

years or until in 1915 when he established a plant on Sonoma street and became engaged in the manufacture of ice cream, developing there a business which, operated now as the Barr Ice Cream Company, is the chief supply agency for ice cream and kindred delicacies on this side of the bay. The business which Mr. Barr started on Sonoma street grew to such proportions that new and more commodious quarters became necessary and it was then that the present modern and admirably equipped plant of the Barr Ice Cream Company was erected at the corner of Louisiana and Napa streets, a plant in which more than fifty thousand dollars has been invested and which is now supplying the trade throughout the fine trade area centering in Vallejo, the popularity of the Barr products having created for them a wide demand. This plant is equipped in a thoroughly up-to-date fashion, its operations carried on with the strictest regard to sanitary and hygienic requirements, and its products have the well earned favor of discriminating buyers throughout this whole region.

Howard W. Barr married Miss Dollie Anderson, who was born in, the city of Chicago but who was reared at Napa, a resident of California since the days of her childhood, and they have two children, a daughter, Miriam, and a son, Billie. Mr. and Mrs. Barr have a pleasant home at Vallejo and take an interested and helpful part in the city's general social activities. Mr. Barr is a member of the Masonic fraternity, has attained to the encampment degree in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is also affiliated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Woodmen of the World, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the U. P. E. C. and the Sciots. He has long been recognized as one of the most ardent baseball "fans" in this section, a promoter of clean athletic sports in all forms, and is one of the projectors and proprietors of the boxing arena that was erected at Vallejo in 1925. He and his wife are republicans and take a proper interest in the city's general civic affairs.

---

#### EDWARD L. JOHNSTON.

Edward L. Johnston, a well known and substantial contractor in cement construction at Vallejo, is a native son of California and all his life has been spent in this state. He was born at Eureka in Humboldt county on January 11, 1883, and is a son of Edgar and Frances (Roktiall)-Johnston. Edgar Johnston, who was lost to the knowledge of his family following his arrival in Alaska during the time of the "gold rush" into the Klondike country in the late '90s, was a native of Missouri who had come to California with his parents in 1863, the family settling in the Bald Hills district in the neighborhood of Trinidad in Humboldt county. Two of his uncles had come to this state in 1859. He became engaged in sheep raising in Humboldt county and after awhile became engaged in

business at Eureka. When news came of the gold strike **in** the Klondike country he joined the rush into the new mining fields and apparently there was lost, for the family has had no knowledge of his whereabouts since that time. The family later made their home in Alameda county and Edward L. Johnston finished his schooling in the Union high school at Centerville in this latter county.

In 1901, when eighteen years of age, Edward L. Johnston began his life's labors as a worker in cement and it was not long until he had become thoroughly proficient in this line, a line which thus has engaged his attention for nearly a quarter of a century. In June, 1916, he came to Vallejo as an operative on a contract being then and there carried out by the Coast Improvement Company and while thus employed found conditions here so much to his liking that he became a permanent resident of the place. In 1918 Mr. Johnston entered business for himself as a general cement contractor and has since been thus engaged, one of the leading contractors along this line in this section of the state. He is well equipped for operations along this line and much of the heavy construction work done here since he became engaged in business has been done by him, in addition to his work on alleys and sidewalks, miles of the latter having been laid under his direction.

Mr. Johnston married Miss Gladys Thirlwell who was born in Nevada but who has been a resident of California since the days of her childhood, her parents having moved into this state with their family when she was two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston are republicans and take a proper interest in the general civic affairs of the community in which they live. Mr. Johnston is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He finds his chief diversion in hunting and is an enthusiastic member of the Vallejo Gun Club.

---

#### ANTONE SMITH, SR.

Though of European birth, Antone Smith, Sr., founder and head of the firm of Antone Smith, Sr., & Son, proprietors of the Washington and California meat markets at Vallejo and long regarded as a leader in his line in this field, has been a resident of California since the days of his boyhood and thus regards himself as much a Californian as any. Mr. Smith was born on the island of Sylt, chief of the North Friesian group off the west coast of Schleswig-Holstein in the North Sea, December 20, 1865, and is a son of Hans and Dora Smith, who with their family later became residents of California.

Hans Smith may be regarded as having been one of the pioneers of California, for he had his first experience here as early as in 1852, when as an adventurous young man he became attracted to the possibilities of this coast region following the opening of the gold fields and came here to try his fortune in the mining country. For some time he was engaged

in mining at Placerville, where he met with considerable success, and then returned to his native land, where he married and settled down, becoming a burgomaster of the island of Sylt. But the lure of California kept calling him back and from time to time he made several trips back here. Finally, in 1879, he brought his wife and two sons, and established his home at San Francisco, setting himself up in business in a general market at the corner of Clay and Polk streets in that city. He continued engaged in that business for some years or until his sons were old enough to take over the management of the same and then he turned the business over to the young men and returned to his native land, where he and his wife spent their last days.

As will be observed by a comparison of above dates, Antone Smith was not yet fourteen years of age when he came to California with his parents in 1879, and he finished his schooling in the schools of San Francisco. He was carefully trained by his father in the details of the latter's general market business, giving particular attention to the retail meat department, and thus grew up thoroughly familiar with that business. For ten years after their father's departure the Smith brothers continued to carry on the market in San Francisco and then they sold out to advantage. For five years thereafter Antone Smith was engaged in business on his own account in San Francisco and in Alameda and then he established himself at Oakland, organizing there the Eastern Syndicate Meat Company and establishing the leading meat distributing house in that city, a concern employing forty or fifty persons. Two years later he sold his interest in that concern and opened up a market at Yreka, but not long afterward sold that business to advantage and returned to San Francisco, where for awhile he was in charge of the Schroeder Bros. market. He then established himself in a general meat market at Napa and was there thus engaged for eighteen years or until in 1920, in which' year he moved to Vallejo and in this latter city opened the Washington market, and in May, 1925, bought the California market.

Antone Smith married Miss Vida Rintoul, who was born in the city of Montreal, Canada, and they have five children, Antone, Jr., Hugh, George, Norman, and a daughter, Nida. The Smiths are republicans and take a proper interest in the general civic affairs of the community. Mr. Smith is a member of the local society of the Sons of Herman and gives his thoughtful attention to the affairs of that organization of compatriots.

---

EUGENE L. DEARBORN.

**E.** L. Dearborn, secretary and manager of the Solano County Abstract Co. of Fairfield, secretary of the board of trustees of the Armijo high school district and for years a factor in the general affairs of the county seat town, one of Fairfield's dependable citizens, is a native son of California and his interests have ever centered here. Mr. Dearborn was born

in the city of San Francisco, November 20, 1881, and is a son of Henry and Lillie (Hobbs) Dearborn, both natives of the state of Maine, the former born in the city of Bangor and the latter in Belfast. They are now living in San Mateo county, where they have had their home for many years. Henry Dearborn has been a resident of California since the year 1870 and thus properly may be accounted one of the "old settlers" of the state.

Reared in San Mateo county, to which place his parents had moved when he was but a child, E. L. Dearborn received his schooling in the schools of that county and remained there until in 1907, when he became employed in the operations of the Solano County Abstract Co. at Fairfield, which town has since been his home. In October, 1916, he purchased the interest of James N. Watson, founder of that company, and accepted the office of secretary and general manager of the same and has since been serving in that capacity, one of the best known title men in this section of the state and one of the first to introduce title insurance in the small counties. This company was established in 1900 by Mr. Watson, who opened the first set of abstract books opened in Solano county, and it thus is recognized as the pioneer concern of its line in this county. In 1907 the present company was incorporated. Ever since he became a citizen of Fairfield Mr. Dearborn has taken an earnest and intelligent interest in the general affairs of that city and has been particularly active in his efforts along the lines of the promotion of the interests of the local schools. For eight years he served as a member of the board of trustees of the grammar school.

In 1910 E. L. Dearborn was united in marriage to Miss Jean Ruth Fix, a native daughter of Solano county, born at Birds Landing, daughter of Mrs. Bessie Fix, and they have one child, a son, Robert L. Dearborn, born in 1911. Mr. Dearborn is a Scottish Rite Mason, affiliated with the consistory at Oakland, and is a past master of Suisun Lodge No. 55, Free and Accepted Masons.

---

#### JAMES RONEY.

It is doubtful if in all Solano county there is a man who has a wider and better acquaintance throughout this favored region than has James Roney, an honored veteran of the Civil war, thrice mayor of Vallejo, former treasurer of Solano county, former sheriff of the county, formerly and for years one of Vallejo's best known merchants and who now is living comfortably retired in the city which has been his home for more than fifty-five years. When it is recalled that the whole of what may be regarded as the "modern" development of Vallejo has been brought about during the period thus comprehended it will be realized that Mr. Roney has been a witness to and a participant in the upbuilding of this city from the time it began to take "a new lease on life" and to forge ahead along

the lines of modern development, and it is not too much to say that he has ever been an effectual and persistent promoter of all proper movements and measures looking to that end. For some time Mr. Roney also was connected with the operations of the Mare Island navy yard and there has been no more effective advocate of that government institution's growing interests than he. All connected with the institution will ever gratefully recall the yeoman service he rendered in that behalf at a time when his influence in high quarters was exerted in such fashion as to effect a change of sentiment in congress concerning this yard's activities that brought about official orders that practically rehabilitated the yard, with resultant local benefits of incalculable value. Through this influence the building of the battleship California was brought to the island, an operation involving the expenditure for work done there of no less than twenty millions of dollars, naturally a stimulus to all other forms of activity here, and proving of ultimate inestimable service to the community. The total amount of appropriations secured by these activities to date totals about sixty-three millions of dollars. From the time of his arrival here back in the late '60s Mr. Roney has ever been a helpful factor in local development work and his name ever will be written high on the records of this community.

James Roney is a native of the old Keystone state, born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 20, 1847, and is one of a considerable family of children born to James and Isabella (Matthews) Roney, both of whom were of sturdy Scotch-Irish stock. The senior James Roney was a mechanic and as the wages of mechanics in those days left little margin after the needs of a growing family were cared for the Roney boys necessarily were required early to go to work as a means to eking out the slender family income. It was thus that when but a lad the junior James Roney found himself working in a chair factory, "caning" the chairs at a wage of one dollar and twenty-five cents a week. The Civil war came on while he was thus employed, he being in his fourteenth year in that memorable year of 1861. With boyish enthusiasm and with the spirit of an ardent patriot he yearned for the success of the Union arms and in 1863, when sixteen years of age, entered the army, going to the front as a member of Battery B of the Second Pennsylvania Artillery and with that command, a part of Grant's enveloping army closing in on the dying Confederacy, served until the close of the war, among the campaigns he thus participated in having been the memorable struggle in the Wilderness region south of the Rapidan in Virginia in May, 1864, followed by Spottsylvania.

Upon the completion of his military service following Lee's surrender in the spring of 1865 Mr. Roney returned home and became employed in a saw factory at a wage of four dollars a week, and he remained in the east until in the spring of 1869, when he came to California, arriving at San Francisco on April 22 of that year. He presently located at Vallejo and in the summer of the next year married and established his home there. For some time after his arrival at Vallejo Mr. Roney was engaged as a stevedore and in other labors about the wharf and then he took

employment as a clerk in a grocery store. In 1872 he became employed in the operations of the Mare Island navy yard. Two years later, in May, 1874, he bought the San Francisco and Vallejo express line and was engaged in operating the same for several years, at the end of which time he disposed of that business to advantage and opened a grocery store at Vallejo and was thus engaged in business in that city when in 1884 he was elected to the office of sheriff of Solano county. He was reelected to that office in 1886 and thus served two terms. In 1890 he was elected county treasurer and tax collector and after spending a term in that office resumed his interest in the express line, which his elder son meanwhile had taken up. That was in 1892 and for five years, or until in 1897, father and son carried on this business. They then disposed of it and Mr. Roney again became engaged in the grocery business.

In 1904 Mr. Roney was elected mayor of Vallejo and in 1906 the republicans renominated him for that administrative office but the fortunes of political warfare were not favorable to the republicans in that year and he failed of reelection. In 1915 his party again nominated him for mayor and he was elected, the term of office meantime having been changed from two to four years and at the end of his four-year term he was renominated and reelected, thus serving eight years of continuous tenure in that executive office, which added to his two years of prior service gave him ten years of service as mayor of the city, a service that in many ways proved of large benefit to the developing interests of the community. In 1923 his party honored him by a third successive nomination but political favors went the other way in that year and since his retirement from the mayor's office he has been living quietly retired at his pleasant home at 601A Georgia street, where he is very comfortably situated. In 1898 Mr. Roney was appointed a member of the board of labor at Mare Island and he continued thus in service in that important behalf until in 1915, when he resigned, following his election to the mayoralty for the second time. For years Mr. Roney has been recognized as one of the leaders of the republican party in Solano county and throughout this district, and his counsels in the deliberations of that party are listened to with respect and consideration. He also is a veteran Freemason, a Knight Templar and Royal Arch Mason, a past worshipful master of the blue lodge, a past high priest of the chapter (Royal Arch) and past commander of the commandery (Knights Templar). He also for years has been a leader in the now fast diminishing ranks of the local veterans of the Civil war and is the present commander of Farragut Post No. 4 of the Grand Army of the Republic at Vallejo.

It was on July 31, 1870, the year following his arrival at Vallejo, that James Roney was united in marriage to Miss Anna Elizabeth Schillinberg, who also was born in Philadelphia, daughter of William Schillinberg, and who had come to California a short time previously. Mrs. Roney died at her home in Vallejo on February 26, 1925, in the seventy-seventh year of her age, and at her passing left a good memory here, for she had for many years been a gentle and helpful influence in promoting

the better interests of the community whose development she had witnessed from the days of the pioneers. Mr. Roney has four children, two sons, William A. and George A. Roney, the latter of whom is court reporter in and for Solano county, and two daughters, Isabella, wife of J. H. Cooper of Vallejo, and Jessie, wife of J. E. Paulson, also of Vallejo. William A. Roney has long been engaged in public service and is now deputy collector of internal revenue for the Oakland district, making his home in Oakland. Mr. Roney also has four grandchildren, in all of whom he takes much pride and delight.

---

GILBERT D. FOSTER.

Gilbert D. Foster, proprietor of a well equipped planing mill and an expert lumber finisher at Vallejo, one of the progressive and enterprising manufacturers of that city, is a native son of California and all his life has been spent in this state, active in the lumber trade since the days of his youth. Mr. Foster was born in the city of Stockton on March 1, 1885, and is a son of Andrew H. and Olive (Littlejohn) Foster, the latter of whom died in 1888, her son Gilbert then being but three years of age. Andrew H. Foster, a veteran of the Civil war and formerly and for years connected with the operations of the navy yard, now living retired at Vallejo, was born in New York and is a member of one of the old colonial families of that state, the Fosters of this line in America having had representation in the Hudson River valley since the middle of the eighteenth century, the progenitor of this line in this country having been a member of the Dutch colony up the Hudson. Andrew H. Foster came to California in 1870 and was a resident of Stockton and of San Francisco until in 1898, when he became connected with the operations of the navy yard and has since had his home in Vallejo, one of the best known residents of that city.

As will be observed by a comparison of above dates, Gilbert D. Foster was thirteen years of age when in 1898 he came to Vallejo with his father, and his schooling was completed in the schools of this city. On May 10, 1900, he then being just past fifteen years of age, he began his career as a lumberman, on that day taking employment in the plant of the Aden Company at Vallejo. For eleven years he was connected with this concern, during that time becoming thoroughly qualified as a finisher, with particular reference to fine interior work, and then he became employed elsewhere, for ten years thereafter being employed as superintendent of finishing mills variously at Sacramento, Oakland, Los Angeles and San Diego, until in November, 1921, when he returned to Vallejo and here became established in business on his own account, setting up his present planing and finishing mill, and has since been thus engaged. Starting in a modest fashion, Mr. Foster, with the assistance of his wife in charge of the office detail and with the aid of A. D. Starr,

his capable foreman of the plant, and a competent force of operatives, has built up a fine business and the products of his plant are in wide demand. He is an experienced designer of interior finish work and has achieved something more than a local reputation along that line. His mill is equipped with thoroughly modern machinery and he also does a large business in general builders supplies, with particular reference to glazing, and most of the fine automobile glazing required in this section is taken care of in his place. Mr. Foster is an active member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and takes a warm interest in the community's general affairs, both he and his wife being earnest supporters of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

Mr. Foster married Miss Hazel Fawcett of Vallejo and they have one child, a daughter, Lorraine Fawcett Foster. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are republicans and give proper attention to local civic affairs. Mr. Foster is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the local tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men. Mrs. Foster was born at Oakland but was reared at Vallejo. Her father, Henry E. Fawcett, a veteran of the Civil war, now living retired at Vallejo, is a Kentuckian by birth, a member of one of the old colonial families, and has been a resident of California for many years. He is an experienced painter and interior decorator, formerly and for years a contractor along those lines, and was thus engaged at Oakland and at San Francisco until in 1895, when he became established in business at Vallejo and thus continued until his retirement. To him and his wife were born five children.

---

#### CAPTAIN M. WALLACE DILLINGHAM.

In that fine and picturesque group of "old salts" who in a day now gone did so much toward the development of the maritime interests of this wonderful bay country there were few who had a wider or a better acquaintance, not only in marine circles but throughout the countryside, than the late Captain M. Wallace Dillingham, who though now more than thirty years resting in the enjoyment of the final reward reserved for all good seafaring men, is still pleasantly remembered here. For many years prior to his death in 1894 Captain Dillingham had been in charge of the schooner service in the transportation line between San Francisco and Benicia and did much for the development of that service. Born to the sea he had ever followed that line and upon attaining executive rank brought to that service all the fine traditions of the sea inherited from a long line of seafarers of the old Cape Cod type.

Captain Dillingham was born in the port town of Sandwich in the "hook" county of Barnstable on the bay of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, with an honorable tradition of seafaring ancestry back of him and as a boy "took to the sea," his early service being rendered on fruit packets ply-

ing between Philadelphia and the Azores. His first introduction to this coast was in 1862 when, as a sailor on the full-rigged ship Belvedere out of the Atlantic around the Horn, he sailed through the Golden Gate into the port of San Francisco and beheld the glories of the finest harbor in the world. Here he decided to remain and the remainder of his life was spent in useful service in the bay.

Not long after his arrival here Captain Dillingham married the widow of Captain J. C. Paladini, who at that time was managing the line of schooners established by her deceased husband in the transport service between San Francisco and Benicia. Captain Paladini, who died in 1861, had begun his service here back in the early '40s, in the days of the Mexican possession, and was a widely known figure in local marine circles during the days of the "gold rush" and of the rapid development of San Francisco following the American possession and the opening of the gold fields. He had a fleet of three schooners, the Santanella, the Sophia Johnson and the Thelma, and after his death his widow continued managing the fleet. Following his marriage to Mrs. Paladini Captain Dillingham took over the management of this fleet and carried on the business quite successfully until his death in 1894. Mrs. Dillingham came into California in settlement days, by way of the Isthmus and up the coast in the old sidewheeler, Orozabo. By her marriage to Captain Paladini she had a daughter who died some twenty years ago, and by her marriage to Captain Dillingham she had a daughter, Oceana, who in 1900 married Charles E. Erwin and is still living at Benicia. Charles E. Erwin is the district sales agent for the Shell Oil Company in the neighboring county of Contra Costa.

Mrs. Erwin was born at Benicia and her schooling was completed in St. Catherine's convent there. During the days of her young womanhood she was helpful in the service of her father's transport line, both she and her half-sister taking a hand in this service, she tallying the cargoes at the Benicia end of the line and her sister rendering a like clerical service at the San Francisco end. Mr. and Mrs. Erwin have a daughter, Miss Caroline Dillingham Erwin, an honor student at St. Vincent's Academy, Vallejo.

---

#### WILLIAM BLACKWOOD, JR.

William Blackwood, Jr., one of Vallejo's energetic and enterprising young business men, head of the Vallejo Auto Salvage Company, and widely known in the automobile trade throughout this section of the state, is a native son of California and has been a resident of Vallejo since the days of his childhood. He was born in the city of San Francisco on April 29, 1895, and is a son of William and Euphemia (Crawford) Blackwood, who are now living in Vallejo and the latter of whom has been a resident of this state since the days of her girlhood. The senior William

Blackwood, a machinist, came to California in 1887 and after his marriage established his home in San Francisco, where he remained until in 1897, when he moved with his family to Vallejo, becoming there connected with the operations of the Mare Island shipyard.

The junior William Blackwood was two years of age when his parents took up their residence in Vallejo and he had his schooling in the schools of that city, going on up through the high school. For about a year he "followed the sea" and was thereafter for some time working as a journeyman machinist in various places, Canada, Oregon, Washington and on the islands, and then returned to Vallejo and became employed in the navy yard. In April, 1924, he organized the Vallejo Auto Salvage Company and established himself in business at 423 Pennsylvania street, carrying on a general automobile salvage and supply business, buying and wrecking cars and dealing in new and used parts, and he is prepared to furnish supplies for practically every car on the market. Mr. Blackwood is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, is also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which order he has attained to the encampment degree, and with the local society of the Sciots.

---

#### ALEXANDER CHISHOLM.

Among the conspicuous personal factors in the development of the city of Benicia there were few whose influence was more widely and more helpfully exerted in that behalf than was that of the late Alexander Chisholm, one of the founders of the Benicia Water Company, for years a member of the strong firm of McKay & Chisholm, and in numerous ways prominently identified with the growing interests of the charming little city in which he elected to make his home back in the '60s and to the progress and development of which he contributed largely.

Alexander Chisholm was a native of Canada, born in the seaport town of Pictou on the harbor and in the county of that name in the maritime province of Nova Scotia, eighty-five miles northeast of Halifax, and was there reared. In the days of his adventurous young manhood, in the early '60s of the past century, accompanied by another able young Pictouese, Thomas McKay, whose sister he afterward married, he came to California, coming around by way of the Isthmus. He stopped at Santa Cruz and young McKay located at Benicia, where he set up a small tannery. In the next year Mr. Chisholm joined his pal in the latter's enterprise at Benicia, the two forming a partnership under the name of McKay & Chisholm, and under this direction that tannery was developed into the largest establishment of its kind in the state **in** its day. This firm began its operations at Benicia about the time that pleasant bay port was beginning to expand in a general commercial and industrial way and was a strong factor in that development. Both Mr. Chisholm and Mr. McKay were among the prominent individual factors in the development of the

town, taking a helpful part in all progressive movements, and were among the founders of the waterworks plant. Mr. Chisholm became a considerable property owner and continued active in business until his retirement, which was hastened by failing health, along in the late '90s. His death occurred on April 18, 1904, he then being fifty-six years of age, and at his passing he left a good memory in the community to whose development he had contributed largely.

It was on April 26, 1883, at Sacramento, that Alexander Chisholm was united in marriage to Miss Christy McKay, sister of his business partner and friend of his boyhood and who also was born at Pictou. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Chisholm has continued to make her home at Benicia, where she is very comfortably and pleasantly situated, residing at 201 West J street. She has ever taken an interested and helpful part in the community's general social and cultural activities. She is a past worthy matron of Silver Gate Chapter No. 3, Order of the Eastern Star, and has for years been one of the helpful factors in the promotion of the interests Of that popular auxiliary to the Masonic order.

---

#### HARRY DASSONVILLE.

Harry Dassonville, a veteran painter at Vallejo and an expert in the line of automobile painting and rehabilitation, with a well established business along this latter line, is a native son of California, a member of one of the real pioneer families here, and has been a resident of this state all his life. He was born in the city of Sacramento and is a son of Dr. Virgil Dassonville and his wife, the latter of whom was an Unger. They were natives of France, who had come to California in 1849 and whose last days were spent in this state, substantial citizens and honored pioneers. Dr. Virgil Dassonville established himself in practice at Placerville upon coming to this state with the early "rush" of gold seekers in 1849 and also set up a hotel there, thus becoming one of the best known figures in that teeming camp during the days of the gold excitement. He later was for some years engaged in practice at Sacramento and then became engaged in the drug business at Anaheim, down in Orange county, moving from there to San Francisco, where his last days were spent.

By reason of the changes of residence made by his parents, Harry Dassonville received his schooling in a private school at Anaheim and in the North Beach school at San Francisco, and early became a telegraph operator. After three years of service at the key he found that sort of a life too confining for his active temperament and took up painting, a vocation with which, in all its branches, he became thoroughly familiar, an expert in fine finishing work. After his marriage Mr. Dassonville established his home in San Francisco and was there engaged in painting for years or until in 1919, when he moved across the bay and set himself up as an automobile painter at Vallejo, establishing himself in a well equipped

plant there, and has done very well, his two sons being associated with him in the fine business they have developed, for the admirable quality of the work turned out in the Dassonville establishment has brought them orders from all over this section of the state, automobile owners having long ago become aware of the dependable character of that work.

It was in 1889, in Nevada City, that Harry Dassonville was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Williams, who was born in California, and they have three children, two sons, Virgil and Searle Dassonville, who also are expert painters, having secured their training under their father's capable direction ; and a daughter, Maye, wife of A. Johnston of Benicia. The Dassonvilles are republicans and have ever given such attention as good citizens owe the state to the general civic affairs of the commonwealth. Mr. Dassonville is a member of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose. His chief recreational interest is found in music and his friends say he has a fine amateur talent along that line of culture.

---

#### G. G. HARRIS.

G. G. Harris, a veteran ship joiner with a record of many years of foremanship service at the Mare Island navy yard and one of the best known citizens of Vallejo, now living retired in that city, is a native Californian and all his life has been spent in this state. He was born in the city of San Francisco on the day before Christmas in the year 1858 and is a son of John E. and Mary J. (Rule) Harris, pioneers of California, who were married in San Francisco and whose last days were spent in Vallejo, where for thirty-five years the late John E. Harris served as a foreman rigger in the navy yard. He had come into California in the days of his young manhood, coming around by way of the Isthmus, and was for some time connected with the operations of the Pacific Mail Company, later taking service at the navy yards and becoming one of the veterans in that service.

Reared at Vallejo, G. G. Harris received his schooling in Mullin's school there and early entered as an apprentice ship joiner in the navy yard. Upon completing his trade he became engaged as a millwright, a line in which he continued for ten years, during that time having charge of various bits of important construction work throughout this section of the state, and then resumed his service in the navy yard as a ship joiner, presently was promoted to a foremanship and was for twenty-five years, or until his retirement, a foreman joiner there, thus becoming recognized, even as his father before him had been recognized, as one of the veterans of that important branch of government service.

Mr. Harris married Miss Janet Seman, who was born in Vallejo, and they have four sons, Everett, Ray, Gregory and William Harris, and a daughter, Miss Jessie Harris. Everett Harris is a veteran of the World war, his service having been rendered in the navy, and Gregory Harris

also is a World war veteran, his service having been rendered in the artillery. The Harrises are republicans and give proper attention to local civic affairs. Mr. Harris is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

---

CARL H. SPURLOCK.

Carl H. Spurlock, horticultural commissioner in and for Solano county, with headquarters in the court house in Fairfield, is one of the youngest commissioners to get an appointment of this kind in California. Mr. Spurlock was born on May 19, 1896, in Round Valley, Mendocino county, near the town of Covelo, and is a son of T. F. and Mary Ann (Eldred) Spurlock, both of whom were born in California, the former in Leesville, Colusa county, the son of Marshall Ney Spurlock, and the latter in Honcut, Butte county, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Eldred, pioneers of this state. The Spurlocks are direct descendants of King James VI of Scotland and Marshall Ney of France, who was with Napoleon through his battles against Europe. Both names have been handed down from generation to generation.

Reared on the home ranch in Mendocino county, Carl H. Spurlock completed his local schooling in the high school in Covelo, and from the days of his boyhood has not only been interested in horticultural development, but diversified farming as well. Early contact with the details of this life gave Mr. Spurlock a responsibility that has played an important part in placing him in agriculture so prominently so early in life. When the war began in 1917 Mr. Spurlock was one of the first to leave his county, quickly unharnessing a six-horse team to catch the train for war. He was assigned to Company L, Three Hundred and Sixty-first Infantry, in training at Camp Lewis, Washington. A few weeks later he was transferred to the mustering office and acted in that capacity until the end of the war.

Upon completion of his military service Mr. Spurlock entered the State Agricultural College at Davis, and in May, 1921, was graduated from that institution, honor man of his class. He has the distinction of *going* through high school and college with only two units of "twos," the rest being all "ones." Mr. Spurlock took his school life as seriously as he would a business venture. Thus equipped for this special service in the field of horticulture, he became connected with a large orchard concern in Monticello, Napa county, as orchard foreman. He spent two and a half  
years, when he successfully passed the state examination for commissioners of horticulture, and in September, 1923, when in his twenty-seventh year, was appointed horticultural commissioner of Solano county. At that time the horticultural commissioner had no office, but Mr. Spurlock established an office in the court house in Fairfield and set about building up the duties of that responsible position. During this term of service he has done much to concentrate the attention of growers in this

county on the need of systematic and scientific processes in their operations and has rendered a technical service along this line.

Mr. Spurlock has for more than two years been editor of the Solano County Farm Bureau Monthly, an excellent monthly magazine of forty pages which reaches the home of every farmer in the county. This is not Mr. Spurlock's first editorial service, for during the time of his attendance at college he was editor of the California Aggie, a college weekly of wide popularity, and he thus brings to his present editorial duties a measure of training and experience that is reflected in the general excellence of his admirable monthly publication. At the Sacramento State Fair in September, 1925, Solano county for the first time for many years came into the limelight. Mr. Spurlock took charge of the fair exhibit and through his weeks of efforts was able to win for Solano county two beautiful silver cups, sixty ribbons and many money prizes. These were the first trophies ever won by Solano county at state fairs.

On February 20, 1925, in Suisun, California, Carl H. Spurlock was united in marriage to Miss Muriel Dunker, a native daughter of Solano county, born in the pleasant village of Cordelia, daughter of Judge and Mrs. John H. Dunker. Mr. and Mrs. Spurlock reside in Suisun and on January 18, 1926, their home was blessed by the arrival of a son, Carl Harlan Spurlock, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Spurlock are both members of the Order of Eastern Star and Rebekah lodges in Suisun and in other ways take an interested and helpful part in the county's social and cultural activities. Mr. Spurlock is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having been raised a Master Mason in Buckeye Lodge No. 195 at Winters, California, and is affiliated with the Royal Arch Masons (No. 43) at Suisun. He is also a member of Suisun Lodge No. 78, Independent Order of Odd Fellows ; is affiliated with the local organization of the Sciots at Vallejo and is a member of Napa Parlor No. 62, Native Sons of the Golden West, in Napa.

---

#### WILLIAM FRASER.

Among the veteran operatives of the navy yard now living retired at Vallejo, there are few who have a wider and better acquaintance than William Fraser, a veteran of the Civil war and also a veteran of the government service at the navy yard, forty-five years of his life having been spent in this latter service. Though a Canadian by birth, Mr. Fraser seems always to have been American in his sympathies and aspirations and as a boy came over the line and rendered service as a soldier during the time of the struggle to preserve the Union. He was born in the province of Nova Scotia, in the Dominion of Canada, January 1, 1847, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (McKay) Fraser, native Nova Scotians and of old Scottish stock, who were substantial farming people in that province, living not far from the coast, where they spent their last days.

Reared within sight of the sea, William Fraser became a sailor when but a lad and was thus employed when the Civil war in the United States broke out in the spring of 1861. Though but fourteen years of age at that time, he realized enough of the causes underlying that war to have his sympathies thoroughly aroused in behalf of the Union cause and he presently determined to enlist his services as a soldier in that behalf. Coming across the line, he got into service, despite his youth, and went to the front as a member of Company C of the Second Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, and with that command rendered service in the Army of the Potomac, under General Grant. With that army he was present before Richmond when that capital of the Confederacy was evacuated by the rebels on April 2, 1865, and with the victorious army he marched into the abandoned capital on the following day, this event marking the virtual downfall of the Confederacy, rendered complete by the surrender of Lee with his army at Appomattox six days later. Mr. Fraser then was eighteen years of age and his boyish exhilaration over the victory of the grand army to which he voluntarily was attached created an impression on his mind and imagination that never has been effaced, though, more than sixty years have elapsed since then.

In 1866, the year following the completion of his army service, William Fraser came to California, his youthful spirit of adventure still being dominant, and settled in Marin county. Trained to the sea, his natural impulse prompted him to continue in the service of the sea on this coast and not long after his arrival here he bought a schooner and got into the merchant service on the bay. Presently he sold that schooner to advantage and was thereafter for some time variously employed in marine service, for a time a pilot in the McGuire ferry service, for a time running government tugs and schooners, and then he took service at the Mare Island navy yard, presently was made a stationary engineer there, and continued in that service for forty-five years, or until his retirement in 1920, since which time he has been living quietly retired at his home in Vallejo, in residence at 203 Sacramento street, where he is very comfortably and very pleasantly situated.

In 1877, at San Francisco, William Fraser was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Bews, who was born in Canada, and who died in 1913 at the age of sixty-six years. Mr. Fraser has four children, two daughters, Dr. Mary L. Fraser, who is a member of the medical staff of the Battle Creek Sanitarium at Battle Creek, Michigan, and who in 1925 made a comprehensive tour of Europe; and Miss Janet Fraser, who remains at home with her father; and two sons, Thomas Douglas and Dr. Donald A. Fraser, the latter of whom is a physician in San Francisco. Thomas Douglas Fraser, who has long been connected with the operations of the Mare Island navy yard, is an artist of more than merely local note and some of his paintings have been highly praised in competent art circles. The Frasers are republicans. Since 1875 William Fraser has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is the oldest surviving noble grand of the local lodge of that order at Vallejo, in recognition of which

fact his lodge some time ago presented him with a handsome medal carrying an attestation of his long and useful service in behalf of Odd Fellowship.

---

THOMAS J. O'HARA.

Thomas J. O'Hara, president of the Vallejo Commercial National Bank and of The Vallejo Bank of Savings, present president of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce, at one time clerk of the city of Vallejo, formerly and for years one of the best known merchants in that city, a man of large realty holdings and for years one of the most active and influential factors in the general development of the city, is a native son of Vallejo and has always lived here, hence having been a witness to and a participant in the development of the community since the days that might properly be regarded as having been a part of the pioneer period here. Born on July 12, 1870, Mr. O'Hara was reared at Vallejo and there had his schooling. As a young man he became employed in the operations of the navy yard at Mare Island and later became a clerk in a local grocery store for the purpose of learning the business, there laying the foundation for his later successful mercantile operations. Popular in the city, he was elected city clerk and by reelection without opposition served two terms in that office, at the end of which time he entered the old Vallejo Commercial Bank (now the Vallejo Commercial National Bank, of which he is the executive head), going in as an accountant and presently being promoted to the post of assistant cashier. After serving for some time in this connection, he resigned his position in the bank and became engaged in the grocery business in Vallejo, later on being elected a director of the bank.

In 1922, following the death of W. K. Cole, president of this bank, Mr. O'Hara was elected president of the bank and has since been serving in that administrative capacity, at the same time serving as president of the allied Vallejo Bank of Savings, head of the oldest financial institution in the county, for the old Vallejo Commercial Bank was organized in 1870 and has thus for fifty-six years been a continuing force for good in the promotion of the varied interests of the favored region covered by its prudent service. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. O'Hara has extensive realty and other interests of a substantial character in and about Vallejo and has for years been a dependable factor in the general commercial and industrial life of the community. His service years ago as city clerk gave him a close insight into the civic needs of the community and he has ever retained his keen interest in local political affairs, a potent influence in the promotion of all measures designed to advance the common welfare.

In 1905, at San Francisco, Thomas J. O'Hara was united in marriage to Miss Agnes I. Griffin, who was born at San Francisco, and they have five children : Thomas J., Jr., Virginia, Paul and James and Irene, the two last named of whom are twins. The O'Haras are members of the Roman

Catholic church and Mr. O'Hara is one of the active members of the local council (No. 874) of the Knights of Columbus. He is a past president of the Vallejo parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West and is a past exalted ruler of the local lodge (No. 559) of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. From the time of its organization he has ever taken an interested and influential part in the activities of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and is now serving as president of that useful body for the second time.

---

THOMAS L. PERRY.

For nearly one hundred years Thomas L. Perry, one of Solano county's honored nonagenarians, a veteran of the Civil war and a veteran of the navy yard, now living retired at Vallejo, has been a witness to mundane events and he still declares that life and living are good. Though now in his ninety-eighth year, Mr. Perry is alert and efficient, physically and mentally, retains his interest in current events, continued his daily walks about town, meeting and greeting the friends of many years, and the heartiness of those greetings and the warmth of the smile which accompanies the same attest to the continued vitality of his affection for mankind and for the works of man under the sun. He has seen many changes in his time, has lived through periods of peace and through periods of war, has been a participant in some pretty stirring action along the way and in his goings in and comings out has met with all kinds of people, these ranging through all shades and grades of good and bad ; has seen the works of some prosper and the works of others fail, has studied life and the activities of man from various angles, and is content in his fine old age to declare that after all things are pretty much all right, confirming the poet's conviction that "God's in his heaven ; all's right with the world."

Mr. Perry was but a lad when he ran away from home and joined up with the United States navy, a service in which he was engaged up to and including the period of the Civil war. Mr. Perry has some stirring tales to tell of the old navy. He was a member of the crew of the gunboat Mohigan, said to be the first propeller vessel built for the navy, and his memories of the trial trip made by that historic old vessel from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to New York will ever remain with him. As the fortunes of the sea would have it, the vessel encountered a terrific storm accompanied by a blinding fall of snow. Everything movable on the deck was swept away and the night of storm and stress, spent by him in the rigging of the buffeted vessel, will never be forgotten. So far as he knows he is the only present survivor of that initial crew of the old Mohigan. He also was a member of the crew of this gunboat when in 1861 it overtook and captured Nathaniel Gordon's infamous slave ship, the Erie, with its human cargo of eight hundred and ninety-seven souls, and he recalls with satisfaction that Gordon was presently convicted of his

sins of the sea and hanged in New York. Though the United States as early as the year 1820 had passed a law declaring the slave trade to be piracy, Gordon's conviction, in November, 1861, was then being in progress, was the first obtained under that statute and he thus has the dubious eminence of being the only slave trader ever hanged for his sins in this country. Mr. Perry had previously, in the gunboat *Mohigan*, made a trip to the African coast, and was quite familiar with the evil traditions of the slave trade. During the time of his service in the Civil war he served on the *Mohigan* and later on the *Quaker City*, was present on the former vessel during the time of the successful federal naval engagement off Hilton Head, South Carolina, and while serving on the latter during the siege of Charleston was severely wounded. His memory of events and incidents during that period of service is vivid and accurate and, *as* noted above, he can, when in a reminiscent mood, tell some stirring tales of that time.

Thomas L. Perry was born at Miramichi, Nova Scotia, July 11, 1829, and is a son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Curry) Perry, who were the parents of sixteen children. The Perrys of this line are of the same family as that so illustriously represented in his generation by Oliver Hazzard Perry, admiral of the United States navy and hero of the battle of Lake Erie during the time of the War of 1812, and had their beginning in this country with the coming of Edward Perry, born in Devonshire, England, in 1630, who in 1653 settled at Sandwich, in the Massachusetts colony. Genealogists have it that these Perrys are descendants in direct line from the Scottish hero, William Wallace, executed in London on August 23, 1305, and whose name and fame will live so long as Scots have tongue to voice them in song and story.

As noted above, Thomas L. Perry was but a boy when he ran away from his home in Boston. He was an adventurous lad and felt that the life of the sea was the life for him. This relation with the naval service continued satisfactory and he was thus serving when the Civil war broke out, he then being thirty-two years of *age* and with an experience behind him that gave a real value to his service in behalf of the Union cause. Upon the completion of his service he married and settled down in Boston, where he became employed as a carriage painter and where he remained until in 1868, when he and his wife came to California. Upon his arrival here Mr. Perry became engaged as principal keeper of the lighthouse at Point Concepcion, a position he occupied for twenty-seven years, at the end of which time he moved to San Francisco, where he became engaged in mercantile business. That form of activity, however, did not greatly appeal to him and he presently disposed of his store and came across the bay, taking service in the navy yard and making his home at Vallejo. For twenty years he continued this service at the navy yard and then retired, with a record of forty-seven years of government service in California besides his prior service in the navy along the Atlantic coast. Since his retirement he has continued to make his home at Vallejo, residing at 911 Sonoma street, where he and Mrs. Perry are very pleasantly situated,

enjoying in the delightful "evening time" of their lives the affection of the whole community.

It was on February 22, 1865, at Boston, that Thomas L. Perry was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Carr, daughter of Henry and Ellen (Boyle) Carr, and a member of one of the old New England families, the Carrs of this line having had representation in America since early colonial days, and on that date in 1915 they celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, their "golden wedding," an event that was made one of much congratulation and felicitation on the part of their many friends here and in other sections of the state. This venerable couple have a daughter, Ethel, wife of Albert W. Potts of San Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Perry are republicans and have ever taken an interested part in the general civic affairs of the community. Mrs. Perry has for years been one of the active members of the local circle of the Ladies of the G. A. R. and of the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and is likewise affiliated with the locally influential and useful House League. Mr. Perry is a member of the George Thomas post of the Grand Army of the Republic of San Francisco and of the Masonic fraternity, and is also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Order of the Eastern Star.

---

#### THOMAS McKAY.

In the development of the flourishing and delightful little city of Benicia there were few men of large vision, public-spirited, enterprising and energetic, whose names ever will be associated with that development and whose memories ever thus will be kept green here. Among these far-sighted community builders there were few who in that generation exerted a wider and more helpful personal influence in the promotion of progressive movements than did the late Thomas McKay, one of the foremost of the pioneers of the town at a time when it was beginning to enter upon what may be regarded as its period of modern development and who not only built up a fine business there and became a large property owner, but who also as a town trustee and as a member of the local board of education rendered a distinguished service in behalf of the social and civic interests of the city.

The late Thomas McKay was a Canadian by birth, born at Pictou, seat of the county of that name in the maritime province of Nova Scotia, and was there reared. As a young man,, in the early '60s, accompanied by Alexander Chisholm, another energetic young man from Pictou and who afterward became his brother-in-law, he came to California, the pair of young adventurers coming around by way of the Isthmus. and located at Benicia. Trained as a tanner in his home place, Thomas McKay set up a tannery on his arrival in Benicia, setting up in business in a small shed of a building, and in the following year was joined in this enterprise by

his pal, Alexander Chisholm, a partnership being effected under the firm name of McKay & Chisholm, a mutually agreeable arrangement that was maintained for many years thereafter or until the retirement of Mr. Chisholm, on account of failing health, in the late '90s. This tannery established by Mr. McKay was the first enterprise of that sort in Benicia and under the capable management of the partners was developed until it became the largest tannery in the state in its time.

This firm of McKay & Chisholm will ever be kept in remembrance here as among the most energetic promoters of the general civic and industrial interests of the community and there is no doubt their labors in this behalf did very much toward starting the town out along the lines of progressive development. Both Mr. McKay and Mr. Chisholm were among the founders of the Benicia Water Company and were otherwise helpful in community works. Mr. McKay also rendered effective public service as a member for some time of the board of trustees of the town at a time when public-spirited and progressive men were needed on that board and he also proved his worth as a public servitor for some time as a member of the school board, rendering in that capacity a very real service in behalf of the developing school system. He was an active member of the Masonic fraternity and in other ways took his part in the general social and fraternal movements of the town. In addition to his tannery, which was the basis of his fortune, he developed other interests and became a large property owner, one of the most substantial and dependable citizens of Solano county. Mr. McKay died in 1922, and at his passing left a good memory in the community of which he had for sixty years been so vital and so helpful a part.

In 1878 Thomas McKay was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Harris, who also was born at Pictou, in Nova Scotia, and who survived him about six months, her death occurring in 1923. To that union were born three children, two sons, Thomas Sumner McKay, now deceased, and George McKay, now a president of Benicia; and a daughter, Mrs. Mabel Palmer, now a resident of Santa Cruz. Mr. McKay also is survived by a sister, Mrs. Christy Chisholm, widow of the late Alexander Chisholm, concerning whom further and fitting mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Chisholm continues to make her home at Benicia, where she has resided for many years.

---

#### HANS FREDRICKSEN.

Hans Fredricksen, a well known contractor at Vallejo, well established there in the house-moving way, with an equipment competent to handle any undertaking along that line and with a record of considerable difficult achievement in his line of endeavor, is of European birth, but has been a resident of this country since the days of his young manhood and of California for the past twenty years. Mr. Fredricksen was born on a farm

in the kingdom of Norway on December 7, 1880, and is a son of Frederick and Annie Christina Hanson, the latter of whom died when her son Hans was but five years of age.

Reared in his native place, Hans Fredricksen had his schooling there and early became employed in the dairy industries. When twenty-three years of age he came to the United States and after four years of residence and employment in the city of Chicago came to California and located at Oakland. There he became engaged in construction work, with particular reference to pile driving and bridge work, and continued there for thirteen years, or until in 1919, when he located at Vallejo and established himself in business in this latter city as a house mover, a line which since has engaged his attention and in which he has done very well. Mr. Fredricksen has a mechanical outfit for his labors that comprises the most modern equipment for this sort of work and is prepared for any sort of a contract along that line that may present itself here. Since he has been in business here he has carried out some pretty big contracts, including the removal of the large frame barracks at the navy yard and other work there, as well as many houses in the city, including one large clubhouse, and is widely known in his line.

In early manhood Hans Fredricksen was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Christensen, who also was born in Norway, but who has been a resident of California since the days of her girlhood, and they have three children, Henry, Alfred and Alfhild. Mr. and Mrs. Fredricksen are republicans and Mr. Fredricksen is a member of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose.

---

#### LLOYD M. DUDLEY.

Lloyd M. Dudley, a veteran of the World war with an overseas record in the air service and one of Vallejo's best known and most enterprising and progressive young business men, widely known in the automobile trade throughout this section of the state and doing business as L. M. Dudley, Incorporated, with a well equipped establishment and salesroom at 1123 Sonoma street and branches at Dixon and Vacaville, is a native son of California and his interests ever have centered here. Mr. Dudley was born in the city of San Francisco on December 18, 1891, and is a son of E. C. and Susanna H. (Marshall) Dudley, who are still living in San Francisco and the latter of whom is a native daughter of California, born in Mariposa county, daughter of John Marshall, one of the pioneers of that county. E. C. Dudley was born in the state of Maine and when eighteen years of age came to California, where he ever since has resided, a resident of this state now for something more than fifty years. He married at Mendocino and established his home in San Francisco, where for many years he operated the West End carriage factory. This business has since been turned over to two other sons, L. Raymond and Carlisle V.

Dudley, who operate an automobile repair shop and manufacture radio sets.

Reared in San Francisco, Lloyd M. Dudley was going to school there when the normal course of every one in that city was interrupted and diverted by the disaster of 1906, he then being in his fifteenth year. With this interruption to his schooling he filled in the time in industrial pursuits until in 1912, when he became engaged in the work of the preliminary survey being made in behalf of the projected Panama-Pacific Exposition and continued engaged in the service of the exposition committee throughout the period of the great fair in 1915 and until the administration was closed. The American participation in the World war then began, in 1917, and he enlisted his services in that behalf, selecting the air service as the field of his patriotic activities. After a period of training on American aviation fields he was assigned to overseas service, and the One Hundred and First Aero Squadron, to which he was attached, spent six months in France.

Following his discharge from the army in March, 1919, Mr. Dudley returned home and presently became connected with the operations of the Standard Oil Company, engaged in the engineering department of that company's operations at Richmond, across the bay, and was thus engaged until in May, 1923, when he established himself in business at Vallejo, where he since has made his home. It was then that Mr. Dudley took over the agency in Solano county for the sale of the Chevrolet automobile and the garage and salesroom at 1123 Sonoma street and he has become very well established there, having branch garages and service stations at Dixon and at Vacaville. He also is the authorized agent in Solano county for the use of the Duco refinishing process and has a well outfitted Duco plant at the corner of Fourth and Lemon streets.

In 1914, at San Francisco, Lloyd M. Dudley was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Peters, who was born in Missouri, daughter of Victor V. Peters, and they have one child, a son, John Byron Dudley. Mr. and Mrs. Dudley are republicans and take a proper interest in local civic affairs as well as in the general social and cultural activities of their home town. Mr. Dudley is a member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and is also actively affiliated with the locally influential Kiwanis Club, whose motto is "We Build." He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has long been interested in the affairs of that ancient order.

---

#### WALTER M. HUNTER.

Among the enterprising and progressive merchants of the flourishing county town of Fairfield there are few who are better established or who have a wider or better acquaintance throughout the trade area there centering than has Walter M. Hunter, a veteran druggist and now regarded as among the pioneers in mercantile circles there. From the

beginning of his residence in Fairfield Mr. Hunter has taken an interested and helpful part in local municipal affairs and is now serving as treasurer of the city, an office to which he was elected in 1920 and to the duties of which he is giving his intelligent attention. He also has ever been a consistent and persistent "booster" of the general affairs of the city, a leader in all proper development work ; is a charter member of the locally influential Lions Club, of which he also is the treasurer, and has done much to bring to that organization's activities a measure of well directed efficiency that has caused it to become recognized as a useful factor in general civic and social affairs. Mr. Hunter also is a member of the local lodges of the Masons and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Suisun and of the local aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Fairfield, and gives his proper attention to the affairs of those popular fraternal organizations.

Walter M. Hunter is a native of the state of Nebraska but has been a resident of California since the days of his childhood and thus feels himself quite as much a Californian as any. He was born in Seward, Nebraska, July 14, 1886, and was six years of age when in 1892 his parents, Charles H. Hunter and wife, came to California with their family and settled at Los Gatos, in Santa Clara county. It was thus that he had his initial schooling at Los Gatos. From the days of his boyhood he was attracted to the drug trade and after careful preparation as a clerk in a Los Gatos drug store he entered the pharmacy department of the University of California, and in 1907, the year in which he attained his majority, he was graduated from that institution and has ever since been following his profession as a graduate pharmacist. In 1913 Mr. Hunter opened his present drug store at Fairfield and has since been engaged in business there, proprietor of a well established and admirably appointed place of business at 726 Texas street.

---

#### HARRY C. SIEBERT.

Harry C. Siebert of the firm of Siebert & Easson, proprietors of a well equipped automobile service station and repair shop at the corner of Sonoma and Tennessee streets, in Vallejo, and one of the well known business men of that city, is a native son of California and all his life has been spent in this state. He was born in the city of San Francisco on September 7, 1884, and is a son of William F. and Louisa (Luhr) Siebert, both natives of Germany and who in 1925 took a trip back to William F. Siebert came to California in 1880 and not long afterward was joined here by the girl to whom he had plighted his troth in the old country. They were married in Alpine county and established their home in San Francisco.

Reared in San Francisco, Harry C. Siebert received his schooling in the schools of that city and early learned the machinist's trade. He was employed at that trade in San Francisco until in 1910, when he became

employed as a machinist in the Mare Island navy yard and was thus engaged there for thirteen years, or until in 1923, when, in association with William L. Easson, Jr., he became established in business on his own account and has since been thus engaged, doing business under the firm name of Siebert & Easson, with a full line of automobile accessories and supplies and a well equipped service station at the corner of Sonoma and Tennessee streets, and is doing very well, quality, service and faithful attention to the details of the business on the part of the partners having made of this one of the most popular establishments of its kind in this section.

In 1910, at San Francisco, Harry C. Siebert was united in marriage to Miss Isabel Easson, who was born in Scotland, but who was reared in San Francisco, daughter of William L. Easson, Sr., and they have one child, a son, Elmer Siebert. Mr. and Mrs. Siebert are republicans and take a proper part in general civic affairs and local welfare work. Mr. Siebert is a past worshipful master of Vallejo Lodge No. 487, Free and Accepted Masons, and has for many years been earnestly interested in Masonic affairs.

---

#### ALDEN B. WILLEY.

For nearly thirty years Alden B. Willey, an honored veteran of the Civil war and one of Solano county's widely known and highly respected octogenarians, now engaged as a notary public at Vallejo, has been a resident of this county and he thus has been a witness to and a participant in the development of this community during the time that may be regarded as the "modern" period of that development. For years Mr. Willey was actively engaged in the realty business in Vallejo and his service in that connection was a material aid in the expansion of the community's interests. With a prior experience of years of responsible connection with constructive interests in the northwest as well as in California, he brought to his activities in this connection an intelligent direction that gave a real value to these services. In his fine old age, stimulated by a proper sense of accomplishment and in the enjoyment of the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and friends, he is able calmly to review within his own recollection the events of the past eighty years and more and to declare that all is well.

Alden B. Willey is a native of the old Pine Tree state, born at Cherryfield, on the Pleasant Bay coast of Maine, July 25, 1840, and is a son of Andrew Willey, who also was born at Cherryfield, a member of one of the old families of that section of Maine, and who was one of the substantial and dependable citizens of the place, owner of a farm of two hundred and forty acres and one of the leading lumber dealers in that region, also largely engaged as a contractor in the construction of wharves and dams. Under his father's direction Alden B. Willey became well skilled in this

form of construction work and was working along that line when in the spring of 1861 the Civil war broke out, he then being in his twenty-first year. He straightway enlisted his services in behalf of the cause of the Union and went to the front as a member of Company I of the Thirteenth Regiment, Maine Volunteer Infantry, which was raised by the immortal Neal Dow, author of the Maine liquor law (1851), who was appointed colonel of the regiment and with his command accompanied General Benjamin F. Butler's expedition to New Orleans, suffering shipwreck on the way thither but escaping serious injury. In 1862 Colonel Dow was commissioned brigadier general and placed in command of the federal troops stationed south of New Orleans. Subsequently he was transferred to the command of Pensacola and from there to Carrollton, above New Orleans. In the siege of Port Hudson on May 27, 1863, he led a gallant charge in which his brigade lost in killed and wounded every field officer and thirty-three per cent of the men. He was himself twice wounded and while lying helpless on the field was taken prisoner and was confined in Libby prison and at Mobile nearly a year, or until his exchange for General Fitzhugh Lee, after which, being then past sixty years of age and much broken in health, he resigned from the army.

This brief sidelight on the activities of the Thirteenth Maine will show that Mr. Willey saw a good deal of pretty strenuous service during the campaign in and about New Orleans and he has some very vivid recollections of that service and of the engagements in which he thus participated. After the taking of New Orleans he was stationed at Fort Jackson and at Fort St. Philip, at the mouth of the Mississippi, for fourteen months, and was subsequently and for some time engaged in police duty in New Orleans, in that capacity having a part in the exercise of that firm control of the chaotic elements then afloat in the city that led to some pretty rigid military regulations for the government of the city and created a chapter *in* the history of the war that came in for a good bit of criticism at the time, but which historians now justify as having been essential to the purposes of good government so far as was practicable under the circumstances and in view of the intense animosity displayed against the Union soldiers by the people of the occupied city.

At DeCrows Point, Texas, Mr. Willey was veteranized and he at once reenlisted for three years or during the continuance of the war and with his old regiment engaged in the celebrated Red River campaign under General Banks. This regiment later was consolidated with the Thirtieth Maine under Colonel Hubbard and took part in all the engagements in the Shenandoah Valley up to the close of the war in April, 1865. When the world was stirred by the news of the assassination of President Lincoln three days after Lee's surrender, Mr. Willey, with the command to which he was attached, was at Winchester, Virginia, and with his regiment was hurried by special train to the defense of Washington and stationed at Fort Meigs on guard duty and to aid in the capture of the assassin Booth. He took part in the grand review of troops at Washington marking the close of the war and was thereafter, until the fall of that

year, stationed on duty at Savannah, Georgia, and in November, 1865, at Portland, the capital of his home state, was mustered out of the service, after more than four years of continuous service as a soldier of the Union.

Upon the completion of his military service Mr. Willey became engaged in logging operations in connection with his father's lumbering interests in Maine, and in the next spring (1866) went into the then comparatively new Northwest country to take part in development work there, establishing himself at Minneapolis, where all interests, following the period of unsettlement attendant on war, were then rapidly expanding. Mr. Willey's trained experience as a mechanic and expert in heavy construction work brought him profitable employment there in wharf and railway construction and he presently was made superintendent of construction of the great iron ore docks at Duluth. He then became employed as superintendent of construction of the Duluth & Iron Range Railway Company, and in that capacity rebuilt every bridge on that road and also erected for that company two more docks, all in two years, with a force of three hundred to six hundred men under his control.

For years Mr. Willey remained connected with construction operations in that section of the country, and then, in 1892, he came to California, taking employment along accustomed lines in Pasadena. Later and for four years he was with the Union Iron Works at San Francisco, and then, in 1898, became employed in the operations of the Mare Island navy yard and was thus engaged for three years, at the end of which time he became engaged in the general realty business at Vallejo and in that capacity had an influential part in promoting the great development of the city which set in in a quite marked fashion about the beginning of the present century. Mr. Willey also had a commission as claim agent and pension attorney and during the years of his activity carried on an extensive practice in the departments of the interior and pensions. Of recent years he has been living practically retired from the more active duties of his profession, but still retains his notarial commission and is ready for service on call at any time. During the time of his particular activities in the local realty field, years ago, it was written of Mr. Willey that "he has always had great faith in the future of Vallejo, believing that from its natural location it is destined to become a large city of maritime importance, and it is his ambition to inspire others with the same confidence. He therefore always has been ready to give of his time and means to the forwarding of any enterprise or movement that will build up and enhance the growth and development of his adopted city." And, within the limitations imposed by advancing years, it may be said that the same today is true, for the veteran realtor continues his earnest and intelligent interest in all local development projects, his counsel and advice along those lines being recognized as valuable.

Alden B. Willey has been thrice married. In 1872, while living in Minnesota, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Lucinda Butler, also a native of Maine, born in the city of Bangor, and who died at Vallejo in 1903. In 1909 he was again married. His second wife died in 1918, and

**in** 1925 he married Mrs. Rebecca Pickard, widow of Isaac L. Pickard, a veteran of the Civil war. Mrs. Willey was born in Pennsylvania and has been a resident of California for forty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Willey have a pleasant home at 738 Louisiana street and retain a warm personal interest in general local affairs. For many years Mr. Willey has been one of the leaders among the now rapidly diminishing ranks of the soldiers of the Union army living in Solano county and has served as commander and **as** adjutant of Farragut Post No. 4, Grand Army of the Republic. In **1912 he** was honored by appointment as aide-de-camp on the staff of the commander of the California department, G. A. **R.** In 1864, at his home town, Cherryfield, Maine, while home on a furlough from the army, he was raised a Master Mason in Narragus Lodge No. 88, Free and Accepted Masons, and has thus been a member of that ancient order for more than sixty years, now a member of Solano Lodge No. 229 at Vallejo, one of the 'real veteran Masons of California. \_

---

#### CAPTAIN HENRY WILLIAMS.

For nearly forty years Captain Henry Williams, officer in charge of the great steamer Solano, plying the waters of the bay between Benicia and Port Costa in the ferry service of the Southern Pacific Railway Company and known as the largest ferry boat in the world, has been a familiar figure along this coast and there is probably no one here who has a wider and a better acquaintance in marine circles and among the general public than he. Though of European birth, Captain Williams has been a resident of California since the days of his young manhood, having arrived here as a young sailor in 1887, and he ever since has been in marine service, thus acquiring a familiarity with the waters of the bay country that gives a special value to the service he now **is** rendering.

Captain Williams was born in the city of Amsterdam, Holland, October **6**, 1867, and when thirteen years of age, following the examples of a long line of seagoing Dutch ancestors, "took to the sea," going out as deck boy on a vessel sailing out of his home port. Ever since then his activities have been connected with the sea. From deck boy he rose to the grade of able seaman and as such had sailed the seven seas, gaining an acquaintance with all the important ports in the world, when in 1887, as a member of the crew of the bark County of Pembroke he reached the port of San Diego, on the coast of California, he then being twenty years of age. This bark had come up around the Horn and when it put in at San Diego the crew was discharged. Young Williams took service with' the salmon fleet, cruising in Alaskan waters during the summers and during the winters fishing in the straits off Sherman island. For ten years he was thus connected with the fishing fleets, and then, in 1897, he entered the service of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, going on as a deck hand on the old steamer Thoroughbred, in the company's ferry service between San

Francisco and Oakland. On November 8, 1902, he was given a pilot's license and was made second officer of the great ferry steamer Solano, with which vessel he ever since has been connected, this service now covering a period of twenty-three years. On May 1, 1905, he was made first officer, and on December 19, 1914, was made captain of the Solano, which executive position he since has occupied.

As noted above, the Solano is the largest ferry boat in the world and has for years been used in the service of the Southern Pacific Railway Company in transferring its trains across the bay between the land terminals at Benicia and Port Costa, all trains going east by way of Sacramento and all trains north to Seattle by that route being transported across the water gap on this huge vessel of which Captain Williams now has long been in charge. The Captain is an active member of Local No. 40, Mates and Pilots Union, and has for many years been an influential figure in local marine circles. He also is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias (No. 99) at Benicia and is likewise affiliated with the San Francisco branch of the Sons of Herman. He has a daughter, Miss Dorothy Williams, wife of E. V. Treanor of San Francisco.

---

#### CHARLES N. BESSAC.

Charles N. Bessac, cashier of the First National Bank of Vallejo and of the First Savings Bank of that city, is a native son of California and all his life has been spent in this state, a resident of Vallejo since 1917. Mr. Bessac was born in Florence, in Los Angeles county, September 11, 1890, and there had his early schooling. His father, H. W. Bessac, was a newspaper man, engaged for some time in publishing a newspaper at Hollister and later as a publisher of the newspaper at Dixon, in this county, and he presently became associated with his father in the newspaper business and became a practical printer and publisher, a line in which he continued until he was twenty-seven years of age.

It was in 1917 that Mr. Bessac definitely abandoned "the art preservative of all arts," left his newspaper work at Dixon and came to Vallejo, where he became employed as a messenger in the First National Bank. Here he found his forte and by close application to the duties in hand was advanced in the service of the bank from messenger to teller, then to book-keeper, then to a position as assistant to the cashier, and in 1923 was elected cashier of the bank. Mr. Bessac is an active and influential member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and of the Rotary Club and is deeply interested in all proper development projects here.

In 1913, at Dixon, Charles N. Bessac was united in marriage to Miss Grace N. Norman, who was born at that place, a daughter of Travis Norman and a granddaughter of Dr. Udell, the latter of whom came to California in 1852 and became one of the pioneer physicians of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Bessac have two children, a daughter, Jeanne, born in 1915,

and a son, Norman Bessac, born in 1923. They have a pleasant home at Vallejo and take an interested and helpful part in the general social and cultural activities of the community.

---

RAY LYTTLE.

Ray Lyttle, manager of the Vallejo branch of the United Cigar Stores Company of America and one of the well known and progressive young business men of that city, was born in Vallejo and his interests ever have centered here. He was born on August 10, 1895, and is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Seyanovich) Lyttle, the latter of whom is still living, a resident of Vallejo for more than thirty years. She was born in Amador county, this state.

The late Samuel Lyttle, at one time member of the board of trustees of Vallejo and in his generation one of the best known business men in that city, was born in Ireland, and was thirteen years of age when in 1879 he came to California with his parents, the family locating at San Francisco. There Samuel Lyttle grew to manhood and for some time after his marriage had his home. In 1892 he purchased the Vallejo steam laundry and established his home in this latter city, where the remainder of his life was spent. In addition to his laundry interest, he also had a proprietary interest in the cigar store on Georgia street, now under the management of his son Ray, and he also had an interest in a laundry in Bremerton, Washington. In 1915 he sold the cigar store and in 1918 sold his old laundry and bought the plant of the Economic wet wash laundry, which he continued to operate until in 1921, when he sold out and retired from business. His death occurred two years later, in 1923, he then being fifty-seven years of age. Mr. Lyttle took an active part in local civic affairs and for four years (1904-8) rendered effective service as a member of the board of town trustees. He was an active and influential member of the Masonic fraternity and was a past worshipful master of the Vallejo lodge of that ancient order.

Reared at Vallejo, Ray Lyttle supplemented the schooling received in the high school there by a course in St. Mary's College at Oakland and in 1915 was graduated from the commercial department of that institution. He then joined his father in the operations of the laundry and was thus engaged for two years, or until in 1917, when he took employment as an electrician in the navy yard and was there thus employed in thargovern=ment establishment until in 1925, when he was made manager of the Vallejo branch of the United Cigar Stores Company of America and has since been thus engaged, with a well appointed cigar store at 328 Georgia street, one of the best locations for such an establishment in town. In addition to the usual line carried by the United Cigar Stores people Mr. Lyttle also handles a full line of periodicals and is doing well. He is an active member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and has come to be

recognized as one of the energetic and public-spirited young business men of the city.

On August 22, 1920, at Vallejo, Ray Lyttle was united in marriage to Miss Eva M. Pelkey, who was born in Wyandotte, a suburb of the city of Detroit, daughter of Thomas Pelkey, and they have one child, a daughter, Lois Genevieve. Mr. and Mrs. Lyttle are republicans and are members of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Lyttle is a member of the local council of the Knights of Columbus and takes an interested part in the activities of that organization.

---

#### EUGENE KREH.

Among the residents of Vallejo no more interesting or deserving character can be found than the subject of this sketch, who, after forty-five years of faithful service for his country, is now retired and living quietly and comfortably in this city. His record is one of which he and his family have just reason to be proud—characterized always by the conscientious performance of his duty under any and all circumstances—and now, at the age of more than three score and ten, he is just as earnest and conscientious in the performance of his obligations of private citizenship.

Eugene Kreh is a native of Germany, where he was born on the 21st day of June, 1853, and is the son of Carl H. and Ida (Becht) Kreh, the former of whom died in his native land. The mother came to the United States some time after the emigration of her son, who had come here in 1872, at the age of nineteen years. He had received his education in the public schools of Germany and on his arrival in this country he located at Erie, Pennsylvania, where he remained for awhile. He had seen active service in the German army in Italy and Algiers before coming to this country, and also in the Foreign Legion of France. In 1873 he enlisted in the United States army and during the ensuing thirty years he served in various branches of the service. He took active part in a number of the Indian wars, including the Custer campaign, and also in the Spanish-American war. For a time he was assistant armorer at the Cadet's armory in Berkeley and for fifteen years he served as chief of police at the Mare Island navy yard. He was retired from the service in October, 1921, with the highest commendations of his superior officers. In 1905 he located in Vallejo, where he occupies a comfortable home at No. 801 Alabama street. Though no longer active in his country's service, no one keeps in closer touch with public events than he and he gives loyal support to every movement inaugurated for the betterment or improvement of his community.

On October 20, 1883, Mr. Kreh married Miss Louisa Griesbeck, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and to them were born the following children : Eugene, who died at the age of nine years ; Lois ; William,

who is an electrician at the Mare Island navy yard ; Carl H., and Helen, wife of Alfred C. **Berg. Carl H.** Kreh served in the United States navy, on different ships. He was on the battleship Pittsburgh, which was at anchor at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, when the epidemic of influenza struck the. South Atlantic squadron, and he was one of the victims, his death occurring on October 20, 1918. He was chief and flag yeoman and was held in high esteem throughout the fleet. Carl Kreh Post No. 1123 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, at Vallejo, was named in his honor. Eugene Kreh is a republican in his political alignment, while he sustains fraternal relations with the Knights of Pythias, and has been elected an honorary member of Carl Kreh post, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Personally, he is modest and unassuming, with no thought of praise because of his long and honorable record, but among those who know him no man stands higher in their sincere respect and esteem, for they appreciate his fine character and genuine worth and honor him for his loyalty and patriotism.

---

#### JOSEPH P. BYRNE.

Joseph P. Byrne, chief deputy in the office of the recorder of Solano county and one of the best known men in this section of California, is a native son of Solano county and his interests ever have centered here. He was born near the pleasant village of Cordelia, then known as Bridgeport, October 25, 1882, and is a son of John and Anna (Gilsenan) Byrne, pioneers of this section and both of whom were born in Ireland. John Byrne came to California in 1876 and in 1881 became employed in the operations of the navy yard on Mare island.

Reared in this county, Joseph P. Byrne received his schooling here and then became employed as a clerk in the Dannenbaum clothing store at Vallejo, later becoming employed in a similar capacity in the grocery store of Corcoran & Collins at that place. His experience in mercantile employment did not prove satisfactory and he presently gave up that line and went across the bay, where he became employed in the ship fitting department of the Union Iron Works in San Francisco. Five years later he returned to Vallejo and there took service in the ordnance department of the navy yard and continued thus engaged for seven years, or until in 1912, when he became employed in the office of the J. P. Griffith Title and Insurance Company at Fairfield, the county seat. In the next year (1913) he became attached to the staff of the county recorder and he been connected with that office, now chief deputy to the county recorder, his continued service of twelve or thirteen years in that important office so thoroughly familiarizing him with the records of the county as to give to this service a very special value.

On August 8, 1911, at San Francisco, Joseph P. Byrne was united in **marriage to Miss** Louise Barrett, who was born at Vallejo, daughter of

Harry Barrett, and they have two children, sons both, Louis J. and John F. Byrne. The Byrnes have a pleasant home at Fairfield and take an interested part in general community affairs. Mr. Byrne is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Vallejo and is a charter member of the Lions Club at Fairfield.

---

EUGENE GARIBALDI.

Eugene Garibaldi, a well known and successful young vegetable grower of Solano county and proprietor of a well kept place on the Napa road out Of Vallejo, is a native of sunny Italy, but has been a resident of California since the days of his boyhood and is thoroughly devoted to the interests of this region, for he has found here an outlet for his ambition that probably would have been denied him in his native land with its overpopulated areas. He was born on October 31, 1895, and is a son of Albert and Rosa (Brusco) Garibaldi, the latter of whom is still living, now well past seventy years of age. The late Albert Garibaldi was a farmer in his native Italy and was also for some time engaged in that vocation in South America.

It was in the spring of 1913, he then being seventeen years of age, that Eugene Garibaldi came to California, rejoining here his elder brother, who had some years prior to that year become a resident of Solano county, and for a year following his arrival here the young man from Italy was employed in his brother's vegetable growing operations. He then started in for himself, renting a small tract of land, and met with such a measure of success that he presently found himself in a position to become a land-owner and proprietor in his own right. He bought the tract of eight acres on which he is now living on the Napa road out of Vallejo and has since been carrying On his operations there. Mr. Garibaldi was one of the organizers of the local Vegetable Growers Association, sells his product through that association and in 1924 served as vice president of the same. He married Miss Katherine Navone, a native daughter of California, born in Napa county, and they have two children, Evelyn and Albert.

---

CHARLES H. BOURNE.

Charles H. Bourne, a prominent contractor in the building trades at Vallejo, his operations being chiefly confined to brick construction and plastering, is a native of Australia, born on September 6, 1885, and has been a resident of California ever since the year in which he attained his majority, he then exercising a fine selective judgment by coming to this hospitable coast, and he ever since has been quite content to regard this as his permanent home.

When seventeen years of age Mr. Bourne left Australia and went to South Africa, locating at Durban, in Natal, where he learned the trade of brick mason and plasterer, a vocation he ever since has followed and in which he has been quite successful. In 1906, the year in which he "came of age," Mr. Bourne came to California, landing at the port of San Francisco in September of that year. For a year and more he was employed in that city in the operations of Robert Knowles, a building contractor, and then, in 1908, he came to Vallejo and became a member of the force of operatives employed by Marshall, the contractor. In the following year (1909) he formed a partnership in the contracting line with George Nash, operating under the firm name of Nash & Bourne, and thus became engaged in business on his own account. This partnership continued for four years, since which time Mr. Bourne has been operating independently and has done very well, many of the biggest contracts carried out in and about Vallejo during this time having been taken care of by him. Among these may be mentioned the Red Men's hall, the Knights of Columbus hall, the Benheim building, the Dannenbaum building, the plastering of the Baptist church, the Green Valley school at Cordelia, the Solano winery at that place and many of the finest dwelling houses erected at Vallejo during recent years. Mr. Bourne is a member of Samoset Tribe No. 22 of the Improved Order of Red Men. He takes an interested part in the general affairs of the community and has long been recognized as one of the substantial and dependable citizens of Solano county, a man who is doing well his part in the development of the community.

---

#### ANTONIO GARIBALDI.

To a great extent the prosperity of the agricultural sections of our great country is due to the honest industry, the sturdy perseverance and the wise economy which so prominently characterize the foreign element that has entered largely into our population. By comparison with their old-country surroundings, these people have recognized the great opportunities that lie in America for the man of ambition and energy and many of them have become among our best citizens. Among this class may be mentioned Antonio Garibaldi, who is successfully engaged in vegetable farming on his place on the Napa road. Mr. Garibaldi was born in Italy on the 12th of March, 1884, and received his education in the schools of his native land. For reference to his parents, the reader's attention is directed to the sketch of his brother, Eugene Garibaldi, which appears on another page of this work.

Antonio Garibaldi remained in his native land until nineteen years of age, when he came to the United States, arriving here practically without money and ignorant of the language and customs of a strange land. But he was ambitious and determined to succeed and he courageously went to work at anything he could find to do and at the same time studied hard to

acquire a knowledge of the English language. After two years of steady work and keen observation of conditions he decided that his opportunity lay before him and he bought ten and three-quarters acres of land on the Napa road, where he now lives, and went to work to put it in shape for cultivation. He has put much hard and unremitting labor into the improvement of his place, but his efforts have been abundantly rewarded and he now has not only a good and profitable piece of land but also a very comfortable and attractive home. Mr. Garibaldi married Miss Amelia Sala and they have three children, Louis, Joseph and William. He is deeply interested in the welfare of his adopted country and takes the proper interest in public affairs. He is independent in politics.

---

F. H. WASSMANN.

Though a native of Oregon, F. H. Wassmann, a well established contracting plumber at Benicia and one of the best known business men in that city, has been a resident of California since the days of his boyhood and has never had occasion to regret the train of circumstances which brought about his transplantation from his native state to this favored region. He was born in the city of Portland, Oregon, January 31, 1883, and was nine years of age when in 1892 his parents moved with their family from Portland to Benicia. It was thus that in this latter city he finished his schooling and grew to manhood.

Early attracted to the plumber's trade, F. H. Wassmann completed a three years' apprenticeship to that trade in the plumbing shop of W. G. Ross at Benicia and then started out as a journeyman plumber and was for some time thus engaged, acquiring additional facility in that trade, working in various cities in California and Oregon, including San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Bernardino in the former state and Portland and Astoria in the latter. In 1906, he then being twenty-three years of age, Mr. Wassmann, returned to Benicia and established himself in business there as a contracting plumber, a line in which he ever since has been engaged, this useful community service now covering a period of almost twenty years, and during which time much of the higher grade plumbing that has been done in and about Benicia has been installed by him. Mr. Wassmann is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias at Benicia and has long taken an interested part in the activities of that lodge.

F. H. Wassmann married Miss Jennie E. Mellon and they have a pleasant home in Benicia. Mrs. Wassmann was born in Vallejo and is a member of one of the real pioneer families here, her maternal grandparents, John H. and Mary (Fitzsimmons) Ryan, having been among the first settlers of the now flourishing and attractive city of Benicia, and concerning which pioneer couple further and fitting mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Wassmann is a daughter of Charles and Ellen

(Ryan) Mellon, both now deceased and the latter of whom, daughter of the pioneer couple above referred to, was the third white child born in Benicia. The late Charles Mellon, in his generation one of the best known citizens of Benicia, was born on Prince Edward Island, a province of the Dominion of Canada, and in the days of his young manhood came to California and became engaged in mercantile activities at Benicia, opening a general store there. He later became associated with Pettis and Snow in the general merchandise business at Vallejo and was thus engaged until he entered state service, captain of the guard at San Quentin prison, where he met a tragic death, slain while helping to quell an uprising of a group of desperate prisoners.

---

WILLIAM H. WITHEROW.

William H. Witherow, manager of the Evans & Pyle hardware store at Fairfield and a member of the board of trustees of this county town, one of the active and influential figures in the general commercial and civic life of the place, is a native son of California, a member of one of the pioneer families here, and all his life has been spent in this state, a resident of Solano county since 1912. Mr. Witherow was born in Shasta county on April 20, 1886, and is a son of Samuel N. and Susan V. (Darrah) Witherow, the latter of whom is still living, now a resident of Richmond, California. She also was born in Shasta county and is a daughter of S. H. Darrah, who had come to California in the early '50s, crossing the plains in a covered wagon, and had established his home in Shasta county.

The late Samuel N. Witherow, who died at his home in Shasta in 1924, was born in the fine old Quaker town of Danville in central Indiana and was there reared. As a young man, in the early '70s, he came to California and located at Shasta, where he became engaged in teaching school and where after his marriage he established his home. He took an active part in the general affairs of that city and county, was an influential figure in the political life of the community and in 1894 was elected clerk of Shasta county. By successive reelections he was retained in that office and was thus serving at the time of his recent death, this public service having covered a period of thirty years.

Reared in Shasta county, William H. Witherow had his schooling there and early became interested in mercantile operations.

After some practical experience in mercantile business at Kennett and at Coram in his home county he closed out his interests there and in 1912, he then being twenty-six years of age, came to Solano county and became employed as a clerk in the store of B. & L. Wing at Suisun. Not long afterward he transferred his connection to the store of H. Rummelsberg & Son at that place and was engaged as manager of the grocery department of that store for nine years or until he moved to Fairfield and here be-

came engaged in business on his own account, opening at that place a hardware store on Texas street. In 1923 he sold that store to Evans & Pyle and has since been connected with the same as manager. In 1922 Mr. Witherow was elected a member of the town board and has since been serving in that important public capacity, head of the street department of the board's operations.

In 1909, at Redding, William H. Witherow was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Green, who was born in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, daughter of A. G. Green, and who has been a resident of California since 1908.. Mr. and Mrs. Witherow have a pleasant home at Fairfield and are helpful participants in the city's general social affairs. Mr. Witherow is a member of the Masonic order, raised a Master Mason in Reading Lodge No. 254 at Redding in his old home county. Upon coming to Solano county he took a demit from his home lodge and has since been a member of the Masonic lodge at Suisun (No. 55), of which he now is the worshipful master. He was one of the active promoters of the Lions Club at Fairfield, organized in 1924, and was elected first president of the same. Mr. Witherow is recognized as one of the real "live wires" in the promotion of the general interests of his home town and is a consistent "booster" of all proper movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare in that favored community.

---

#### ANTONY LAVEZZO.

Italy has sent some of her finest citizens to California, where they have contributed their quota to the improvement and development of the farm lands and other interests, and have become fine citizens in every respect, an honor to their adopted country. Among this number is Antony Lavezzo, proprietor of a fine farm on the Benicia road near Vallejo. Mr. Lavezzo was born in Genoa, Italy, on the 26th day of February, 1889, and is the son of John and Angela (Lagomarsino) Lavezzo. His parents went to South America, where they remained for several years, but returned to Italy and there remained permanently. His father was for thirty years engaged in the commission business there, but is now devoting his attention to farming.

Antony Lavezzo received a good education in the public schools of his native land and learned the trades of slatemaking and shoemaking. When he was twenty years of age he emigrated to the United States, coming direct to San Francisco, and the ensuing four years were spent there and in the other Bay cities. He learned the baker's trade and followed it during that period, but in 1914 he came to Solano county and first located in Green valley, where he engaged in the raising of vegetables. In 1916 he located on the property where he now lives, comprising twenty acres of fine land, and this he eventually bought. After buying it he made a number of permanent and substantial improvements, including

the erection of a fine, modern home, and in the operation of this farm he has been successful, being now quite comfortably situated. He has devoted much hard work to the place but has received gratifying returns from the land. Mr. Lavezzo was one of the organizers and the first president of the Vegetable Growers Association, which position he still holds. In every possible way he has done his share in advancing the general welfare and prosperity of his community and has taken a good citizen's interest in the public affairs of the locality where he lives.

*Mr. Lavezzo* married Miss Louise Querolo, who also was born in Italy, and they have four children, Romeo, Evelyn, Helen Catharine and Thomas Fortunato. Fraternaly Mr. Lavezzo is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and politically is independent.

---

#### DOMINIC JAMES GLOVER.

Among the enterprising business men and public-spirited citizens of Vallejo, a man who has lived a life of persistent and indomitable industry and who is now reaping the fruits of his former years of toil, is Dominic James Glover, who was born in Vallejo on the 4th day of July, 1884, son of Dominic J. and Elizabeth (Duffy) Glover. His father was a native of Austria, from which country he was brought to the United States when he was nine years of age, the family landing at New York, where he lived for a number of years, securing his education in the public schools and then being employed as a ship calker. Later he came to California and was employed in the government mint at San Francisco for a number of years. His death occurred in 1921 and he is survived by his widow. She came across the plains from New York in her girlhood, and the old school which she attended after arriving here is still standing near her home.

Dominic J. Glover is thus the scion of sterling old pioneer stock in paternal and maternal lines. He received his educational training in the public schools and St. Vincent's school. He then went to the Mare Island navy yard and served his apprenticeship as a sailmaker. He continued to work there and was employed on the island sixteen years. In 1912 he established his present business in Vallejo and has enjoyed a fine measure of prosperity. His brother, George R. Glover, is associated with him and they do all kinds of canvas work, making yacht sails, awnings, tents and anything else demanded in their line. They do all them-own - work, including the iron work incidental to new awnings and other special work, and have commanded a full share of the local patronage in their lines. George R. Glover enlisted for service during the World war and took an active part in much of the hard fighting in France, being with the Yankee division.

Mr. Glover has always given his support to the republican party. He is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men and the Daughters

of Pocahontas. He and his brother are lovers of outdoor life and all forms of athletics. George R. Glover was at one time a professional boxer, fighting under the ring name of Young Atte11. Dominic J. Glover has always taken a deep interest in the upbuilding and advancement of Vallejo and never refuses his cooperation in the promotion of measures designed to better the city or advance its interests in any way. He is a genial and companionable man and he is held in high esteem throughout the community, where his abilities and fine personal character are fully recognized and appreciated.

---

SILAS R. SONNELAND.

Silas R. Sonneland, manager of the Fairfield plant of the Noah Adams Lumber Company of Oakland and one of the prominent figures 'in the general industrial life of Solano county's delightful county town, is an Oregonian by birth, an Iowan by rearing and a Californian by choice and inclination, a resident of this state for the past fifteen years and more and quite content to be regarded as a Californian until he dies, for he has found conditions in this state very much to his liking. Mr. Sonneland was born at Marshfield on the bay in Coos county, Oregon, June 8, 1878, and was but a child when his parents moved with their family from there to Oakland, California, and later to Iowa, in which latter state, at New Sharon and at Harlan, he received excellent schooling.

Mr. Sonneland's first gainful employment was as a telegraph operator on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. He later had service as an operator on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road and on the Rock Island and then became engaged in railroad construction operations, going on in the engineering department as a member of a surveying crew and finishing his operations along that line as superintendent of construction, with particular reference to bridge work, concrete work, grading and the like. These services were rendered in behalf of the Chicago & Great Western and the St. Louis, Kansas City & Colorado lines for awhile and then he went with the Illinois Central on that company's big job of double tracking from Cairo, Illinois, to New Orleans, and finishing that section of this road from St. Louis to Paw Paw Junction. He later was engaged on survey work for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and on the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern road from Vancouver to Boundary Falls, British Columbia, and then became employed as auditor in the operations of the P. Welch Company on the Spokane, Portland & Seattle road, continuing thus engaged until in 1907, when he became engaged in the lumber business at Ranier, Oregon. Three years later, in 1910, he closed out his interests there and came to California, becoming here employed in the operations of the Port Costa Lumber Company at Vallejo. Two years later he transferred his connection to the Sunset Lumber Company at Oakland and established his home in

that city, later becoming connected with the operations of the Noah Adams Lumber Company of Oakland and in 1923 was placed in charge of that company's plant and lumber yards at Fairfield, where he since has been thus engaged, though until recently he and his wife continued to maintain their home in Oakland, where he has realty interests. The Fairfield plant of the Noah Adams Lumber Company was established in 1913 and since Mr. Sonneland has been in charge of the same he has done much to expand its operations and has built up a fine business throughout the excellent trade area centering at Fairfield.

Mr. Sonneland is a charter member of the locally influential and interesting Fairfield Lions Club and is the present (1926) president of the same. He is a Scottish Rite and Royal Arch Mason, affiliated with the blue lodge (Franklin No. 143) at Courtland, with the chapter at Suisun and with the consistory at Oakland and is also a member of Oakland Lodge No. 171, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, affiliated with Chapter No. 2 at Suisun. He likewise is affiliated with the Oakland branch of the Sciots organization. In 1911, at San Francisco, Mr. Sonneland was united in marriage to Miss Euella A. Apperson, who was born at Corinth, Mississippi. They not only have a pleasant home at Oakland but have recently completed and are now living in a new home at Fairfield.

---

#### HERMANN HATT.

One of the honored retired citizens of Vallejo is Hermann Hatt, a man who has led a worthy life and done much for the preservation of the good name of the community, having in his makeup the essential qualities of good citizenship. Mr. Hatt was born in Frankfort, Germany, on the 16th day of April, 1859, the son of John J. and Paulina A. (Ziler) Hatt. The family came to California in 1871, at which time the father had retired from active business life, and located first at Vallejo, later locating at Napa. One of the sons and a daughter of this family had come to this country the preceding year. The parents established a chicken farm at Napa and there they spent the remaining years of their lives, both being now deceased.

Hermann Hatt attended the public schools of his native land and after reaching this country became a seafaring man, plying the waters between Vallejo and San Francisco until about 1880, when he efigagett in farming in Napa county, which vocation he followed for twelve years. He then came to Vallejo and obtained a position in the navy yard as machinist's helper. There he continued as an employe of the government for twenty-four years, four months and four days, at the end of which time he was retired as a machinist and has since been living quietly in his comfortable home in Vallejo.

Mr. Hatt married Miss Elizabeth Clavo, who comes of an old pioneer family of this locality, her father, Nicholas Clavo, having been one of the early settlers of the community. To Mr. and Mrs. Hatt were born six children, Herman O., Rudolph, Harry, William, Josephine and Albert. Harry Hatt enlisted for service in the World war, but got only as far as New York city. William Hatt also enlisted and served eighteen months with the fighting forces in France. One grandchild, Beatrice Reona Stevenson, lives with Mr. Hatt and his wife. Ever since he became a citizen here Mr. Hatt has given his support to the republican party and has taken a commendable interest in the public affairs of his community, supporting every measure for its betterment along material, civic or moral lines. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Improved Order of Red Men. He has ever been active in the community life of Vallejo and was an active member of the old volunteer fire department of that city. He is a man of sterling qualities of character, generous and kindly in his relations with those about him, and is held in the highest esteem and regard throughout the community.

---

FRED F. MAVES.

Fred F. Ma<sup>y</sup>es, a well known and well established contractor in the building trades at Suisun, Solano county, making a specialty of brick, plastering and stucco construction, is widely known throughout this section for the high quality of his work. He is a native of the Badger state but has been a resident of California for nearly twenty years and is thoroughly familiar with conditions here. Mr. Ma<sup>y</sup>es was born on a farm in Dunn county, Wisconsin, not far west of the city of Eau Claire, March 19, 1881. When fourteen years of age he was apprenticed to the trade of a brick mason under the direction of a competent contractor in that city and became a skilled craftsman in that and allied lines of the building trades, a vocation he ever since has followed.

It was in 1907 that Mr. Ma<sup>y</sup>es came to California. For a time he was employed in the operations of the powder company at Pinole, Contra Costa county, and then began working at his trade in Martinez, in that same county. In 1910 he located at Napa, becoming employed there as foreman of construction for one of the leading building contractors of that city, and was thus employed there for seven or eight years, during that time having had a hand in the erection of some of the most important buildings, residences and business blocks put up in that city and in St. Helena and Calistoga. In 1919 Mr. Ma<sup>y</sup>es became established in business on his own account at Suisun, where he ever since has made his home, he and his family being very comfortably situated there.

As noted above, Mr. Ma<sup>y</sup>es' specialty is brick and cement work, plastering and stucco construction, and as the special agent in his territory for the use of the widely popular Hoffite material for stucco con-