outing? The women wore ankle-length skirts, high-top button shoes, and large wide-brimmed hats. The men wore tight-fitting trousers, cutaway coats, and bowler hats. They were dressed in style for the day!

Many stunts were planned to interest the people in the land owned by the San Diego Land and Town Company. The resort at La Presa became very popular for awhile. It has long ago disappeared, and no trace of it remains today. Where it stood a new subdivision has grown up. This subdivision is on the north side of the Sweetwater Lake. You may see it when your father takes you for a drive. You may also see the roadbed of the branch line to La Presa if you look very carefully up the valley to the north as you face the dam. If you get out of your car and walk to the high part west of the dam, you can even tell where the tracks and railroad ties were laid. There was a high bridge, called a trestle across this canyon. For many years after the railroad cars stopped running to the dam, the trestle was still a sight to see.

Belt Line Railroad---Telephones

Another railroad called the Belt Line ran from San Diego around the bay and across the strand to Coronado. You see, other places were popular, too, in those days. People came from faraway places to go to Coronado.

It was fun to ride the train across the strand and to visit the Coronado Hotel. The same hotel is there today!

Still another idea that helped Chula Vista grow were the telephone lines which were extended to Chula Vista in 1887.

Boom is Over

After the big boom of 1886-1888 the town of Chula Vista stopped growing so fast. People thought a long time before buying land. In the whole United States people were afraid of spending money and did not want to risk buying a new place to live. The Santa Fe Railroad shops were moved away from National City in 1889. As a result many people thought that this part of the country would never amount to anything. So they, too, were afraid to buy.



Courtesy of Josephine S. Roberts

7 Chula Vista Gets A Good Start

1888-1894

The big boom was over and the families who had built in Chula Vista had much to do in the years between 1888 and 1894. They had to plan for the education of their children and to think of a place for them to worship. Better ways of getting mail needed to be planned. They had to think about their groceries and supplies. More orchards needed to be planted. They had to learn to take care of the ones they had.

By this time the orchards which had been planted between 1886-1888 were bearing well, and the fruit was excellent. Fruit was displayed at state and county fairs. This fruit had been picked from orchards of oranges, lemons, tangerines, grapefruit, walnut, apricot, grapes and apples. These displays attracted a great deal of attention. Other people became interested in buying land where such fruit could be produced.

Two men, Elmer Flanders and Charles Johnson, had set out a nursery of their own in 1890. They started young trees so that the men who came here could buy trees to plant and develop their own orchards. Their idea was a good one. Many of the fine lemon orchards in Chula Vista in later years were started in this nursery.

Beginning of a Library

Colonel Dickinson, the man who had laid out the town had been ill for some time and people were worried about him. He had rested in Colorado but had come back to National City to his home to see that his work with the San Diego Land and Town Company was being done well. He died there July 14, 1891. His wife knew how much the Colonel had loved Chula Vista. After his death she donated many of his favorite books for a library. On

August 27, 1891 this collection of books was the first attempt toward the establishment of a library in Chula Vista.

First School

A school for the children in Chula Vista was needed. The parents worked with the school district in National City. In about 1890, a two-story schoolhouse was built on the site of the present new adult recreation center, Norman Park Center, at 270 F Street. At that time the school was part of the National City School District. In 1892 Chula Vista formed its own school district. The lower floor was used for classes, and the upper floor for church services.

On the top of the school was a large tower for the school bell. The bell was rung by a rope. What a clang it seemed to make when the children were hurrying to school and thought they might be late! Someone always had to ring the bell, so it was a great honor to be chosen for the job. A person had to remember his turn because no one told him. If he forgot, someone else got the job and he didn't like that.

Some of the older boys had a favorite trick which they always played on the last day of school. If the bell rope was pulled hard enough the bell would turn over. It would not ring any more until it was turned back over. That is just what the children wanted, but it was not what the principal wanted! When that happened, he would have to climb the bell tower and turn the bell over into position. He knew he had more important things to do than climb to the bell tower. He did everything he could to keep the bell away from the boys. He tied the rope up high. He thought they couldn't reach it, but they did. He locked the front entry as soon as school was over for the day, but they still turned the bell over.

And on Halloween, the school bell would always ring. When the school principal or the townspeople looked, they could find no one. As soon as they left, the bell would start ringing again, and the people thought for sure that the ghosts were at work. But you know who the ghosts were, don't you?

First Church

In 1890 the people who had been using the upper floor of the school for their church meetings decided to form the First Congregational Church of Chula Vista. There



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

FIRST CHURCH AND FIRST SCHOOL IN CHULA VISTA

were eleven charter members. "Charter members" means members who joined when the church was first started. In 1894 the San Diego Land and Town Company gave them a small plot of land to use for a building site. They built the first church in Chula Vista in the place where the Community Congregational Church now stands at 276 F Street. It was the only church in Chula Vista for seventeen years.

How would you like to have all your Sunday school and church meetings in the afternoon? Before the church was built, the preacher could come to Chula Vista only in the afternoon. He preached in another church in San Diego in the morning. The people in Chula Vista did not have enough money to hire a preacher. They did not have a church either, so they shared. They shared the preacher with San Diego and they shared the upstairs of the school with the children of the town. That worked out well as long as there was no need for classrooms for the school and the church people did not need more room.

The church people held ice cream socials, box socials, watermelon socials, as well as Christian Endeavor and Sunday school classes for the children. They held quilting parties and bazaars as well as church services for the older people. The school was really the center of the town. An old-timer says that even a lodge group held meetings upstairs. She can remember that parts of the costumes the lodge members wore were stored in the rooms they did not use for school classes. She said it was fun to look at the funny things they used in their lodge meetings. When the girls were sent upstairs to study or to work together in committees, they would sometimes sneak a look at the costumes. But after the church was built next door, they no longer had the chance to these things. The rooms were used for other things.

First Pier

After the church was built, the men in the town turned their thoughts to another idea which they said would help

Residence Suburb of San Diego.

SAN DIEGO LAND & TOWN CO

National City & San Diego, Cal

Scale: 700 Feet = 1 Inch

Revised by G. H. Bradford, C. E.

РЕЗУЛЬТАТЫ

The small left contains 5 acres each.

Those shaded are planted to either

Lemons, Oranges, Grape Fruit, or deciduous Fruits
Spices and Seasonings, Etc.

Water Supply is clear mountain water. Some trout are present.

There are Eight Railroad stations on the land.

Climate is the Finest in the World, no debilitating frigid

We have 40,000 ACRES of cheaper lands for sale

BAY OF SAN DIEGO.

MAP OF CHULA VISTA 1894

Courtesy of John H. Greife

Chula Vista. They thought that a pier or wharf built on the bay would be a good thing for the town. It would make a place for small boats to bring in supplies and also provide a place for the young people to have fun. They asked for help. They wanted someone to share the expense because it would cost a great deal of money. Many people gave money. The San Diego Land and Town Company gave them railroad iron and some heavy flooring to use. The pier was built at the foot of F Street in 1897 and the people of Chula Vista used it for many years until about 1916.

When a group of people who are interested in sailing or boating get together to form a club, it is usually called a "yacht club." This is what happened in Chula Vista in 1898. Some men who liked water sports formed the Chula Vista Yacht Club. The members of the club and their families had fun in the bay. They swam. They went on picnics to South Cove. South Cove was a popular picnic area across the bay near the southernmost part of the strand on the bay side. They held sailing races and won trophies. Some of the members of the Yacht Club who were winners of the trophy are living in Chula Vista and can remember when their names were placed on the winner's trophy.

First Post Office

Of course, a town must have a post office to carry on its business. On August 14, 1890 the first post office was started. Mrs. Sarah B. Fleming was the first postmaster. The first post office was located in the general store of Mr. W. B. Farrow. It was located on the northwest corner of Third Avenue and F Street.

General Store

The general store in those days was a sight to see. Your father and mother could buy anything they needed there. They could buy food for their animals as well as



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

GENERAL STORE AND RAILROAD STATION 1897

food for their families. They could buy farm tools, clothing, medicine, books, pencils, lamps and wicks for the gas lights most of the families used in those days. In the store were large bins of sugar and flour. These items as well as beans, potatoes and rice were sold in one hundred pound sacks for the fathers of large families to buy.

There were large tins of cookies and crackers. There was tobacco for the men, not cigarettes as they have today but rather loose tobacco and paper to "roll their own!" There were candy counters with all kinds of suckers, rock candy, hard panocha and licorice sticks. It was an exciting place to visit. When fathers paid their bills, the owner would often let the children of the

family pick out the kind of candy they liked to take home. That often took longer than the business of the parents!

A school, a church, a post office, a pier, the beginning of a library were all started between 1888-1894.

You see, the parents in the town of Chula Vista were planning for the children and planning for the future even as long ago as 1888-1894. They put their ideas to work for you. And you will continue the planning for the future citizens of Chula Vista.

8 Chula Vista Marks Time

1894-1911

What are the things that could cause a town to stop growing? Why should Chula Vista slow down in its growth? The town had been well planned. It had a good start with many homes, a school, a church, a post office, a small



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

CHULA VISTA IN 1903

library, and many fine orchards bearing fruit. The fruit had gained fame far and wide.

The land was good; the people were willing to work; there was good transportation and communication. What else do people need to live and to develop a town? You have probably thought of it by now--water! But the Sweetwater Dam had been built and was one of the wonders of the world. Why wasn't that enough water? That is a good question.

Seven-Year Drought

Between the years of 1897 and 1904 there was a period in the history of Chula Vista called the seven-year drought. A drought is a water shortage due to lack of rain. For seven years the rainfall was very sparse. Each year the farmers hoped that the rain would come, much as they do these days in 1961. Every year they thought it would be the last dry year, but still the rains did not come. The water in the dam had been used. It was so low that the people who remembered this time say, "There was only a smell." This was a bad time for the people in Chula Vista because most of them had orchards. They depended upon their orchards for their living. When the rains did not come, many of them did not know what to do. Some of them drilled wells. Others bought water from other people who had wells and hauled it to the trees. Can you imagine hauling enough water to keep hundreds of trees alive? Many young families who did not have money enough to drill wells or to buy water just left their ranches and moved away.

The wells did not keep the trees from going bad. The water was not good water like the water from mountain wells. Chula Vista was too close to the bay, and soon the water from most of the wells became salty. It became a matter of trying to keep the trees alive. They did this by using as little water as possible for each tree. However, the crops did not bring in much money, and many

farmers had to borrow. The banks did not want to lend money because they did not know how the water problem could be solved. So Chula Vista slowed down in its growth to a snail's pace.

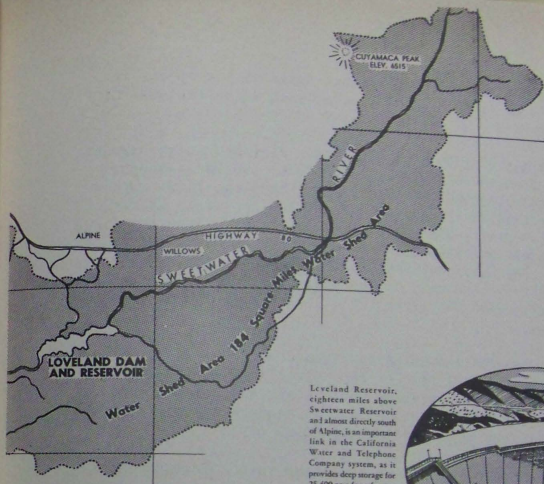
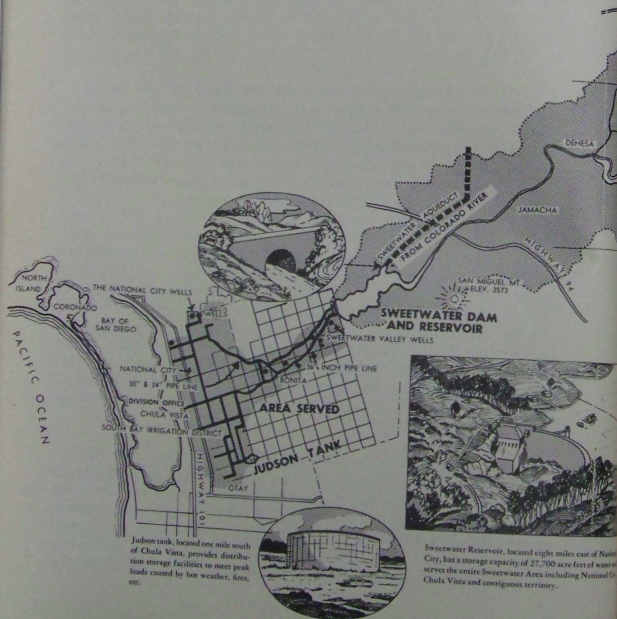
As a result of the seven-year drought in 1897-1904, many people lost their ranches or had trouble keeping their orchards alive. You may wonder why we do not have such a hard time during drought periods today. You know that the year, 1960-1961, was a period of the least rainfall on record in Chula Vista. How did it happen that we still had enough water?

Look at the rainfall chart in the back of the book. Compare the last ten years with the figure that is considered normal rainfall for the area, 10.86 inches. You will see that every year except two during the last ten years, the rainfall has been below the average. What does this mean to Chula Vista? Does it mean another period of hardship for the people of the area?

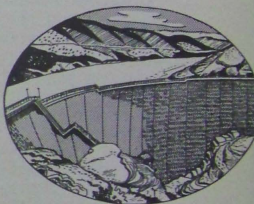
You know that the Sweetwater Dam cannot hold enough water to carry a city the size of Chula Vista through a drought period. The planners in 1902 knew the same thing. They took steps so that another water shortage would not occur. They looked for a place for another dam. By 1930 the California Water and Telephone Company, the company which owns and operates the water supply for Chula Vista and National City, had purchased all the land they needed to build another dam. This dam, the Loveland Dam, was built in 1948. It is about eighteen miles upstream from the Sweetwater Dam.

Even with this dam, the outlook for water was not assured, so the planners looked elsewhere. They knew that people in other parts of Southern California had been using water from the Colorado River. These people were members of the Metropolitan Water District. Aqueducts had been built to carry water from Parker Dam on the Colorado River in Arizona to many towns and cities in Southern California.

Map showing the extent of the Sweetwater water system which serves the cities of Chula Vista and National City and certain areas contiguous to them, and indicating the location of important facilities.



Cleveland Reservoir, eighteen miles above Sweetwater Reservoir and almost directly south of Alpine, is an important link in the California Water and Telephone Company system, as it provides deep storage for 25,400 acre feet of water from the Sweetwater River which runs through the Company's watershed area.



Sweetwater Reservoir and Lake Loveland form the nucleus of the Sweetwater system. The watershed which supplies these reservoirs covers an area of 184 square miles. The system provides service to 20,000 customers representing a population of about 80,000.

Sweetwater Reservoir, located eight miles east of Natron City, has a storage capacity of 27,700 acre feet of water and serves the entire Sweetwater Area including National Grassland, Chula Vista and contiguous territory.

The Navy and other governmental agencies made plans to bring some of this water to the Chula Vista-National City area.

On May 5, 1948 an aqueduct was finished which brought water from the end of their aqueduct, the San Vincente Reservoir, to the Sweetwater Dam. When the first supply of water was delivered, it was called the first "barrel." In October of 1954, another aqueduct paralleling the first was completed bringing the second "barrel" of water to the area. The California Water and Telephone Company acts as agent for the city of National City and for the South Bay Irrigation District, the district to which Chula Vista belongs.

As long as the rains and snow continue to fall and to fill the banks of the Colorado River so that the Parker Dam fulfills its purpose, Chula Vista and her neighbors need not fear a drought. This is another example of the ideas of men serving all the people.

Other things had been happening in the United States which slowed the pace of growth in Chula Vista. Gold had been discovered in the Klondike region in western Canada. Thousands of men left the country in 1896 to rush for gold. The Spanish American War, which had started in 1898, turned the attention of the people to the needs of war and contributed to their loss of interest in moving to a new land.

As you will see by the rainfall chart in the year, 1904-1905, the rainfall became more abundant. During the following years Chula Vista began to grow again. Roads were built, streets were lined with trees, and the people began to think once more of ways to make the town better. In July 1907 the San Diego and Otay Railway, the steam railway which had been built when Chula Vista was in its very beginning, was changed over to an electric railway. This made for faster travel to neighboring towns.

First Hospital

In 1908 the first hospital was started in Chula Vista by Mrs. Emma Saylor at 183 Third Avenue. If you look closely at 183 Third Avenue when you drive by, you will see the first hospital still standing. It is now part of Fredericka Manor. In it is the reception room, the library, the lounge, and some of the living quarters. People who have retired from their jobs may live in this lovely and peaceful place. When the hospital was first opened, many young girls who were going into nurses training came to this hospital for their training period.

First Bank

As the growth in Chula Vista began to quicken, the need for a bank became apparent. The Peoples State Bank moved from National City to Chula Vista in 1910. It was located on the northwest corner of Third Avenue and F Street. At that time there were about 550 people living in Chula Vista. This number was large enough to need the services of a bank. The city was large enough, too, for bankers to think that this was a profitable place to open a banking business.

The slow pace of Chula Vista was soon to change as the people began to think about the future. The leaders wanted to get many ideas from the people in Chula Vista. They wanted these ideas to be talked over so that the best ones could be put into use. They decided to incorporate. To incorporate means to form a group and to elect people to represent you so that everyone's ideas can be considered in final planning.

Incorporation

The people in Chula Vista voted to incorporate. In 1911 they elected their first city council. The first mayor was E. T. Smith. With the help of the first councilmen, Charles Boltz, L. B. Barnes, Gregg Rogers,

and Charles H. Austin, and the ideas of all the people in Chula Vista, many things began to happen.



Courtesy of Thelma A. Krantz

BELLES OF THE BALL 1904

9 Chula Vista Chooses Leaders

1911-1916

Soon after the town of Chula Vista voted to incorporate, many things began to happen. The people brought many ideas to the City Council members. These ideas changed the way of life of the people in the community. Let us look at some of the ideas which took root during the period following incorporation.

The Police Department

The protection of people was one of the first needs



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

THE MAIN STREET CHULA VISTA 1911

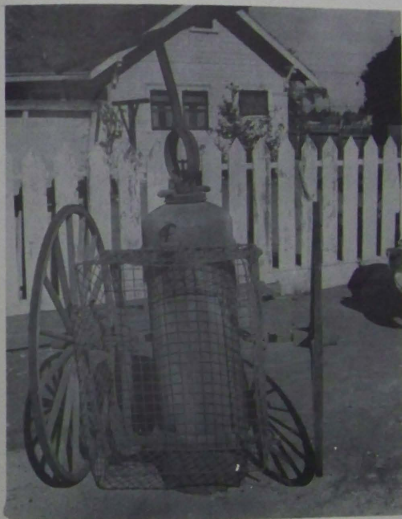
which became known to the City Council members. The City Council set up a committee called a standing committee to study how this should be done. A standing committee is a committee which keeps its job for a long time and watches to see that the work is done right. This standing committee made a set of laws or a code, as it is called, to guide the people. The councilmen tried to carry out the ideas of the standing committee. They appointed Mr. Darwin Black the first town marshal. He was followed by John Schussler, C. A. Sumner and William Barnhart. None of them served very long. Other jobs were added to the duties of these policemen. They became tax collectors, fire chiefs and health inspectors. All these jobs were done by some of the first marshals while they were still in office.

The history of the police department has been one of many changes. As the town has grown, the job has become greater. New crimes and new methods of treating criminals must always be faced by the men on the police force. They must always be ready for the unexpected. They must be kind and courteous even when they feel angry. They must be able to hold their tempers when other people call them all sorts of things and even fight with them. They must think of the best ways to help other people understand the law. They must be honest people because other people depend upon them. The older people need the policemen for a feeling of strength. The younger people need law officers to help them learn which choices to make when they're in doubt. It is hard to be a policeman. Besides often being in danger, he must be wise, honest, thoughtful, kind, and courteous. He must fulfill all the tasks the townspeople assign to him.

The policemen in Chula Vista have made an excellent record for the city. The crime rate is below the national average! We are glad that our policemen have been such good ones. We feel safe living in Chula Vista.

The Fire Department

Even before people built homes and settled in Chula Vista, fire had been both a friend and an enemy of the people. The Indians used fire to cook their food. It was a friend then. But when a fire started in the chaparral on the slopes of the hillsides, it could burn



Courtesy of Chula Vista Fire Department

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT IN EARLY DAYS

their grass houses and destroy the wild animals they used for food. It was an enemy then. Fire is a good friend when it is controlled. Let us see what ideas the people in Chula Vista had for making fire work for them, not against them.

When the town had only a few houses, a general store, a school, and a station for the National City and Otay Railway, a fire signal was placed on the corner of Third Avenue and Center Street so that anyone who needed help could sound it. A scaffold or frame was built. From it hung a very large metal ring about as big as the largest train wheel rim you have ever seen. Hanging beside it was a length of pipe about eighteen inches long. If a fire started, someone would run quickly and strike the rim with a piece of pipe. What a noise it would make! When that happened, the men in town who had agreed to help fight fires would come running. They would get behind a cart, called a soda and acid cart, and pull it just like two horses to the place of the fire. The soda and acid would help the men put out the fire more quickly. Later on, horses were used to pull the same cart. This way of fighting fire was used for many years.

Between the years of 1910-1920, the population in Chula Vista tripled. That means that there were three times as many people living here in 1920 as in 1910, and more fire protection was needed. Many people took their ideas to the city councilmen, who had thought a great deal about fire protection. Mr. Hugh S. Skinner suggested that they organize a volunteer fire department. Since fires do not happen very often, he thought that men could take turns sleeping in the fire station so that someone would always be there in case of a fire call. Others could come when they were needed.

A volunteer fire department was set up. On May 10, 1921 C. E. Smith was elected fire chief. He held this position for ten years. He was paid by the city of Chula Vista. He had about fifteen volunteers to help him.

Their fire fighting was done with a Model T Ford with a pump on it. It was poorly equipped as compared with engines used today.

The fire department and the tools they used for fighting fire were soon to have a real test. The night of February 1, 1923 was stormy. The rain came down in a heavy downpour without stopping. The night seemed dark, dreary, and still. But the darkness was soon lifted by a strange light in the southern sky and everyone became alert to danger. The old Randolph Lemon Packing Plant on K Street between Third and Fourth Avenue was on fire. The men in the fire department rushed to the scene, but with their inadequate equipment little could be done. The flames and smoke seemed to fill the sky, and the building burned to the ground. The firemen fought the fire for twelve hours but could not save the packing plant.

The people in Chula Vista were shocked that such a fire had happened. They were sorry that the owners of the packing plant had lost over \$13,000 because of it, but they were grateful that the fire had happened during such a heavy storm. Had the fire started in dry weather, it is probable that the whole southern end of Chula Vista would have been burned.

Before the people in the town could get over the shock of the Randolph Packing Plant fire, another one occurred. This fire started in the Cottonseed Plant. The Cottonseed Plant was located on the bay front in the buildings which had been used to make cottonseed meal and cottonseed oil. The oily hulls were used to fatten up cattle. With so much oily stuff around, it was not at all surprising that firemen could not put out this fire. They fought it for eleven hours, but the fire burned for days. Though the owners of the plant lost over \$330,000, the people in Chula Vista were grateful that the building had been so far away from other property. No other buildings were near so that the saving of lives and other property

was not a problem.

After two such fires many people had ideas for the improvement of the fire department. The City Council did something about these ideas and made some changes in fire fighting equipment. From 1923 to 1950 there were no large fires in Chula Vista. The City Council and the fire department deserve credit for this fine record. The firemen have educated the boys and girls of the community in the care and use of fire. They have trained men well to do their jobs as firemen. They have been faithful to their jobs. The long term of service given by many of the firemen has given the people of the community a feeling of confidence and trust in these men. In 1932 the present fire chief, George Lee, was elected a member of the fire department. In 1942, he became fire chief, a position he has held ever since. Instead of volunteer helpers the fire chief now has many men including a fire marshal working with him. They are on the job regularly.

The main fire station in Chula Vista is located on F Street and Guava Avenue. In 1957 the second fire station opened in Chula Vista. The U. S. Forestry Station at 80 East J Street was started as part of the Chula Vista Fire Fighting Department. In 1960 the third station in Chula Vista at 266 East Oneida Street was started. As the town grows, the fire protection grows with it. We are glad that the ideas of people are put to work to help keep others safe. We are glad that men stay on the job in the Chula Vista Fire Department. It makes us proud.

The Library

In one of the other parts of this story we read that some of the favorite books of Colonel W. G. Dickinson were given to Chula Vista for a library. However, it wasn't until many people began to work together that a library was built.

Soon after the city voted to incorporate, the city councilmen decided they would have to get a committee to

work to plan for a library. Many people wanted books to read for pleasure; some wanted books to read for study; others wanted a place for records to be placed so that they could be found later when they were needed. They knew that people who were interested in books would do a better job of planning. They selected some of these people to form the first Library Board.

L. M. Downing, one of the members of the first Library Board, knew of the work of Andrew Carnegie. Andrew Carnegie was a very rich man and instead of spending his



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

CARNEGIE LIBRARY FIRST LIBRARY IN CHULA VISTA

money on foolish things, he had been giving it to towns and groups of people for worthwhile things such as libraries. The Library Board wrote to the Andrew Carnegie Foundation and told them about the town of Chula Vista and its need for a library. After much writing back and forth, \$10,000 was sent to build the library. In 1916, work started on the first library building in Chula Vista. The library was named the Carnegie Library. It was built on the same place the first school in Chula Vista had been built. By that time, 1916, the first school had been torn down and the new F Street School had been built.

The new library was a good one and served the people of Chula Vista for many years, but as more and more people came here to live, it became too small. On September 24, 1955 a new library was put into use. This library is located on the corner of Guava and the Mall near the Civic Center. Mrs. Janice Stewart is the head librarian. She has several helpers.

You know how much books of all kinds are needed. It is a good thing for the people of Chula Vista that the members on the library boards have thought so much about the needs of the people. High school students have found the library the only place where they can get special kinds of information. Now we have a junior college in the town. It may be that we, or the college, will have to build another library to take care of the needs of the people. The City Council will think about all the ideas of all the people and will do what they think is best for the greatest number of people. Books are one of the most important things a person or a town can own.

The Post Office

You have read that the first post office was started in the general store on the corner of Third Avenue and F Street in 1890, and that Mrs. Sarah B. Fleming was the first postmaster. You are probably wondering how it happens that today your mail is put into your mail box at

your home. You do not have to go to the general store or to the post office to get it unless you want it that way. Many changes have taken place in the mail service since the first post office was started early in the history of the town.

In 1911, the year of incorporation, the population of Chula Vista had increased to about 550 people. Some of them lived on ranches that were miles away from the center of town. The people thought that some way of having the mail delivered to their ranches would be a good thing. Therefore the Post Office Department of the government of the United States started a rural route in Chula Vista.



Courtesy of Genevieve A. Wags

FIRST RURAL MAIL CARRIER IN CHULA VISTA

Clarence E. Austin became the first rural mail carrier. At first he carried the mail on horseback with the mail pouches in the saddlebags hung over the horse's back. The mail became heavier, and it was soon necessary to find another way to carry it. He then used a special buggy (wagon-cart) which had U. S. Mail painted on the sides. The buggy looked like a large packing box with windows cut

out of the sides. The windows were there so that he could reach out and put the mail into the boxes by the side of the road. As soon as he had money enough to buy a Model T Ford, he did so. He used Model T's until other Ford models came out. The mailmen in those days had to furnish their own cars. They had to be sure to get cars that they could depend on, for the mail must always be delivered.

As Chula Vista grew and houses began to be built closer together, another way of getting mail to the houses came into use. A mail carrier, called a village carrier, carried the mail in leather purses hung over the back of a bicycle. He would get off his bicycle and put the mail in the mail boxes which had been fastened to the doors of porches of the homes. The first village carrier in Chula Vista was James W. Nation. He started this kind of service in the middle 1920's.

In 1911, Mr. W. B. Farrow, the owner of the general store, was the postmaster. The post office was located in his store. As the town has grown, the location of the post office has changed. The post office moved on the following dates:

- 1897 - to the northwest corner of Third Avenue and Center Street
- 1913 - to 318 Third Avenue
- 1930 - to 315 Third Avenue
- 1941 - to 269 Third Avenue
- 1954 - to Third Avenue and Madrona Street
- 1955 - to its present location at Guava and F Streets

Postmasters must be very alert people. They must think ahead and plan for the growth of the town so that they can place the post office in a convenient place for most of the people. They must be able to utilize the new methods of transportation and communication so that all people can be quickly served. Some people in the rural areas now get baby chickens and even bees by mail.

Industries get many pieces of machinery and other supplies by mail. The postmaster must know how to plan for these things and how to deliver them to the right people on time. He must always be learning new things. A telephone call to a firm in Boston, Massachusetts today may bring the mail requested tomorrow. This is fast service, and postmasters must keep up with it. We are glad that our postmaster, Mr. Carl Stahlhaber, is keeping up and also has planned for the future. A branch office is now being built on East Oxford Street so that the new parts of Chula Vista will have a post office in a place close to their homes.

Other Community Activities

No town can grow unless people can find a place to go to the church of their choice. The need for worship has been a common need of man since the beginning of history. Some of the people who had been going to the First Community Congregational Church wanted to start their own church. In 1911 they built the First Methodist Church on the corner of Church and Center Streets. The Christian Science Church was started about 1918-1919. In 1921 the St. Rose of Lima Church was built. Since that time churches of many different beliefs have been established in Chula Vista. People can truly go to the church of their choice in this community.

In 1913 the Chula Vista Woman's Club was started. Mrs. H. J. Penfold was the first president. By 1923 an attractive clubhouse had been built on the corner of Del Mar and Center Streets. Although this clubhouse still stands, it has been made into a home for a family. The present clubhouse at 357 G Street has been in use since 1928.

About 1916 celery raising became a major crop in Chula Vista. Jaekel and Rogers were among the first to develop large celery farms. The farmers also produced tomatoes, string beans, lettuce, green peppers, cabbage,

and cauliflower on their large and well-kept farms. Some of the finest crops in this part of the country have been produced by the Chula Vista farmer, many of whom are Japanese-American. Farmers in Chula Vista are always trying to get better and better crops from the soil. They have contributed much valuable knowledge to crop production in San Diego County. The wealth of Chula Vista's produce contributes to the agricultural standing of San Diego County as seventeenth in the nation.

Many things happened during the next few years in Chula Vista, some of them good, some of them bad. The good things showed the planners how to keep on planning successfully for the future. The bad things taught them what not to do.

10 Chula Vista Suffers Losses

1911-1920

You remember that most of the people in Chula Vista at this time, 1911 to 1920, were lemon ranchers. They had large orchards which were doing well. Fruit was selling, and the farmers were making a profit from their orchards. Many new orchards were being planted and men looked to the next ten years with high spirits.

The Freeze

But sometimes things happen to test people. In 1913 such a testing came to the lemon ranchers in Chula Vista. On January 8, 1913 the temperature started to go down. It got colder and colder. No one could understand what was happening because nothing like this had ever happened before. It kept getting colder until it got so low that it killed many of the fine young trees and spoiled all the lemons that were on the trees ready for picking. Even the green lemons were spoiled. In the next few weeks, the lemons, and much of the green growth fell from the trees. Many trees would never be worth anything again and had to be taken out. Other trees had to be pruned and cut back so they could grow up from the bare trunks again. The lemons which fell from the trees by the thousands were piled up and burned. Most of the young men who had planted new orchards were very unhappy. The freeze meant that many ranchers would have to start all over again. Because of this the ranchers learned to be ready with smudge pots or heaters to keep the cold away from the trees.

This was not all that nature had in store for the people. In the same year, September 17, 1913 the temperature took another spree in the opposite direction. It got hotter and hotter until it reached 110 degrees. This heat killed the young rabbits, the chickens, and the

new growth on the same trees which only a few months before had been frozen. Such a time for the ranchers! How discouraged they were!

Insect Pests

The pests on the lemon trees were a problem, too. The climate in Southern California, usually warm and mild, helps everything to grow rapidly. This is true of insect pests as well as of plants. Red spider, yellow mite, mealy bug, black scale, purple scale, red scale, and soft brown scale, have always been a menace to the lemon trees. A chewing insect, the Fuller Rose Weevil, commonly called the Florida Dog, will attack the new growth and eat a week's growth in a few hours. All sorts of controls were used to fight the pests. For the spiders and mites whale oil soap and kerosene, or dry sulphur, or dry sulphur mixed with liquid lime were either sprayed or thrown by hand or with a duster. For the scale control, a process called fumigating seemed the most successful. To fumigate a tree, men would put a large canvas cover over the entire tree. Then they would drop some cyanide pellets into buckets of water under the canvas covers. The cyanide would dissolve in the water and the fumes would kill the scale. After the freeze in 1913, the cyanide was applied in hot gas form by rigs. These spray rigs were pulled through the orchards by mules. This was very dangerous because the fumes, if they were inhaled, could kill a man or a mule, and sometimes did. For the Florida Dog, strips of cotton were used as bandings on the trunks of young trees to keep the insects from crawling up into them.

Lemon Packing Plants

When the lemon trees first became a source of income to the ranchers, each rancher had to pick, sort, clean, and haul his fruit to the buyers who sold the fruit to other markets, usually in the eastern part of the United States. Some buyers in the very early days had small

sheds for storing fruit located throughout the area. They would buy and sell the fruit, of course, with a profit for themselves. In some cases the buyers were not honest. It seemed that for the growers' own protection and for the cheapest and best way to handle the fruit, some sort of an organization would be helpful. In 1916 the Chula Vista Citrus Association was organized by the



Courtesy of Walter Carey

LEMON PICKING IN CHULA VISTA 1928

former operators of the Land and Town Packing Plant of National City. Their packing plant operated at Third Avenue and K Street in Chula Vista until 1959. Other packing houses in the area were the E. B. Leach Packing Plant at Center and Landis Streets, the Randolph Lemon Packing Plant on K Street, between Third and Fourth Avenues, and the Mutual Orange Distributors (M.O.D.) on Center Street and Fourth Avenue. The M.O.D. was formed

when the Leach and Randolph men decided to get together and to form one company. In the Bonita area, the Sweetwater Fruit Company (the "Old Red Barn" of Bonita) was the main packing plant. Their activities began in the late 90's and continued until they purchased the National City plant of the Chula Vista Citrus Association in the mid-thirties.

Nowadays the packing plants will do everything for the lemon grower except pay his bills. They will pick, haul, clean, pack and ship the fruit. They will irrigate, spray for pests, and cultivate for weeds. The packing plants were busy in the years before the 1930's. The peak of the lemon industry came early in the 1920's. In 1922 eighty-three per cent of the water being delivered from the Sweetwater Dam was being used for agriculture, mostly lemons. In 1940 the percentage was down to fifty-five per cent and in 1957 down to thirty per cent. However, even in 1936 the city was shipping close to a million dollars worth of fruit annually. But this rate has rapidly fallen as homesites have replaced the once productive lemon orchards.

Hercules Powder Plant

The first World War, 1914-1918, brought strange things to Chula Vista. One of these was the Hercules Powder Plant on the bay front at the foot of D Street. The plant was to make potash from kelp so that it could be used in the manufacture of gunpowder. Many people from Chula Vista worked there. The paycheck was good, the town needed industry, and the industry was helping with the war effort. But every time a worker came home from work, he had to take off everything he had been wearing and to leave it as far away from the house as possible. He had to take a shower if he could and change into fresh clothes before he could enter the house. And on windy days the people of the town began to wonder if the potash plant was worth it! The gentle breezes carried not the clean fresh air of the open sea but the heavy stench of rotting kelp.

World War I

World War I also brought many changes in the quiet family life of the people of the town. Because San Diego has always been a navy town, service men from all parts of the country have been sent here. During the war, there were many camps set up for the training of soldiers. Young men who had never been away from home before were sent to the camps for training. They were lonesome and many of them were afraid. The families in Chula Vista did everything they could to help make the boys know that they were loved and cared for by the people of the country.

Everyone invited them to their homes. Sunday dinner would usually find several young boys at the tables with the families. During this period, it was easy to fall in love because with love came a feeling of being wanted. Many service men found the girl they wanted in Chula Vista. When the war was over, they returned to make their homes here. Sometimes the girl went "back home" where the boy was raised. These changes helped the town grow. New ideas came from the new people who settled here. And new ideas came from the war.

People said that this war was fought to make the world safe for democracy. Some thought that it was a war to end all wars. When it was over, the idea of a League of Nations was discussed among many people of the world. They began to put their faith in this group of nations to plan so that all people could live in peace. The League of Nations made a good start. Many countries now join together as members of the United Nations to plan for peace with justice. Even though we do not know for sure that there will be peace in the world, getting together to talk over problems and ideas makes everyone wiser.

The Flood

And then in 1916 came the never to be forgotten flood. Sweetwater Dam, the source of the water supply to Chula Vista, had plenty of water but other places in the county did not have such a supply. It is said that the city of San Diego had asked Charles Hatfield, a man who said he could make it rain, to come to San Diego County to make it rain so that the Moreno Dam would be filled again. He came, and it began to rain. Most people do not believe he had anything to do with the rain, but whether he did or not, is not important. It did rain.

On January 16, 1916 storm after storm came to gladden the hearts of the ones who prayed for water. Both the Sweetwater Dam and the Upper and Lower Otay Dams became filled, and water began to go over the spillways with great force. It was a beautiful sight to see, and people traveled from miles around to see the sight of so much water all at once. But it didn't stop raining! At the Sweetwater Dam, the pressure became so great that it weakened the dirt dam on the south and began to eat away the earth on the northern end of the cement dam.

On January 22 both the dirt dam on the south and the earth at the northern end of the cement dam gave way and the water spilled out with such force that it swept homes, men, buildings, orchards and animals to the bay. There was no stopping it. The river reached the height of twenty feet and washed away the rich soil from the river bed. It had also been reported that fifty-two homes, the adobe houses built by John Forster before 1856, the railroad tracks of the National City and Otay Railroad and the livelihood and future of many people were forever lost.

But this was not all! The Otay Dams, too, had reached a dangerous condition. By January 25 Lower Otay was full and Upper Otay was being sandbagged to help protect the

spillway. Water was running down the valley in unusual amounts and it, too, was a sight to see. But those people who knew how the dam had been built with a steel core in the middle protected by a rock fill were afraid that it would not hold. So a local Paul Revere rode through the valley on horseback to warn the people to leave. He said the dam would go out about 9:00 o'clock that night. Many people would not believe him and would not leave. The dam did not wait until 9:00 o'clock.

Just as the darkness of night began to creep through the valley, the dam broke and a wall of water swallowed every living thing. People who were near the edge of the flood said that the water banked up behind the railroad tracks near Otay. It swirled around knocking houses off their foundations as if they had been made out of matchsticks.

There was complete ruin in the valley. The people whose lives had been saved had nothing else--no food, clothing, homes, farms, animals. Even their life savings, which some of them had kept hidden at home, had been forever lost to the force of the water.

Chula Vista took in many homeless people. Churches, the Red Cross, private families, and other resources of the community were used to help the ones in need. Chula Vista, itself, was isolated. No one could go out of town or come into it for several days. Food supplies and fuel became scarce. But the worst shortage of all was water!

A water shortage at a time when water was more plentiful than it had been for a hundred years doesn't seem possible, does it? But think! All the pipes that carried water to Chula Vista had been washed away. The water running into the bay was filled with debris and was not safe to drink. Now, do you begin to wonder what the people did?

Many of the older homes had cisterns. Some of the cisterns had been built during the seven-year drought, 1897-1904. Others had been part of the original house. People shared water and were as careful of it as if it had been a million dollars. There were also a few good wells, wells that had been dug deep enough during the drought so that the water was still coming in fresh and clear. One of these wells was located about halfway between K and J Streets and Fifth and National Avenues. It provided water for many people during the water shortage.

The bay was a mess. The lower end of it was so full of the refuse of the floods that one could walk from the National City pier to the southern end of the bay and not get wet feet. Wet lumber, whole roofs of houses, the top of a schoolhouse with the bell tower still showing, dead animals, pieces of furniture, straw, farming tools, and snakes were all found. It has been said that the danger from rattlesnakes at this place was far greater than danger from them at any other time or place. They were on their way to dry land and safety.

Within a day or two transportation was provided to and from San Diego by boat from the pier at the foot of F Street. Mail and passengers were able to board a boat at high tide from the pier. At low tide if the passenger was in too much of a hurry to wait for the tide to come in so the boat could dock, he could remove his shoes and stockings and wade to shore. Since this was dangerous due to the sting rays and the sharp cutting debris found on the bottom of the bay, people who had to go to San Diego planned their trips very carefully with the tide.

Soon a footbridge was built across the Sweetwater Valley where the tracks of the National City and Otay Railroad had been. The mail and other necessary business



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS SWEETWATER RIVER AFTER THE FLOOD OF 1916

was carried across the footbridge on the backs of men.

The tests of freeze and flood did not stop the growth of Chula Vista. People began to bring forth new ideas of protecting the city from other such disasters. New plans for a new future came to the city council meetings. These plans were based upon the successes and failures of the people who had gone before, and out of them came the Chula Vista of the 1920-1930 period.

11 Chula Vista Strengthens Its Services

1920-1930

After the tragedies of the First World War, the people of Chula Vista, as well as all the rest of the country, wanted happiness. Instead of sadness the people wanted gladness. Instead of work, they wanted play. A time began which has been called the "Roaring Twenties" because so much play, fun, and lack of responsibility were shown by so many people in the United States.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

THIRD AVENUE CHULA VISTA 1923

Everyone tried to be young. If people weren't young, they dressed as the young people did and pretended to be young. They danced and played. The Charleston and the Black Bottom became two popular dances. Some women began to smoke. This shocked many of the older people. Many women bobbed their hair and wore dresses up to their knees. They were called flappers. The flapper, the hip flask, bell-bottom trousers, Clara Bow, the speak-easies, became symbols of the 1920-1930 period.

The San Diego Country Club

The first country club in Chula Vista was called the San Diego Country Club. When it started in 1920 there were only six hundred memberships to be sold. These were sold very quickly for many people liked to play golf. Today people from all around Chula Vista enjoy this club for its beautiful golf course.

Health and Welfare Services

The people of the United States found out during the war years that many men in the country had not been as strong and healthy as they should have been. They wondered about this and began to ask questions. They found that many children had been working in the fields and factories for long hours and for many days at a time. They also found that some companies had given jobs to children because the children would work for less money than the men. The people of the United States said that this should not happen again. They passed laws to control the ages and hours that children could work. The laws also controlled the kind of work children could be hired to do.

The people also found that many children had not been getting the kind of food or care which would help them grow into healthy adults. They said that something should be done about this, too. They knew that children would grow to be leaders of the country. They wanted to

do everything they could to be sure the United States would have strong leaders.

In Chula Vista, a community nurse was hired to look into the problems and see what should be done. Her name was Miss Grace Blake. She came to Chula Vista in 1919 and helped the community for two years. Mrs. Edie Dunlop carried on with the health work for the next four years. Then Miss Helen Scott came in 1925 and worked with the children of Chula Vista for twenty-two years. She retired in 1947. Many things were done in those years. A well-baby clinic was started in Chula Vista. Sun bathing and resting programs instead of physical education became part of the school program for the children whose doctors recommended it.

A more careful check on illness in the community started during this time. Children were checked after every absence. Home calls were made. Regular health inspections were given at school. Funds were set up to help the families who could not afford medical care for their children. The Community Chest and the school nurses provided food and clothing for those in need. Christmas baskets were given to the needy.

Because of this fine start and the work which others have done since, Chula Vista has been free from any major health problem. Now we have many people carrying on the health work in the community. The South Bay Branch of the San Diego County Health Department is located in Chula Vista close to the Civic Center at 263 Fig Avenue. Although it is a branch of the county services, it directly serves the people of Chula Vista and their neighbors. Because it can use a greater tax base for support, it can provide more services to the South Bay communities. The city of Chula Vista and the County of San Diego both gain by sharing these services.

Chamber of Commerce

A building boom in Florida in 1925 made the citrus growers in Chula Vista more interested in their own orchards. They thought that since the people in Florida were taking out many of their citrus groves the price of lemons and oranges would go up. They would then make more money from their groves. In order to help the community make the most of the land and the other resources of the area, the Chamber of Commerce of Chula Vista was started in 1927. A Chamber of Commerce works to help a town grow. It advertises the good things about a town or city to get other people or other businesses to settle in the town. Our Chamber of Commerce has many members. Some of the people who own businesses in Chula Vista came here because of the help given by the Chamber of Commerce. We are glad the Chamber of Commerce started in 1927 so it too, could have all these years to help Chula Vista become the town it is today.

Many Changes

Some of the other changes in Chula Vista in the 1920-1930 period developed over quite a long time. Automatic refrigerators began to take the place of ice boxes. Washing machines came into use replacing the old scrub-board. Automobiles became more plentiful and cheaper so more people could buy them. The radio and even the beginning of television became known. Chain stores instead of the grocery store on the corner became popular. The aircraft industry began a steady climb upward. In 1927 Charles A. Lindbergh took his famous flight across the Atlantic in the "Spirit of St. Louis," an airplane made in San Diego. The interest and activity in this area became keen.

Buying things on the installment plan became common practice. Many people bought furniture, cars, homes, radios. They paid a little money down and intended to

pay a little each month until the entire amount had been paid. People began to think that nothing could ever go wrong with the country. They thought that they would always have jobs and money to pay for the things they wanted. And new things were being developed all the time to keep them wanting!

Home life was changing. There were more divorces and broken homes. There was more lawbreaking and the people in Chula Vista again knew that they needed to put some ideas to work to strengthen the town. They decided that the town needed a court to help uphold the law.

Justice Court in Chula Vista

In 1931 the first Justice Court of National Township was located in Chula Vista at 119 National Avenue. Judge Lowell Howe was the first Justice of the Peace. He served as the Justice of Peace in Chula Vista for thirty years, first in the Justice Court and later in the Municipal Court. He retired on March 31, 1961. At that time Manuel Lewis Kugler was elected to the Justice Court to replace Judge Howe.

There were many problems for the Justice Court to handle in the early years. A law in effect in this country made it illegal for anyone to sell liquor in the United States, so many people went across the border into Mexico where they could buy all they wanted. Some people did not make wise choices and drank too much. When they came back into this country, they were kept at the border until they could drive their cars safely. Many times the Justice Court was so full of these cases that people had to stand outside until their turn for a hearing came.

Judge Howe was always fair and just in his treatment of people. He wanted to help them learn the right way to act so they would not have to come to a court to find out. He helped the town to have faith in the law. He helped them to know that to break a law is serious and that the

lawbreaker would be dealt with firmly but with fairness. It is good for a town to have a strong man in the position as justice of the peace. We are glad that Chula Vista has had Judge Howe to help in making the town strong.

Schools Continue to Grow

At the time Chula Vista was being laid out as a town, 1886-1888, schools had been started in many other places nearby. National City had had a school since 1870, Otay since 1877, Sweetwater (now Bonita) since 1877, San Miguel (northwest of upper Otay Lake) was beginning in 1888 as were Daneri (three miles east of Otay), and El Nido (northeast end of lower Otay Lake). Chula Vista did not have a school until 1890. When it was built, it was part of the National City School District. It was built on the site of the present adult recreation center at 270 F Street. In 1892 Chula Vista formed its own school district. From 1890 to 1916 the children (first grade through eighth grade) were educated in this school. High school pupils living in Chula Vista went to San Diego High School or to National City High School until the Sweetwater Union High School was built in 1921 at 2900 Highland Avenue, National City.

Travel to High School

One of the graduates of the elementary school in 1911 tells about the trip from Chula Vista to the high school in National City. She says, "All of the students went on the streetcar to the high school. It took about forty minutes. The streetcar went north on Third Avenue to E Street, east on E Street to what is now Second Avenue (it was Fourth Avenue then) and north on Second Avenue to the point where the Vista Hill Sanitarium is now located. It crossed Sweetwater Valley at this point to the National City side. From there it went west to National Avenue, north on National Avenue, and on to San Diego. We got off at Eighth Street in National City and walked about three-fourths of a mile to school." Central School at



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ELECTRIC STREET CAR

933 E Street, National City, is located on the site of the old National City High School.

"The conductors on the streetcars would get acquainted with the passengers and would look down the streets to see if all had boarded. If not, and he could see us, he would wait while the others urged us to hurry. I remember a well-known member of a pioneer family in Bonita. She would have her mother or someone from the ranch drive her by horse and buggy to meet the car anywhere on the line. And with her blonde pigtailed flying, she would just make connections!"

The Sweetwater Union High School District has charge of the education of the children in the South Bay area, grades seven through twelve. There are now three junior high schools, Chula Vista, Castle Park, and Hilltop Junior High School, and two high schools, Chula Vista and Hilltop, serving the children in the secondary schools of Chula Vista.

The Chula Vista City School District has charge of the education of the children from kindergarten through sixth grade. Because the seventh and eighth grades are part of the elementary school district, the Chula Vista City School District pays the Sweetwater Union High School District to educate the seventh and eighth grade children.

You may wonder why children from Sunnyside, Bonita and Otay attend schools which are in the Chula Vista City School District when they live in communities of their own. The reason is that the people in these towns voted to join the Chula Vista City School District so that they could share the costs and have the advantages a larger district could give them.

You may also wonder what happened to the schools which were built close to Chula Vista many, many years ago. Why is the Daneri School District no longer mentioned? This district joined the Otay District in 1903. We do not hear of the El Nido School District because it joined the San Miguel District in 1891. The San Miguel District joined the Sunnyside District in 1921. In 1921 both the Bonita and Sunnyside Districts joined the Chula Vista Grammar School District. The Grammar School District became the Chula Vista City School District in 1950 and in 1951 the Otay District joined. Now children from all these areas go to schools in the Chula Vista City School District. They receive the benefits a larger district can provide.

It is interesting to note the difference in average attendance in the Chula Vista Grammar School between the

years 1909-1910 and 1911-1912. In the 1909-1910 school year the average number of children in school was sixty-six. By 1911-1912 the average had increased to one hundred thirty-one and the people were faced with problems.

The following letter written by Angie Vincent, a teacher in the Chula Vista Grammar School from 1911 to 1916, may help us to learn about the schools of that time.

"I started to teach in Chula Vista in September 1911. The only school was a big two-story building on F Street near the Congregational Church. There were four classrooms, two upstairs and two downstairs. The washbasins were in the back of the first floor (of course no paper towels). I don't remember the toilet facilities but I think they were in two small buildings outside. There was also a room for the faculty of four teachers. I



Courtesy of Marjorie A. Fremas

EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATING CLASS 1911

taught the first grade; another teacher, Georgia Tillson, taught the third and fourth grades; Rosina Hertzbrun, the fifth and sixth grades; and our beloved principal, Miss Ethel Cunningham, taught the seventh and eighth grades. All but Miss Cunningham lived in San Diego.

"Chula Vista had taken a sudden spurt in population unforeseen by everyone, including the Board of Education headed by Grandpa (Valois Butler). Let me say something about him before I go on. He stood only five feet three inches with a very compact build. He had the most beautiful snowy-white beard, and he always carried a cane which he did not need but which he used by tapping it decidedly with every step. When we heard that cane about three times a week, we were always happy, for something worthwhile came from each of his visits, if only a pat on the back for a job well done. I think he was about sixty-five at the time, with blue eyes as alive and alert as a man of twenty-five years. His hobby was education in general, but of Chula Vista in particular. His current problem was one of solving the schooling for the influx of pupils.

"Every room was crowded but my particular problem was an enrollment of sixty-three pupils, thirty-three of whom had never been to school before (no kindergarten at that time). Mr. Butler was there the opening day of school and saw the horrible situation. At once he got hold of some old, but right-sized, seats to seat the children. In a few days he had a piano sent in and although the room was crowded, you should have seen the folk dancing and marching we did for relaxation.

"The windows were narrow and few, so in a few days Mr. Butler had a large space in the wall knocked out and two huge windows put in which we could pull down with a sort of pulley. That gave us more clean air but not enough, so Miss Cunningham gave us permission to have a recess every hour. Of course rainy weather was bad, but we still had that old standby, the piano.

"It seems to me that everything I needed I got if I gave good reasons to Mr. Butler. Miss Cunningham, the principal, was terrific. She loved Chula Vista, the children, and her teachers. When necessary, she dealt with a firm hand and we all knew it! What bigness in a small body! There were very few instances when disciplinary action was necessary. If such important instances occurred, a student council (three outstanding students in the eighth grade) and the faculty met for a conference. It was very effective!"

Angie Vincent also tells about a visit from Vice President Marshall. She says that all the children in the school sang songs for him, and he spoke to them briefly. They were probably as excited as you were when President Eisenhower came to Chula Vista in 1960.

In 1916 the school at 270 F Street was vacated. A new school had been built called the F Street School. Part of the old school was moved to the new site and later used for a kindergarten. With the change in location came other changes. Mr. Charles A. Shaver was chosen by the Board of Education to be the new principal. He put many unusual ideas into practice which will long be remembered by his former teachers and students. He was a strict disciplinarian. His school was operated according to a set of rigid rules. These rules were followed precisely by both teachers and children.

Every Friday morning all the children in the fourth through the eighth grades assembled in the auditorium for weekly exercises. As part of the exercises, he would call the roll. You were called not by your first name but by your last name, such as "Miss Jones" or Mr. Williams. When your name was called, you answered by reciting one of the selections for the week. Sometimes the selections were from Shakespeare. These are two of them.

Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.

The quality of mercy is not strained.
It droppeth as a gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath: it is twice blessed,
It blesseth him who gives and him who takes.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

F STREET SCHOOL IN EARLY DAYS

At other times the selections were from other sources of great thought. It did not matter whether you could understand them or not. They had to be memorized and recited when your name was called on Friday. Fear of punishment forced children to learn them. It also caused many to hate them.

Charles A. Shaver was replaced in 1923 by a young man, J. Calvin Lauderbach. He guided the schools through thirty-six years of growth. From a single school, the F Street School where he became the principal and eighth grade teacher, he became District Superintendent of a school system responsible for the education of approximately 8,500 children in fifteen schools. Dr. Lauderbach retired in June 1959, having made an excellent contribution to the community through outstanding leadership of the program of education for boys and girls of Chula Vista.

In July 1959, Dr. Burton C. Tiffany was elected Superintendent. Since he has been Superintendent, three new schools have been built, Palomar, Halecrest, and Myrtle S. Finney Schools. There are now eighteen schools in the district. Schools have always had an important part in the development of this rapidly expanding community.

"Roaring Twenties"

Even this period, from 1920-1930, contributed its bit to the needs of a growing community. People had confidence. They were happy and gay but beneath the gaiety many aspects of the community gained strength. The establishment of the court of justice, the expansion of the schools, the formation of the Chamber of Commerce, the growth of the churches and service clubs brought a feeling of solidarity to the community. This feeling served the people well during the next decade when events occurred which shook the confidence of the nation!

12 Depression Years In Chula Vista

1930-1940

Stock Market Crash

Has your father ever been out of work for a long time? What happens to the whole family? You know what happens. The family becomes worried, cross, fearful. They are afraid to spend the money they have because they may not have any more. Did you know that there was a time in the history of the United States when over ten million people were out of work? Can you imagine how the people felt?

You remember that the people in the United States in the period from about 1920-1930 had been very happy and gay. They had bought many things on the installment plan. Businesses had done the same thing. The owners had borrowed money to help their business grow. Everyone felt that the world was safe and secure, and they took many risks in business. That is, they borrowed money without knowing that they would be able to return it. They thought they would pay it back, but they did not have the money in a bank or saved somewhere to pay for the new things they were trying out in business.

When your father writes a check, he knows that he has money in the bank to pay for the check. He knows that his promise to pay in cash is good because he has the money. When your mother charges something in a store, she knows that she has money enough to pay for it and that when the bill comes, she can pay for it. Your father and mother use a promise to pay when they charge or write a check. Their credit is good because they have the money safely deposited in a bank.

There had been much buying and selling on credit in

the United States in the late 1920's without the money being safely deposited to pay for the things bought. People thought they could pay and took chances. This is called speculation. On October 29, 1929 the news that the stock market had crashed came to every home in the country. When we say the stock market crashed, we mean that the whole system of buying, selling, borrowing, and lending is not safe any longer. The crash meant that there wasn't enough cash in the country to pay for all the chances that had been taken.

Hardship in the Homes

At first the people did not think that the matter was very serious. When banks began to close their doors and to go out of business, and when the people who had saved their money could not get it back, they began to realize that the country was in bad shape. They became afraid.

When people are afraid, they do not buy; they do not build; they do not travel. If people do not buy, stores cannot sell, so they close and go out of business. When people do not build, carpenters, painters, cement men, truck drivers and roofers lose their jobs. When people do not build new homes, the stores that sell furniture cannot sell, and they go out of business. The men lose their jobs. If people do not travel, new cars are not made or sold. Railroads do not run as often or need as many men to work, so the men lose their jobs. When men lose their jobs, stores cannot sell and they go out of business. Once a depression like this starts, everyone becomes afraid, and business just about stops.

Such a time as this came to Chula Vista early in 1930. Many men lost their jobs. It wasn't because they were poor workers. There just weren't any jobs. They tried and tried to find work. They would work at any job for almost any pay if they could only find one. But no one could hire them because there was no business. It was

a bad time for everyone. The older men who had saved for years so that they could soon retire used all their savings. The younger men who had bought homes and furniture lost them both and had to move in with relatives. Family life became very unhappy. Worried mothers often nagged the fathers; children often complained. Father did everything he could to find work and pay.

In Chula Vista people helped each other as much as they could. Those who still had jobs hired others to do all sorts of work for them. They hired them to hoe weeds, fix fences and windows, to paint, prune shrubbery and clean out basements. Fathers went to work in the celery fields curing and packing celery in the early cold winter mornings. These jobs were hard for the men who were not used to that kind of work, but they did not mind. It was a job and it would bring in a little money to help their family. The hope of a better time tomorrow encouraged the people and gave them strength.

But times did not get better. By the end of 1930 one out of every five women had gone to work outside the home. They took any kind of a job they could, which would produce an honest dollar. In Chula Vista many women returned to jobs they had held before the depression, but even with the women working, the problem was not solved. It became so great that the government took steps to help.

Many agencies were set up to help plan projects to make jobs. Communities were to help in these projects and Chula Vista did her share. The W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) did many things to help. In each community it distributed food to the needy. The building inspector, Mr. R. J. Wharton, was selected to be the head of the W.P.A. in Chula Vista. Miss Scott, school community nurse, helped Mr. Wharton distribute food and flour to the families in need. They found jobs for as many men as they could. They tried to find a job for at least one member of a family.



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CHULA VISTA MEMORIAL BOWL IN 1946

The government agencies helped communities build new civic buildings and to clean up the slum districts. They helped them to build schools, parks, and roads. The Lilian J. Rice School and the Memorial Bowl in Chula Vista Park are two projects jointly planned and financed by the government and the city of Chula Vista. There were many other activities to provide work.

Help was given schools by the work done in making many visual aids for teachers. People who were artists painted pictures about the things children were studying.

Many dioramas were made and many dolls were costumed to represent periods in history or people of other lands. Books were written by people working for the W.P.A.

The C.C.C. Camp (Civilian Conservation Corps) was set up in the Cuyamaca Mountains and in many other places in the United States. Many of the young men of Chula Vista were sent to the C.C.C. camps to do conservation work on our natural resources.

The depression period caused many people to think seriously upon the way the country was going. They thought about themselves, too, and their own way of living and spending. Some of them began to think that buying things before they could pay for them was not such a good idea after all. Everyone wanted to get his money problems straightened out.

Fiesta de la Luna

A group which wanted to take care of its debts as fast as possible was the Chula Vista Woman's Club. They still owed money on the new clubhouse built on G Street. They wanted to think of a good way to pay it off.

While Mrs. Cordelia Helm was president, it was decided to have a dinner and dance and to sell tickets to as many people as they could. The members thought a simple parade of a car or two carrying some of the members dressed in costume would create interest in the dinner and help to sell the tickets. One of the members, Mrs. Fred Pratt, an artist who had lived in Mexico for many years, suggested the Mexican theme for the dinner. She had loved the atmosphere of the Mexican fiesta and suggested that the members and guests at the affair wear Mexican costumes and celebrate in true fiesta fashion. The idea was well received and the Fiesta de la Luna was born.

From that time on, 1930, the Fiesta de la Luna has been an annual affair in Chula Vista. Each year around



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FIESTA FLOAT IN 1946

September the city of Chula Vista sponsors a parade and other activities for the purpose of advertising the town. Although the Woman's Club started the idea and carried it out with increasing participation for many years, it is now entirely a community activity. It is surprising sometimes to think of what happens to an idea, like a drop of water falling into the ocean, it grows and grows.

Agriculture in Chula Vista in the 1930's

In spite of the depression, the Chula Vista Lemon Association moved into its new building, the packing

house at Fourth Avenue and Center Street in 1933. This showed the people of the community that this association had faith in the future of the lemon industry. This faith was born out by the amount of fruit shipped out of Chula Vista in 1936, close to a million dollars worth of lemons!

Celery was also a big crop. Between 1,500 to 2,000 cases were shipped the same year.



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CELERY HARVESTING

At this time Chula Vista was reported as being a sixth class city with a population of over 6,000 and a assessed valuation of about \$3,000,000.

By 1938 the value of the crops in the area was reported as follows:

Citrus	\$700,000 annually
Celery	500,000 annually
Cucumbers	90,000 annually
All other crops	150,000 annually
Dairy	400,000 annually
Poultry and eggs	300,000 annually

Civic Center

With a population now of over 6,000, the people in Chula Vista began to talk about larger places for the City Council and city workers to have their offices. Some people wanted to have a civic center built. They wanted to know what the rest of the people in Chula Vista thought about the idea. It was put to a vote. Most of the people voted against the idea at that time. In 1938 they did not feel safe enough to vote money for such a large project. They were not sure of their own jobs, and the thought of additional taxes made them decide that a civic center at that time was not a good idea.

World Affairs

At this time many things were happening in other parts of the world that would have a great deal of effect on the way the people in Chula Vista thought and acted. Let us look at some of these events to see how they changed the pace of life in this area.

In Europe Hitler had been taking over some of the smaller countries which were too small to defend themselves. In the Orient, Japan had been fighting China. Many of the other countries in the world did not like what was happening in Europe and in China. The people in the United States were hoping that there would not have to be a war. But they were afraid that they would have to go to war to help the smaller countries and to

stop Japan and Germany from taking over more and more country.

Everyone in Chula Vista was talking about what this country should do. Many people were hoping and praying that war would not be necessary. Others thought that we should fight and get it over with. Others thought that we could solve the problems by talking and planning with Japan and Germany. Feeling became very strong in Chula Vista, and there were many ideas about the best thing to do.

But on December 7, 1941 everyone knew that war had started. Pearl Harbor and the American naval forces stationed there had been bombed by the Japanese.

13 The Second World War

1940-1945

Japanese Americans

Japanese farmers had lived in Chula Vista for many years. They had given much to the community because of their quiet but hard work. Their record of respect and obedience to the law was excellent. Their children were born here and had attended schools in Chula Vista. They had friends and were accepted and respected. The thought of war with Japan brought much sadness for many of them, because in some cases their parents and friends lived in Japan though they had chosen to live here as Americans.

The thought of war with Japan brought much sadness to the friends of the Japanese Americans, too. People in other parts of the United States did not know the Japanese Americans as well as the people in California. They did not trust them or believe they were loyal to this country. When Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese forces, and everyone knew that war with Japan was here, there was much feeling against the Japanese by many people in the United States. The west coast Japanese were sent away to war relocation centers in the interior of the United States. Most of them lived there during the war. Some of the Japanese farmers lost their farms in Chula Vista. Many young people turned against the ideas and beliefs of their elders thinking that these beliefs had brought them rejection.

After the war, many families found their way back to their homes in Chula Vista. Some of them settled in other places. Many of the young men enlisted in the American army as loyal Americans, and served their country courageously and well.

Wartime in the Homes in Chula Vista

Three days after war with Japan had been declared, Germany declared war on the United States. This meant that the United States would be fighting in the Pacific as well as in Europe. It meant a great many changes for everyone. The young men who did not enlist were drafted. Only men who were in the clergy or who were thought to be necessary for the war effort at home were allowed to stay out of the service. Food was rationed. Ration books were issued to families to use to show that they were eligible for food. Sugar, butter, and meat were very scarce and could be bought only with the use of ration stamps. Gasoline and automobile tires were also rationed. People formed car pools in order to have a way to go back and forth to work. There was not enough gasoline for any extra driving. Victory gardens were planted by almost every family. Mothers did a great deal of canning. Extra sugar was rationed for this.

Since Pearl Harbor had been bombed, the chance of a bombing of the West Coast was feared. Air raid spotters were chosen from among the older men and women. They were stationed in places where they could get a good view of the sky. They were to report any planes that did not look like the planes used by the United States. The spotters took shifts so that day and night the skies were watched. Women made curtains called "blackout curtains" to hang in front of their windows so that all light could be shut out. This was one way of hiding cities from the sight of an enemy pilot at night.

First aid classes were taken by many people. Fingerprinting came into common usage. Many women went to work in airplane factories and shipyards. They worked in nearly every kind of job usually done by men, since the men were at war. The song, "Rosie, the Riveter," was written about the women who worked in the airplane factories. Rosie could have worked at any of the local aircraft factories.

Mail from the boys overseas became the highlight of the day. When families did not hear from their loved ones, the fear became great.

Housing

Many people moved to Chula Vista during the war years. Some of them came to be near their servicemen for as long as they were in the United States. Many men were shipped out from San Diego. Others came to find work in the airplane factories because the factories were paying high wages. There were not enough houses in Chula Vista to take care of the people who came. Many home owners who had empty rooms in their homes took roomers or boarders. Often these roomers became lifelong friends of the people with whom they lived.

The government relieved the housing problem by building two federal housing projects in Chula Vista. The Hilltop Housing Project, located west of Hilltop Drive and south of J Street, was completed early in 1943. There were three hundred units or homes in this project and it covered about twenty-six acres. Vista Square Housing Project was completed early in 1944. There were units for 704 families in this project which covered seventy-seven acres of land. Vista Square was located between National Avenue and Fourth and H and I Streets.

Rohr Aircraft

The people in Chula Vista have been interested in air flight for many years. From the famous first glider flight in history made by John J. Montgomery from the west edge of Otay Mesa in 1883, to the present space flights, Chula Vista has been interested and active. Many workers have helped plan and build airplanes and space missiles in the San Diego area. They were glad when the Rohr Aircraft Corporation in 1941 decided to move its plant from San Diego to Chula Vista. The plant was located at the foot of H Street. It has grown and become an industry



Courtesy of Rohr Aircraft Corporation

AERIAL VIEW ROHR AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

of importance to the country. It is especially important for this city since it employs about 7,500 people, many from Chula Vista. Rohr has done a great deal for Chula Vista in other ways, too. Its leaders have helped the churches, schools, and many other civic groups by working with the townspeople for the betterment of the community.

Although the type of product made at Rohr changes with the new ideas on space travel, its leaders keep up with the changes. They experiment and try out many new things. In this way Rohr continues to grow and to provide jobs for many people.

From Agriculture to Urban

Early in the 1940's a rapid change began to take place in Chula Vista. As mentioned before, the need for homes became very great during this period. Orchards and farms gave way to new homes. In some cases this was not hard to do since the lemon industry had not been such a profitable one during recent years. Some of the smaller orchards had come out "in the red" for several years. To come out "in the red" is saying that the lemons cost more to produce than they brought in to the owner, so the owner made no



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OLD AND NEW HOMES IN CHULA VISTA

profit from his orchard. When the need for homes became great, the farmers sold their lands to the subdividers for homes. Between 1940-1948 over five hundred acres of lemons and oranges were sold. Between 1948-1952 another two hundred fifty were sold for this purpose.

The population in Chula Vista rose from 5,240 in the year 1940 to 16,505 in 1950. Chula Vista had become a very busy city.

Civic Center

With so many people now living in Chula Vista and so many problems to solve, the need for a larger place to carry on the business of the city became acute again. A fund was established for a civic center. This was called a capital outlay fund. By 1945, \$50,000 had been saved and by 1949 another \$50,000 had been added. This amount was enough to build the present civic center and fire station. The fire station was built first. It was occupied February 1, 1948. The present civic center was built next. It was dedicated on February 5, 1951, bond free. It had been paid for out of cash reserves.

Governing a city takes much thinking and planning. In 1947 a city manager was selected so that problems of city government might be solved. Herbert V. Bryant was the first city manager. In December 1949, the form of government changed. Chula Vista became a charter city and the council administrator form of city government was made permanent. There are many people working in the offices of the city. They work in different departments but they are all there to be sure the wishes of the people are enforced.

The city administrator is the leader. The departments working with him are the fire department, the police department, the department of public works, the building and planning department, the recreation department, the park department, and the library. All of these departments



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CIVIC CENTER CHULA VISTA

are necessary to carry out the business of the city.

The Municipal Court, the South Bay branch of the County Health Department and the Post Office are also close to the offices of the city government. They are also necessary to the success of a city.

You can imagine how much the leaders in Chula Vista had to do during the war when so many people came here to live. Schools became overcrowded, churches held double and even triple Sunday school sessions on Sunday morning. Stores and buses could not take care of the needs of the

people. Leaders gave much thought and time to directing Chula Vista's growth as the people had planned. They had to do the best they could with the supplies they could get because at that time the war needs came first. Much of the material needed to build homes could not be purchased. These materials were needed for the war. It was hard to get buses or cars because the factories were making trucks, tanks, tractors, and ships for the men in the armed services. The leaders must have planned well. Chula Vista continued to grow.

On May 7, 1944 the war with Germany was over. On August 15, 1944 a cease fire agreement with Japan was signed. Now another period in the lives of the people in Chula Vista would be starting. Men would be returning. Industry would be changing from wartime goods to peacetime goods. Much would have to be done to keep the city moving forward in meeting the many needs of the people in a changing community.

14 The Face Of Chula Vista Changes

1946-1961

The close of the Second World War did not slow the rapid growth which had begun early in the 1940's. Many people who had come to Chula Vista during the war years decided to stay. Others came to start a new life in California. It was something like the westward movement during pioneer times. Thousands of people crossed the borders of California every day. Many of them, it seemed, came to Chula Vista.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

CHULA VISTA MEMORIAL PARK IN 1947

Population Figures

One way of learning what has happened to Chula Vista is to study the number of people living in the city at different times. As you know, the population in 1910 was about 550 people. Look at the chart below and study the population growth from 1910 to 1960. What happened between 1940 and 1960? What do you think would happen to the town? What are some of the changes you can remember?

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
1910	550
1920	1,718
1930	3,869
1940	5,240
1950	16,505
1960	43,350

Yes, there were many changes. When people come to an area to live, stores, banks, service stations, transportation, communication, recreation facilities, schools, churches, streets, sewers, water facilities, and power plants must all be increased. This is what happened to Chula Vista. Everything grew!

Then and Now

Instead of the single Peoples State Bank which came to Chula Vista in 1910, there now are many. The Bank of America, First National Trust and Savings Bank, Security First National Bank, and the United States National Bank are located here. There are also two savings and loan associations to help the people with their money problems, the South Bay Savings and Loan Association and the Central Federal Savings and Loan Association.

In place of the one general store on the corner of Third Avenue and F Street, there are many independent

grocery stores as well as many chain stores such as Food Basket, Mayfair, Buy and Save, Speedee Mart, and Midget Markets.

The Byers Store formerly on the corner of F and Landis Streets is now an antique shop. The basic structure is still there, however. Were the outside staircase to be removed and store windows replaced in the front, children might still look longingly in at the candy counter on their way to school as they did in 1916.

Instead of the McNabb Hospital at 183 Third Avenue or Anna Christine Hamman's Hospital at the corner of Third Avenue and I Street, there are now two modern hospitals in Chula Vista, the Chula Vista Hospital at 553 F Street and the yet unopened South Bay General Hospital at 435 H Street.

In addition to the Peters Feed Store, one of the first stores in Chula Vista, there are now several farm and garden centers. Besides the Kinmore Electric Company, another old-timer in terms of business in Chula Vista, there are now several other electric companies and many stores selling electrical appliances. Skinners Hardware Store, Wiggington's Pharmacy, Melville Realty have been replaced by many drug stores, hardware stores, and realty offices. Kindberg's Harness Shop has been replaced by shoe repairing shops.

Instead of the trade of Mr. Bohnert, the butcher who carried meat to the homes in his little horse-drawn wagon, there are several butcher shops as well as many meat departments in the large grocery stores. Never again will the meat man come to the homes in Chula Vista in his meat wagon, lift up the back of the wagon, "shoo" the flies away with a piece of palm branch and cut the desired piece of meat for the housewife. Those days are gone forever, and with them, some of the flies!

Instead of the Chinese peddlers who raised vegetables

and fruit in the fertile Sweetwater Valley before the 1916 flood and peddled them to the townsfolk, there are now frozen foods, large refrigerated display counters in the stores, and better home food storage.

Instead of the women curling their hair with a curling iron heated over the gas flame, there are beauty shops in Chula Vista which specialize in the new hair styles.

Instead of the Tycrete Plant and the airstrip where the Tyce boys and their friends pioneered air flight in Chula Vista, there is now the Rohr Aircraft and the Tyce Engineering Company. Gone are the days when the airstrip on the bay front between G and H Streets was one of the two airstrips in the county. Instead, on this site aircraft parts are being produced to make air transportation a more common way of travel for all.

Trailer parks, used car lots, and drive-in stores and eating places would have been unknown to the people who developed Chula Vista. Today they are an important part of the community.

It would be impossible to tell all the new ideas and plans which have been put into use during these years, but let's look at a few more of them.

Many other old landmarks have gone. The packing plant of the Chula Vista Citrus Association, located on the corner of Third Avenue and K Street, has been torn down. A Bank of America is being built in this location. The old Carnegie Library at 270 F Street has gone, and in its place the Norman Recreation Center for adults has been built.

The tracks of the San Diego and Arizona Railroad, which have been in the middle of Third Avenue from Parkway to K Street for seventy-four years, have been covered and the streets lined for traffic lanes. The Chula Vista Vegetable Exchange which operated on K Street between



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

THIRD & G STREET IN 1957

Third and Fourth Avenues has been moved farther out of town to the northeast corner of Anita Street and National Avenue. Its enlarged plant and new hydrocooler help solve the problem of the shipping of vegetables grown in Chula Vista. Another company, the Eagle Produce Company, is also building a packing shed near the same location. These two plants will take care of the tomatoes, celery, and cucumbers which now are the main crops of Chula Vista. Lemons are no longer first in importance. A new five-acre industrial park at 920 Industrial Boulevard is being built by the Carlin Construction Company to attract more industry to Chula Vista.



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

TRUCK FARMING IN CHULA VISTA

The Vista Square Housing Project has been removed. A Boys Club located at 495 I Street has been built on part of the site. Private homes have been built on another part. The rest of the property, fifty acres, was purchased to be developed as a shopping center. It is now being developed as "The Chula Vista Shopping Center" and will be known as "Marston's Chula Vista."

Hilltop Housing Project has also been removed. In its place schools and school offices are now located. The Hilltop Junior High School, the Education Center for the Chula Vista City School District, and the Ann Daly School

for the severely retarded child have replaced the housing project.

Instead of the Yacht Club which was active in the early 1900's, there will soon be industry at the foot of F Street. The people of Chula Vista have voted bonds of one and one-fourth million dollars for dredging, filling, and improving seventy-five acres of this tideland for industrial purposes.

In place of the wild flowers, the cactus, and native shrubs which grew in abundance in the canyon "draw" near Parkway and Fourth Avenue, there is now a municipal



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL

gymnasium, a swimming pool, a park, and a recreation center. Instead of barren land, there are stores, streets, homes, schools, churches, and people.

Instead of "watchers" to spot enemy aircraft, a bomb shelter has been built near the Mall as an example of the kind of protection the people of Chula Vista may need in case of war.

Instead of gas or kerosene lamps, electric power is furnished to over 12,982 customers by the San Diego Gas and Electric Company's new \$23,000,000 power plant located in the southwestern part of town. The new plant was completed in July 1960. Shortly after it was finished, another power plant was started adjacent to it. It should be completed by June 1962. This is another way that man's ideas have kept pace with man's needs.

In place of the narrow dirt roads which led through the citrus orchards of Chula Vista in 1888, there are now three and four-lane highways, well marked with traffic lights and pedestrian lanes to ensure the safety of the many more people living here today.

Everywhere you look you will see the contribution of people who lived before you. You will see the plants and trees which were not here when the Indians roamed the area. You will see the schools, the homes, the stores, and churches. You will see the parks, the playgrounds, the shopping centers. You will see the sidewalks and curbs and the clean well-kept streets.

When you think of all these things, you will know that the ideas of many people have been put into action to make Chula Vista the community that it is today.

Chula Vista is your city; it is your home. It belongs to you and to the others who live here. Your ideas are important. The kind of city Chula Vista will be depends upon the very special ideas you propose.

Think well of the future. Trust your thoughts. Talk about them to the people who can help you put your thoughts to work. Work always to be sure that the changes which come to the city are the changes the people want and need. Chula Vista will be the kind of city you make it. Will it be a better place for the next generation? That will be up to you!



From the Historical Collection of the Union Title Insurance Company

AERIAL VIEW OF CHULA VISTA 1957

15 Suggested Activities

To Teachers:

As you guide the children through some of the suggested activities in connection with this history, the major themes in the social studies program as stated in the San Diego County Course of Study should constantly be re-emphasized.

- Democracy Faith in democracy as a way of life
 - Interdependence . . . The reality of interdependence in a modern world
 - Intelligence The need for the use of intelligence in solving problems
 - Change The reality of change and the need to be able to handle it so as to conserve permanent values
 - Self The need for the individual to develop his fullest potential and to find and accept his self
 - Cooperation The need for cooperation among people
1. Make a set of model trains that might have been used in the early days in this vicinity.
 2. Mark the route of the National City and Otay Railroad through Otay, Chula Vista and the Sweetwater Valley on a map.
 3. Make a mural of the development of transportation in Chula Vista and vicinity.

4. Plan a day's outing on the San Diego National City and Otay Railroad. Write a letter to a friend telling him about the day's excursion. (Make believe)
5. Identify some of the early homes in Chula Vista.
6. Plan a house you would have built in Chula Vista in 1888. Draw the plans.
7. Plan the meals for a day for a family of five--during the Indian Period--during the Rancho Period--during the early Chula Vista Period.
8. Make two layouts of typical lemon ranches in the area, one to show the ranch before the use of mechanical equipment, the other to show the use after.
9. Interview some pioneers in the community. Report your findings to the class.
10. Make a collection of antiques used in Chula Vista in the early days.
11. Make a set of paper dolls and dress them in clothing worn in the early days.
12. Collect samples or pictures of crops the early settlers depended upon for a living. Identify them as to a period of time.
13. Make a collection of quilt patterns used by the women of early days in this vicinity.
14. Collect samples of the insect pests which have been harmful to the citrus industry.
15. Learn to play some of the games played by the children in the early 1900's.

16. Suggest other names for Chula Vista. Try to convince your classmates that your choice is more appropriate.
17. Visit a regular meeting of the City Council. Make a report to your classmates.
18. Find out which branches of city government contribute to your health and safety. Write letters to them thanking them for this service.
19. Plan a panel to discuss anticipated changes in the community.
20. Discuss the reasons why cities develop in certain locations.
21. Compare the reasons why some cities grow up and some cities grow out.
22. Look around you on the way to school. Identify the changes being made in the community. Make a report to your classmates on the reasons for the changes.
23. Locate the first school, the first post office, the first hospital, the first bank and the first pier on a map. Identify the ones that are still in existence.
24. Interview some of the leaders in city government to find out some of their current problems. Discuss these with the members of the class.
25. Develop an essay on causes of change in a community.
26. Work with a committee to find the names of all the service clubs in your school community. List them for reference purposes.
27. Make a scrapbook of articles from the Chula Vista Star on changes taking place in the community.

28. Find out about wells in the area. Are there any good ones at the present time?
29. Find out all you can about a cistern. Try to find out if there are any cisterns now in use in the older homes in Chula Vista. Make a report to your classmates about them.
30. Make some "peep shows" or dioramas of life in early days. Identify the period.
31. Make a mural showing the processing of salt at the Western Salt Company.
32. Develop a time line of important events in this area. Include on the time line the dates of admission of the states of the United States which came into the Union after 1886.
33. Make a graph of the rainfall from 1888-1907 and from 1950-1960.
34. Find the average rainfall for each of these two periods. Compare your figures with the overall average for this area. 10.86 inches.
35. Develop a history of your own school.
36. Develop a biography of one of the leaders in your school community.
37. Write a play about school in the early days.
38. Publish a school newspaper on the history of the area.
39. Plan a "you are there" program on the celebration held upon the completion of Sweetwater Dam.

40. Learn some of the songs and dances which were popular during different periods in history.
41. Create songs and dances that might have been developed during the early days.
42. Locate your school in relation to the center of the community.
43. Tell of your needs and how you would have met them three hundred years ago.
44. Debate the question "Resolved that it is better to live here now than in 1888."
45. Identify the animals you might have seen on the site of your school playground long ago. Indicate the time.
46. Locate the origin of the trees and plants of the area on a map of the world.
47. Identify the geographical factors which were important in the development of the area.
48. Prepare a report on some phase of agriculture in the area at the present time, for example, celery growing, tomatoes, string beans, etc.
49. Pretend that you are witnessing some changes in nature in the area. Write a poem expressing your feeling.
50. Develop a series of easel pictures depicting the fiftieth anniversary of the city of Chula Vista.

SUGGESTED FIELD TRIPS

1. Natural History Museum - to collect data on the native plants, animals of the area.
2. Museum of Man - to collect data on the very early life in the area, the pre-Indian culture and the Indian culture.
3. Serra Museum - to collect data of historical significance to the area.
4. Sweetwater Dam - to collect information on the impounding of water for the National City and Chula Vista areas.
5. Otay (Savage Dam) - to collect information on the construction and use of a different water system.
6. Chula Vista Civic Center - to collect information on the location and function of the different branches of city government.
7. Bonita Country Club - to see the remaining portion of the old adobe wall at the home of Juan Forster.
8. Drive around Chula Vista and vicinity to "spot" the old and new landmarks.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT PLACE NAMES

- Bonita (Spanish "bonita" is a diminutive of "buena" which means pretty.) A lake near the old Lynwood picnic area was named "Laguna Bonita" by Frank Kimball. In 1884 Henry E. Cooper named his estate Bonita Ranch. The post office was named Bonita; later the town was called Bonita.
- Bonnie Brae . . . (Scotch, pretty hillside)
In 1870 Mr. H. M. Higgins, a Chicago music publisher planted the first orange and lemon orchard near the Sweetwater River on a mesa. He developed the Bonnie Brae lemon which is like a big seedless lime.
- Campo (Spanish, country)
A place about 50 miles east of San Diego founded by L. H. and S. E. Gaskell, 1868.
- Chula Vista . . . (Mexican, superlatively beautiful view)
Spanish, pretty, graceful, attractive)
Changed from Chulavista to present form in 1906. The city was incorporated on October 21, 1911.
- Cockatoo Grove. On the San Miguel Mesa, a station on the old stage road to Campo. It was named by an Austrian sailor named Seiss who had a vineyard and wine press there.
- Cuyamaca (Indian, it rains behind)
- Dead Man's . . . A hill which rolls to a height of about 450 feet a half mile south of the Allen School in Bonita. On December 3, 1928.
Hill

Dead Man's . . . a homemade glider piloted by E. I. Shoudy
Hill (cont.) soared 75 feet and crashed, killing the
pilot. It was the first public glider
exhibition near San Diego.

Dehesa (Spanish, pasture ground)

Dictionary . . . In order to boost sales, a firm gave one
Hill to each person who bought a set of
encyclopedias. It is a subdivision
north of Sweetwater Lake and adjoining
old La Presa subdivision.

Encanto (Spanish, enchantment, charm)
Formerly Klauber Park. The name was
given by Ella Klauber in 1889.

Jamacha (Digueño Indian, a small wild squash
plant)

Jamul (Diegueño Indian, foam or lather)

La Presa (Spanish, the dam) Site in upper Sweet-
water Valley a short distance above the
dam.

La Punta (Spanish, the point) located at extreme
end of the San Diego Bay.

Lynwood The name given to a grove and picnic
area in the Sweetwater Valley. It was
located across the road from what is now
Glen Abbey. It was washed away in the
1916 flood.

National City . . . Named for the National Ranch (Spanish,
Rancho de la Nacion)

Otay (Diegueño Indian, otai, means brushy or
wide, level knoll)

Paradise After a long tiresome voyage around the
Valley Horn, a Scottish sea captain looked
upon the valley in 1869 or 1870. He
supposedly compared the valley with
heaven.

San Diego Vizcaino in 1602 anchored in the port.
The feast day of San Diego de Alcalá de
Henares was on November 12 near the
date of his arrival. He named the port
San Diego. His flagship was also San
Diego.

San Miguel Cabrillo landed in the bay in 1542 near
the day of Saint Michael. He named the
port for the saint. A mountain east of
Sweetwater Valley was shown as Sierra
de San Miguel on a map of Rancho de la
Nacion in 1843.

Sunnyside This was the name of the ranch founded
by J. C. Frisbie in 1876.

Sweetwater (Spanish, Agua Dulce, Sweetwater) It
was a sweet river as contrasted to a
region where many springs are "bitter."

Telegraph A telegraph line built in the 1870's ran
Canyon along this canyon. The telegraph went
at least as far as Campo. The canyon
runs from Second Street in Chula Vista
to Cockatoo Grove on the San Miguel
Mesa.

RAINFALL TABLE

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Rainfall</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Rainfall</u>
1888-89 . . .	14.02	1925-26 . . .	16.01
1889-90 . . .	17.08	1926-27 . . .	15.89
1890-91 . . .	12.63	1927-28 . . .	9.40
1891-92 . . .	9.95	1928-29 . . .	9.81
1892-93 . . .	11.48	1929-30 . . .	11.53
1893-94 . . .	6.36	1930-31 . . .	11.42
1894-95 . . .	16.19	1931-32 . . .	13.51
1895-96 . . .	7.27	1932-33 . . .	10.21
1896-97 . . .	12.05	1933-34 . . .	4.43
1897-98 . . .	7.05	1934-35 . . .	13.86
1898-99 . . .	5.74	1935-36 . . .	9.26
1899-00 . . .	6.50	1936-37 . . .	20.48
1900-01 . . .	9.24	1937-38 . . .	11.59
1901-02 . . .	7.09	1938-39 . . .	11.83
1902-03 . . .	10.45	1939-40 . . .	14.10
1903-04 . . .	5.11	1940-41 . . .	26.51
1904-05 . . .	15.36	1941-42 . . .	13.53
1905-06 . . .	16.68	1942-43 . . .	9.64
1906-07 . . .	13.08	1943-44 . . .	12.33
1907-08 . . .	10.51	1944-45 . . .	11.82
1908-09 . . .	12.09	1945-46 . . .	9.30
1909-10 . . .	10.29	1946-47 . . .	6.80
1910-11 . . .	10.03	1947-48 . . .	6.77
1911-12 . . .	11.38	1948-49 . . .	11.94
1912-13 . . .	7.17	1949-50 . . .	10.28
1913-14 . . .	11.86	1950-51 . . .	7.09
1914-15 . . .	15.83	1951-52 . . .	19.21
1915-16 . . .	15.41	1952-53 . . .	8.53
1916-17 . . .	12.58	1953-54 . . .	11.23
1917-18 . . .	8.90	1954-55 . . .	8.82
1918-19 . . .	9.42	1955-56 . . .	5.59
1919-20 . . .	10.99	1956-57 . . .	12.49
1920-21 . . .	8.67	1957-58 . . .	16.64
1921-22 . . .	19.23	1958-59 . . .	5.59
1922-23 . . .	9.51	1959-60 . . .	9.11
1923-24 . . .	8.35	1960-61 . . .	5.15
1924-25 . . .	8.09		

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Chula Vista Public Library (Vertical Files).

John F. Forward, Sr. Memorial Library and Museum, Union Title Insurance Company, San Diego.

Museum of Man, Balboa Park, San Diego.

Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego.

Serra Museum, Presidio Park, San Diego.

COUNCILMEN SINCE INCORPORATION IN 1911

*E. T. Smith	1911 - 1914
Charles Boltz	1911 - 1914
*L. B. Barnes	1911 - 1930
Gregg Rogers	1911 - 1914
Charles Austin	1911 - 1914
A. C. Eitzen	1914 - 1918
*George Geyer	1914 - 1918
W. B. Monroe	1914 - 1918
R. J. Wharton	1914 - 1916
Elmer Noyes	1916 - 1924
Frank Howe	1918 - 1922
Judson Bent	1918 - 1926
*T. J. H. McKnight	1918 - 1922
*W. H. Peters	1922 - 1930
Herbert Shaw	1922 - 1926
William T. Lyons	1924 - 1937
Charles Wentworth	1924 - 1927
J. R. Scott	1926 - 1930

*Indicates mayors

W. M. Hawkins	1927 - 1930
Robert T. Conyers	1930 - 1934
*Arthur Done	1930 - 1941
*Vincent Howe	1930 - 1945
W. E. Bradley	1930 - 1932
*C. V. Brown	1932 - 1940
*George Rife	1934 - 1937
C. O. Boltz	1934 - 1938
Charles Timmons	1937 - 1944
Herbert V. Bryant	1937 - 1939
Ralph Paxton	1939 - 1942
Frank Dupree	1940 - 1942
Charles H. Perkins	1940 - 1944
A. J. Burnside	1941 - 1944
Charles B. Dunn II	1943 - 1943
*Dwight Kidder	1943 - 1952
*Ralph Keithley	1944 - 1946
A. A. Reisland	1955 - 1955
Don Chase	1945 - 1946
*L. C. Koester	1946 - 1950
*Indicates mayors	

Dudley Nashold	1946 - 1950
Ralph Dyson	1946 - 1950
George DeWolf	1950 - 1958
James R. Logan	1950 - 1954
James Hobel	1950 - 1955
Victor L. Wulff, Jr.	1952 - 1952
Richard J. Halferty	1952 - 1955
*Aaron Riesland	1952 - 1955
Harold Rader	1954 - 1958
*John A. Smith	1955 - 1961
*Earl Mansell	1955 - 1956
*Peter DeGraff	1955 - 1961
Edward R. Dillon	1956 - 1957
*Keith Menzel	1957 - 1961
*Standlee McMains	1958 - 1961
*Robert R. McAllister	1958 - 1961

*Indicates mayors

LAW ENFORCEMENT HEADS IN CHULA VISTA SINCE 1911
(In order of term)

<u>City Marshal</u>	<u>Chief of Police</u>
Darwin Black	Sidney E. Clyne
John Schussler	Merrill Kelly
C. A. Sumner	Frank Dupree
William Barnhart	Carl Feeney (acting)
M. C. Black	M. S. Taylor
C. B. Kendall	Thomas S. Lofthouse
H. Schraeder	M. S. Taylor (acting)
W. H. Lawrie	Bernard McCollum
Ollie Board	M. S. Taylor (acting)
R. T. Vaughn	Eugene B. Roberts
	M. S. Taylor (acting)
	James H. Quinn

POSTMASTERS IN CHULA VISTA SINCE 1890

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
Sarah B. Fleming	July 28, 1890
Charles D. Calkins	March 18, 1891
Sylvester L. Merstetter	January 12, 1897
Weiley Perry	June 23, 1897
Erastus W. Dyer	January 7, 1897
Carl S. Kennedy	November 30, 1907
William B. Farrow	November 18, 1910
Georgia A. Wiard	August 27, 1913
Joseph C. Dutra	April 7, 1922
Viola A. Johnson	February 6, 1923
Viola A. Uland	January 26, 1929
John C. Callahan	June 22, 1933
Richard A. Higgs	October 1, 1939
Frank J. Norton	September 1, 1947
Carl H. Stahlheber	January 31, 1953

LIBRARIANS

Miss Rising	1912
Harry L. Welch	1914-1915
Raymond J. Flanders	September 1915-August 1916
Miss Lilla B. Daily	August-December 1916
Miss Kathryn Burke	November 1916-July 1919
Miss Leona Sette	July 1919
Mrs. Ida Collar	July 1919-October 1936
Alice (Wesley) Little	October 1936-March 1939
Lucille Yonkers (Mrs. Lucille Ashworth)	March 1939-August 1947
Miss Ruth White	September 1947-June 1951
Mrs. Janice L. Stewart	July 1951 to present