

# Humboldt County

## CALIFORNIA



HUMB. CO. COLLECTION

*Chinese in Humboldt County* See p. 31

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**Population.** The population of Humboldt County was, in 1880, 15,512; in 1890, 23,469; in 1900, 27,104; in 1910, 33,857. Allowing the same rate of increase since 1910 as was found in the decade from 1900 to 1910, the population at the end of 1914 was 37,665. 40 per cent of this population was in the City of Eureka; 20 per cent in the eleven next larger cities and towns; and the remaining 40 per cent in the smaller towns and rural districts.

About 68 per cent of the total population is native born white, and 27 per cent is foreign born white. Nearly 5 per cent is of Indian descent, and the census of 1910 lists 40 negroes, 6 Chinese, and 6 Japanese. Of the foreign born population, the largest number is from Canada; and the remainder chiefly from northern Europe and from Italy. From the first settlements in 1850, the growth of population has been slow but steady; and the nationality and character of the newcomers has been largely determined by the dominant influence of the lumber industry, and of late years by dairying.

**Transportation.** Although not connected with the outer world by rail until late in the year 1914, Humboldt had made surprising development prior to that time; and this was made possible by its possession of a safe and commodious harbor, accessible to vessels of all but the deepest draft. And while the new railroad will certainly be a most important element in the future development of the county, its water communication will always remain the dominant factor in the transportation of many of its products, and will always insure steady and reasonable freight rates. An average of about 1,000 vessels passes in and out of Humboldt Bay yearly, their tonnage approximating 600,000 net tons. These carry the lumber and other products of Humboldt to all the ports of the Pacific Coast, and to many foreign countries. The opening of the Panama Canal will greatly increase these shipments, especially of lumber, to the eastern coast of the United States. Humboldt has three lines of regular freight and passenger steamers plying to San Francisco, and one line to Coos Bay, Astoria, and Portland, Oregon. Five or six lines of steam schooners carrying lumber, other freight, and passengers, furnish connections with all the California ports. Sea going gasoline power boats run to all ports north of Humboldt as far as the Chetco river, Oregon. In summer, steam schooners run from San Francisco to Shelter Cove, and to Mattole Landing, near the mouth of the Mattole river.

The recently completed line of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad runs from San Francisco via Sausalito or Tiburon to Eureka, 283 miles, and on through Arcata to Trinidad, 28 miles further north. For the major portion of its course through Humboldt it follows down the valley of Eel river, and in all the upper half of this valley much development in horticulture and agriculture is expected;—in fact, is under way. The land here is very fertile, but hilly:

## POTENT FACTS.

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Humboldt Has:—

Great extent; good lands at fair prices; its own lumber, fuel, food, wool, and leather; equable temperature, abundant rainfall, and consequent healthfulness; diversity of products, great natural resources, balance of trade always in its favor.

It Has Not:—

Chinese or Japanese; Spanish or railroad grants; irrigation; serious pests of vegetables or fruit; summer thunder storms, cold winters, severe frosts, cyclones, or blizzards; crop failures, from any cause.

It Needs:—

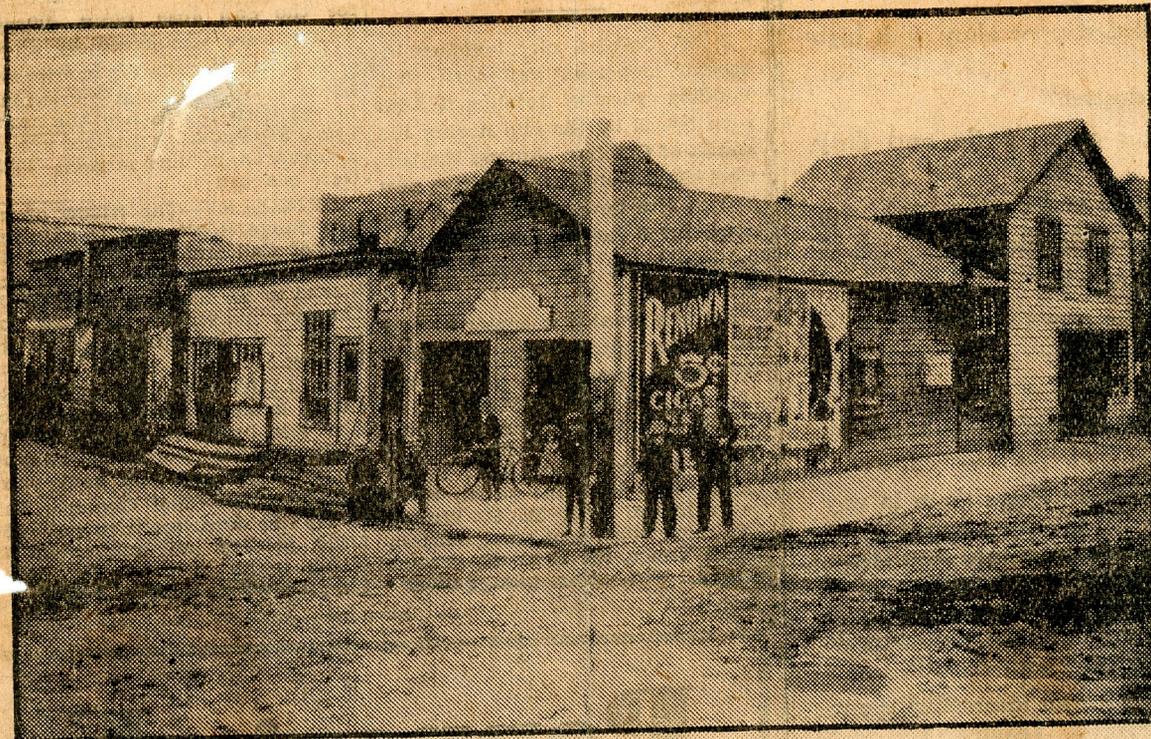
More capital and more manufactures.  
Capable, energetic settlers, who mean business.



LAMBERT & MCKEEHAN, PRINTERS  
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA

# Reminders of a Day Long Since Gone

Nov. 1, 1931



# Oriental's Ordered From County in 1885 After Tong War Outbreak Here

By WILL. N. SPEEGLE

Nov. 1/31

"No tickee, no washee."

Strange as it seems, the aforesaid manifesto was frequently issued within the precincts of this municipality many years ago.

John Chinaman was a familiar figure in the business activities of Eureka and other Humboldt county localities and did most of the laundry work of the community, excepting that which was done by the frugal housewives.

When gold was discovered in California it wasn't long before the wily Chink heard the news and a hegra from his celestial country followed, with the result that every mining camp and every village, town and city in this state boasted a "Chinatown." Eureka was no exception, but differed from other cities in that the Chinatown was located right in the heart of the business section.

In most of the smaller California towns the Chinamen were located "across the railroad tracks." In those early days Eureka didn't boast such a thing as a railroad track, so that Chinatown wasn't sent to any prescribed locality. The result was that property owners right down in the heart of things made it possible for the creation of a Chinatown, which was confined largely to the district bounded by Third, F, Fifth and E streets with the actual center about at Fourth and E streets.

## EUREKA'S CHINA TOWN

There was a gulch running diagonally through the blocks bounded by the aforesaid streets and the shacks and hovels which made up Chinatown were located along the banks of that gulch which in the winter time carried considerable moving water, but in the summer became a fetid swamp, made foul by offal from the Chinese houses there. Dried fish, rotting vegetables, slumgullion, opium and what not exuded an odor that would contaminate a Saint, but John Chinaman thrived on it. He was naturally clean about his person but knew nothing about hygiene and cared less.

The Chink went on the principle that a little stink is nothing among friends, and surrounded by this odor he carried on his business in the day time and slept soundly on a foul smelling bunk at night.

In the height of its glory Eureka's Chinatown housed about 300 male and 20 female Chinese. Other Chinamen lived in various isolated huts where they operated rick gardens. Be it said to their

David Kendall, a respectable citizen of Eureka, a member of the city council, who lived at First and E streets, had finished his evening meal and was returning to his lively business at the corner of second and H streets. He had walked down E street to Fourth and had reached a point near where the Georgeson building now stands when a stray bullet fired by one of the belligerent Chinamen hit him and he died from the wound a few minutes later.

Louis Ballschmidt, a youth, who afterwards became well known here as the manager of H. H. Buhne Company's big store on First street, was also hit by one of the bullets intended for a rival tong member. The bullet lodged in his foot and he carried it for the rest of his life.

Five minutes after Councilman Kendall was shot the town was ablaze with excitement. Hot headed ones wanted to set fire to Chinatown, others wanted to do other rash things but saner heads prevailed and a mass meeting was called and held at Centennial hall on Fourth street between F and G where the rear of the Daly building now stands. The hall was packed to suffocation. Fiery oratory was indulged in and it was finally decided that a committee of sixteen prominent citizens should be appointed and that this committee should visit the Chinese the following morning and give them orders to pack their chattels and leave the county and never come back.

## ORDERED TO LEAVE

Leading Chinamen sensing the fact that the time had come for them to get out spread the word among their fellows and shortly afterward a lot of their merchandise had been moved to the streets and they prepared for a hasty departure. But some one spread the suggestion among them that they didn't have to leave unless they wanted to and this idea becoming prevalent those who had moved their belongings to the street took them back into their hovels and decided to make a stand against being forced to go.

When the Chinese took this stand

a carpenter named Morse got a crew together and erected a scaffold on Fourth street between E and F and supplied it with a rope with a hangman's noose dangling in position ready for action.

Seeing the temper of the citizens and fearing that violence might be done the committee of sixteen appointed at the mass meeting decided that it would not be a good idea to wait till the next morning to issue the edict to the Chinamen and so quietly visited the Chinese leaders and told them that they had better get themselves and their belongings aboard the steamers and get out at once. The action of the committee bore immediate fruit and before daylight every Chinaman in the down town district had packed up and was ready to embark.

It so happened that the passenger steamers City of Chester and Humboldt were in port at the time. The committee arranged that the Chinese should be given passage on these two boats and so the members of the rival tongs were put on different boats and were soon on their way to San Francisco. The steamer Humboldt carried 135 and the steamer City of Chester 175.

averaged from \$20 to \$50 one can readily figure that the rental received was a magnificent return on the investment.

## PEACEABLE RACE

The first Chinaman who came to California were peaceable and made no trouble, but as the news went back to their homes in China that they were prospering in the Golden State the Tong factions became active and they came in large numbers. Many bad men were imported and ere long wherever Chinamen congregated there were feuds which resulted in frequent killings and which often menaced the lives of innocent whites.

The Chinese Exclusion Act had not been passed by congress at that time and there was no limit to how many Celestials could come to this country. New ones arrived on every ship and were scattered through California. Later, as all know who remember their political history, a ban was placed on Chinese immigration and the influx of the Mongol ceased, excepting through secret avenues. But the gates had been let down too long and every Chinatown of any size in the state had several Tong factions and the members went on a rampage very often.

So frequent had these outbreaks occurred that throughout the state the slogan "The Chinese Must Go" became a household word. It was when the people were aroused to their utmost that a tragedy was enacted in the Chinatown of Eureka which became the death knell to the Mongolians who had made this

county their home for a long period of years.

There had been a number of uprisings among the Chinese and in nearly all of them one or more killed. The officers were powerless to cope with the situation. Many arrests were made and accused Chinamen were brought to trial but the wily Chink made the poorest kind of a witness so far as getting convictions was concerned. To all material questions the only answer that the prosecuting attorneys could get from them was "me no savvy." No amount of threatening could get any further information.

## TONG WAR BREAKS OUT

All this occurred at a time when the wires between this section and the outside world were down. News of the tragedy and what followed had reached elsewhere. A heavy fog prevailed. The steamers made a quiet entrance into San Francisco on Sunday morning and the Chinamen had all landed and scattered to the various lanes, alleys and by-ways of San Francisco's Chinatown before anyone in the bay city was aware of what had happened. It was a most propitious ending of the migration so far as those who sent them away were concerned but it was bad for the Chinese for they had scattered to the four winds and any effort to get them together again would have been a failure.

Fortunately, none of the Chinamen owned real estate here, for otherwise the matter might have caused international complications and the federal government might have acted to return the Chinks to this city.

## SUIT BROUGHT AGAINST EUREKA

There was an aftermath to the incident that came near being tragic to this section financially. The Chinese Six Companies brought suit against the City of Eureka for \$6,000,000 damages which they claimed the Chinese had suffered through their expulsion. S. M. Buck, city attorney at a salary of about \$25 a month, fought the case for Eureka and after a period of several months the case was dropped. Buck then sued the city for extra payment for his handling of the case but the courts decided that as he was city attorney at the time it was his duty to defend the city at no further cost than his small salary, so Eureka came out of the affair with no expense.

The ridding of Eureka's Chinatown of its population did not mean that there were no Chinese

left in the county. Arcata had a considerable number and there were Mongolian truck gardeners in many sections, some of them within the city limits of Eureka. Several were brought in from near by camps in wagons and shipped below a few days after the main contingent left.

Some who remained tried to purchase property in Eureka and Arcata so that they could not be forced out, but this was made impossible. It took nearly a year to rid the community of the last Chinaman, the final departure being made in January, 1888. Even then there was one Chinaman left, but he lived way off in the mountains in the northwestern part of the county and had had no contact with his fellow countrymen for a long period. He had married a native of this country, was raising a family and was considered a splendid citizen. He was allowed to remain and no effort was made to have him go.

## COMMITTEE OF 16

The committee of sixteen which spread the word among the Chinamen by which they made their hasty get away was made up of prominent citizens, practically all of whom have either passed on or moved to other parts. Only one member is known to live here at this time.

Hon Frank McGowan was a member of that committee and played a very prominent part in the activities of those fateful times,

lending not only his oratory but his personal efforts in carrying out the will of the people. He delights to relate the humorous incidents of that stirring time.

He tells of the effort made by a citizen to hide a young Chinaman who had been a household servant. This was reported on the streets the night before the big migration and a double fisted woodsman of giant proportions who heard what was said, quietly went to the house where the young Chinaman was supposed to be and finding him there took him by the scruff of the neck and the seat of his baggy trousers and marched him down Fourth street to a place where there would be no doubt that he would be a passenger on the outgoing boat the next day. Frank also tells a joke on himself. Several years after the Chinese expulsion, when living in San Francisco he was conferring with two or three other attorneys and there was a well known Chinaman in the party. Turning to the Chinaman Frank said "Why don't you go to Eureka" and quick as a flash the Chinaman said "There are too d--n many Irish there." That cleared that question up.

## TARGETS FOR YOUTHS

It is now almost 45 years since the last of the Chinamen left here and the younger generation have during all that time been denied the thrill of throwing rocks at the China houses. That was a favorite pastime in the early days. There was some irresistible force that impelled the blue blooded youth to pelt the "Chinese" houses from a safe distance and then delight in listening to the jargon of the irate

Chinks as they came running to the street in the hope of catching the guilty parties. It was rare sport, but has been denied the youth of Humboldt county the past 45 years.

Once the names Sing Lee, Hop Sing, Wing Fat, Wing Duck, Wing Chung, Wing Wo, Yet Gee, Chop Suey and a host of others were familiar here, but now they are in the discard and are heard no more in this balliwick.

One who claims to know says that in the Chinese territory across the sea every man, woman and child knows that Eureka is a bad place for Chinamen. They do not know where Eureka is. It might be in Patagonia or South Africa, so far as their knowledge of location goes, but they know that it is no place for them, and so over a period of nearly half a century this has been a dreaded spot with them. The method of getting rid of them was most drastic and was permanently effective.

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 Humboldt Times. Feb. 1939

## Scattering Remarks of Interest —Past and Present

By W. N. S. *lined*  
 Feb '39

### WHEN THE CHINESE WERE HERE

Eureka's chief claim to importance in the world of affairs is the eviction of the Chinese in the year 1885. A well-beloved citizen had been killed by a stray bullet fired by a Chinaman during a Tong war, and the entire Chinese population was rounded up and placed aboard an outgoing steamer and told never to return. None of them ever did. Although there were many hot heads in the group that ordered the Chinamen to leave, and although a scaffold was erected at the corner of Fourth and F streets, there was no bloodshed and not a "celestial" was harmed physically.

It is not at all wonderful that there should be frequent reference to the time that Chinatown was denuded of its entire population. There are still many people residing in Eureka who were members of the committee that helped to herd the Chinamen onto the boats, but it is not likely that any of them can recall the names of more than one or two of those who had made their homes in Eureka for many years. It is interesting to note a group of names of prominent Chinamen who made up the more important and wealthy of the Chinks who lost their business and "happy" homes. Among them were: Annie, Ah Sing, Ah Ling, Ah Sam, Ah Dye, Ah Lung, Ah June, Mary, Gah, Sing Hop, Ah Shing, Ah Long, Lung Yek, Kang Hop, Wing Ling, Sam Kee, Gee Hop, Sung Yen, Sing Kee, Sam Lee, Bow Lung, and Sing Yen.

These are not fictitious names. They are real and after the Chinese landed in San Francisco they began suit against the city of Eureka for \$3,000,000, claiming that to be the value of their property and businesses. However, they did not win their suit. In comparison with the amount sued for is the fact that none of the owners were assessed more than \$125 for all holdings, and their annual tax payment was only one dollar for each of the more opulent ones.

Eureka bears the distinction of being the only city in the United States to evict a Mongolian population.

**Scattering Remarks of Interest****—Past and Present**

By WILL N. SPEEGLE

Jan. 26/44 **OUT OF THE PAST**

Since beginning this recounting of things in Humboldt county from the time of my arrival here, there have been several requests for a rehearsal of the episode of driving the Chinese from our shores. It happened some years before I came, but was a topic of general conversation throughout the county even though several years had passed since the tragedy which culminated in the nationally important movement against the Orientals residing here. One balmy evening in April, 1885, Councilman David Kendall was wending his way toward the business district when, at Fourth and E streets, a bullet from a gun in the hands of a member of a Chinese tong struck him and caused his immediate death. Two other bullets from the assassin's gun struck small boys, their injuries were only temporary.

Eureka's Chinatown at the time was in the vicinity of Fourth and E streets in a number of small redwood shacks. Several hundred Chinese had lodgings there and in their group were members of warring tongs. On previous occasions when they resorted to pistols and there were killings among their own numbers they were warned that to continue their tong wars would some day mean that they would be driven out of the community, lock, stock and barrel. So, when the honored and respected member of the city council was killed, even though the bullet was not intended for him, the citizens arose in their wrath and with few exceptions were bent upon carrying out their threat. They gathered in Centennial Hall on Fourth Street between F and G. Hundreds were unable to gain entrance because of the size of the gathering. While speakers were exhorting the people to take vengeance, a scaffold was erected at the corner of Fourth and F streets and a hangman's noose, tied by John Haney, hung over the trap. Many of the hot heads were bent upon hanging some of the Chinese, but they were restrained.

Instead of resorting to hangings or other violence, it was decided that every Chinese in Humboldt county should be rounded up, brought to Eureka and put aboard steamers bound for San Francisco. This was quickly done and within 48 hours every Humboldt Chinese, with the exception of two, was on his way to the coast metropolis. Charley Moon, one of the Chinese, was employed on the Bair ranch many miles away in the hills. He had married and had several children in the northern part of the county. He was never molested. Another Chinese is also reported to have been allowed to remain on one of the stock ranches where he was employed. Charley Moon continued to reside in Humboldt county and had many friends. A few months ago, well over 80 years of age, he died while residing in the Freshwater region on a small

trance because of the size of the gathering. While speakers were exhorting the people to take vengeance, a scaffold was erected at the corner of Fourth and F streets and a hangman's noose, tied by John Haney, hung over the trap. Many of the hot heads were bent upon hanging some of the Chinese, but they were restrained.

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After the exit of the Chinese from Humboldt county the city of Eureka was sued for \$6,000,000 by the Chinese Six Companies of San Francisco, but the courts declared against them and no damages were ever collected.

Chinese have given Humboldt a wide berth ever since the tongs brought about their removal, but there was a time when a group of them was brought here to work in a fish cannery at the mouth of Eel River. They didn't remain long, however. Citizens formed a committee which visited the owners of the cannery and ordered the removal of the Chinese, or else. The cannery owners then brought the Chinese to Eureka where they were domiciled on Daby Island until a steamer could transport them to San Francisco. And that's the history of the Chinese in this part of the state.

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Chinese in Humboldt County  
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# The Eureka Incident of 1885

## Fatal Shooting of City Councilman In Tong War Led to Exclusion Of Chinese from Eureka and Humboldt

By WALLY LANDIS

"Just as we were going to press last night a serious riot broke out in the Chinese quarters just opposite our office. Some ten or twelve shots were fired, and noise enough made to shave the bones of Confucius. We do not know the extent of damage, but we saw one Chinaman laid out with a bullet through his lung. Dr. Davis took the ball out of his back. He is a gone Chinaman. We saw another fellow with a wound in his hand. The officers captured about a half a dozen pistols, and locked up as many Chinamen. Since the above was in type it has been learned that another one was shot in the abdomen and will die."

The foregoing news note is from a bulletin which appeared in the old Eureka Times on February 1, 1885. Four days later an editorial appeared in the Times entitled "Wipe Out the Plague-Spots" which called for removal of Eureka's Chinatown by the Board of Health.

Chinatown lay right in the heart of what is now Eureka's business district. This area of slums and filth was bounded by Fourth and Fifth streets on the north and between E and F streets on the east and west. Within this district lived some two-hundred Chinese of continually fighting rival Tong. Abounding with gambling dives, opium dens, and brothels, this area was a blot upon the growing city of Eureka. There was no sewage or garbage disposal system in these slums and the place reeked of foul, nauseating smells.

"Under the present condition of things there is not only danger from a moral point of view, but continual danger to life and property. It will not do for our citizens to longer permit such life-taking demonstrations as the one witnessed in the Chinese quarter, and on one of the principal streets of the city, last Saturday night. It was only a wonder, considering the number of shots fired and the wild manner in which the shooting was done, that some innocent pedestrian was not made to bite the dust. Such a result is liable to

come at any time, as long as the representatives of two conflicting Chinese companies are allowed to live in such close proximity. If ever such an event does occur—if ever an unoffending white man is thus offered up on the altar of paganism, we fear it will be good-bye to Chinatown."

(From the editorial "Wipe Out the Plague-Spots," Times, Thursday, February 5, 1885.)

The very next evening, Friday, February 6, 1885 at 6:05 p.m., a drama exploded right in Eureka's midst.

### COUNCILMAN SLAIN

City Councilman David C. Kendall had just finished supper at his home and was walking toward his downtown office. Just as he was crossing the street at the north-east corner of Fourth and E, two Chinese on opposite sides of the street drew revolvers and began shooting at each other, firing some ten or twelve shots. Councilman Kendall, caught between the two Chinese, was hit by a stray bullet and fell on his face, dead.

Within five minutes Eureka was in a blaze of excitement. Police officers captured one Chinese, supposed to have been the one who shot Kendall. Cries went up to hang him, and with great difficulty the police finally got the badly shaken Chinese in jail. By this time a crowd of several hundred

men had gathered at the corner of Fourth and E streets yelling to burn the Chinese out, and to hang them all.

Fortunately, such a calamity did not occur. Someone had the presence of mind to call for a meeting at Centennial Hall and within twenty minutes after Kendall's death, some six hundred men were gathered at the hall.

Mayor Walsh was named chairman of the meeting and H. H. Buhne was appointed secretary. The men were addressed by A. J. Bledsoe, Frank McGowan, and James Brown who spoke on the evils of Chinatown and its menace to the community. T. M. Brown and George W. Hunter spoke next, and although they sympathized with the anger of the crowd, they counselled moderation. The crowd was almost to the point of riot and if any clue had been known as to the identity of the killers they would have been lynched to the nearest lamp-post. No such clue was known however and Mr. Hunter moved that a committee of fifteen be appointed to proceed to Chinatown and notify the Chinese to pack up and get out within twenty-four hours. Among the committee members were: H. H. Buhne, Jr., chairman; C. G. Taylor, Frank McGowan, W. S. Riddle, E. B. Murphy, W. L. Mercer, W. J. Sweasey, A. J. Bledsoe, N. A. Libbey, Dan Mur-

phy, James Simpson, James Brown, W. J. McNamara, H. Libbey, and F. P. Thompson.

### ORDERED TO LEAVE

The committee met and sent for three leaders from each rival Tong. The Chinese were informed that the committee had ordered that they must leave Humboldt County within twenty-four hours. Every element of the city was visited by committee appointees and given notification of the decision of the citizens of Eureka. Several wagon-loads of Chinese from ranches and cook-houses were brought into Eureka and housed in dockside warehouses to await exclusion. There was no resistance offered by the Chinese—they were lucky to get off so easily and they knew it. During the night grim-minded jokesters erected a gallows on Fourth Street as a grisly warning to the Chinese.

By daylight on the morning of February 7, Fourth street was a scene of bustling activity. Stack after stack of household belongings, furniture, clothing, and merchandise were piled in the streets and loaded into wagons, drays, and every form of transportation available. Before noon all of the personal belongings of the Chinese were piled on the Humboldt Bay docks to be placed aboard the two steamships which happened to be in the harbor at the time. These two ships were the "City of Chester" and the "Humboldt."

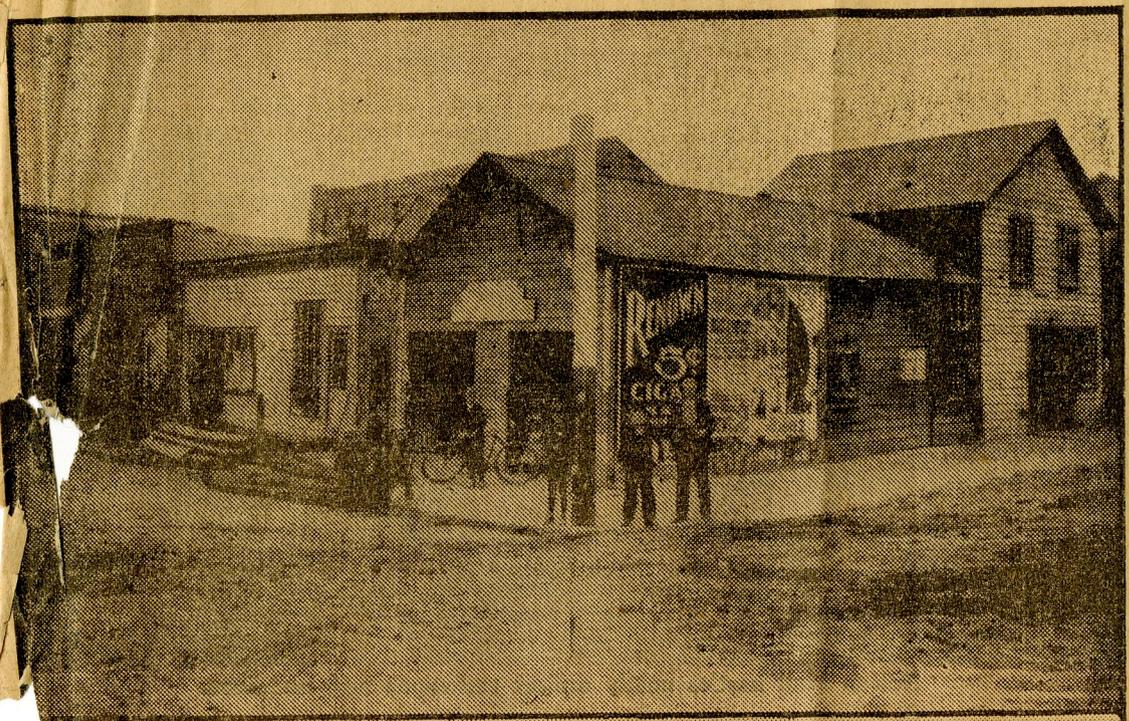
By the morning of February 8, all of the Chinese were gone from Eureka. The "City of Chester" with 175 Chinese and the "Humboldt" with 135 landed at San Francisco on the morning of the twelfth and the expelled Chinese passengers scattered throughout the area. Within an hour after the

arrival of the expelled Orientals, San Francisco's Chinatown was full of gossip about the Eureka Incident. A meeting of the "Ong Cong Gong So," Chinese organization was held at which were many of the expelled Chinese. It was made known at this meeting that a Chinese gangster, nicknamed "Adam Quinn," who had just completed an eight year sentence at San Quentin, and a dozen of his gang members had left for Eureka a week before to take part in the Tong war.

### TROUBLE-MAKERS BLAMED

A reporter of the San Francisco Call interviewed Colonel Bee of the Chinese Consulate about the affair. Colonel Bee stated that the

(Continued on page 22, col 6)



Scenes of Eureka's old Chinatown are shown in the photos above. Top picture is corner of Fourth and E streets where the Georgeson building is now located. Picture looking east on Fourth street from F showing the north side of the street which now is the

THE EUREKA INCIDENT OF 1885

Fatal Shooting of City Councilman In  
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From Eureka and Humboldt

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ARCATA, CALIFORNIA

by Wally Landis

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Fortunately, such a calamity did not occur. Someone had the presence of mind to call for a meeting at Centennial Hall and within twenty minutes after Kendall's death, some six hundred men were gathered at the hall.

*Indignant*  
Mayor Walsh was named chairman of the meeting and H. H. Buhne was appointed secretary. The men were addressed by A. J. Bledsoe, Frank McGowan, and James Brown who spoke of the evils of Chinatown and its menace to the community. T. M. Brown and George W. Hunter spoke next, and although they sympathized with the anger of the crowd, they counselled moderation. The crowd was almost to the point of riot and if any clue had been known as to the identity of the killers they would have been lynched to the nearest lamp-post. No such clue was known however and Mr. Hunter moved that a committee of fifteen be appointed to proceed to Chinatown and notify the Chinese to pack up and get out within twenty-four hours. Among the committee members were: H. H. Buhne, Jr., chairman; C. G. Taylor, Frank McGowan, W. S. Riddle, E. B. Murphy, W. L. Mercer, W. J. Sweasey, A. J. Bledsoe, N. A. Libbey, Dan Murphy, James Simpson, James Brown, W. J. McNamara, H. Libbey, and F. P. Thompson.

#### Ordered to Leave

The committee met and sent for three leaders from each rival Tong. The Chinese were informed that the committee had ordered that they must leave Humboldt County within twenty-four hours. Every element of the city was visited by the committee appointees and given notification of the decision of the citizens of Eureka. Several wagonloads of Chinese from ranches and cook-houses were brought into Eureka and housed in dockside warehouses to await exclusion. There was no resistance offered by the Chinese - they were lucky to get off so easily and they knew it. During the night grim-minded jokesters erected a gallows on Fourth Street as a grisly warning to the Chinese.

By daylight on the morning of February 7, Fourth street was a scene of bustling activity. Stack after stack of household belongings, furniture, clothing, and merchandise were piled in the streets and loaded into wagons, drays, and every form of transportation available. Before noon all of the personal belongings of the Chinese were piled on the Humboldt Bay docks to be placed aboard the two steamships which happened to be in the harbor at the time. These two ships were the "City of Chester" and the "Humboldt."

By the morning of February 8, all of the Chinese were gone from Eureka. The "City of Chester" with 175 Chinese and the "Humboldt" with 135 landed at San Francisco on the morning of the twelfth and the expelled Chinese passengers throughout the area. Within an hour after the arrival of the excluded Orientals, San Francisco's Chinatown was full of gossip about the Eureka Incident. A meeting of the "Ong Cong Gong So," a Chinese organization was held at which were many of the expelled Chinese. It was made known at this meeting that a Chinese gangster, nicknamed "Adam Quinn," who had just completed an eight year sentence at San Quentin, and a dozen of his gang members had left for Eureka a week before to take part in the Tong war.

Trouble-makers Blamed

A reporter of the San Francisco Call interviewed Colonel Bee of the Chinese Consulate about the affair. Colonel Bee stated that the whole trouble in Eureka had been caused by a few lawbreakers, and that all of the Chinese expelled were not criminals. He also deplored the fact that many peaceful merchants had had their businesses broken up by the exclusion.

To this day an Oriental is very rarely seen in Humboldt county. The details of the Eureka Incident have been spread as far away as China itself.

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Andrew Genzoli

NOW, WE CAN ONLY DREAM — While looking about for background material for the Fortuna Diamond Jubilee, I came upon many unusual little items about the southern Humboldt community . . .

A valuable source of information were copies of an old newspaper, the Eel River Valley Advance.

Listed under "truths" about the community and Humboldt I came upon the following which appeared in 1896:

"Not a Chinaman in the county.

Abundant moisture is the rule.

Whatever is planted here grows.

No Spanish grants to fight here.

No railroad land grants to adjust.

Fruit pests are rare in Humboldt.

Never had a bank or crop failure.

Humboldt makes her own leather.

Enough laborers in Humboldt now.

No sudden changes of seasons here.

Malarial disorders shun Humboldt.

Good hill lands at \$2 to \$5 per acre.

Humboldt apples are never wormy.

No long, cold winters in Humboldt.

Plenty of vacant land in Humboldt.

We have cheap lands in abundance.

Our salmon fisheries are productive.

No irrigation required in Humboldt.

Good schools as the State can boast.

Raise our own lumber, fuel and food.

Humboldt is the home of cheap fuel.

Nowhere on earth is lumber cheaper.

Humboldt climate is always equable.

Unlimited natural resources are ours.

Room for ten times present population.

No cyclones, few tramps, little poverty."

Chenoweth in Humboldt County  
LIBRARY, HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY