

IN PINAFORES AND PIGTAILS, SPORTS SHIRTS AND SUSPENDERS, PUPILS OF 1886 DO THEIR LESSONS IN CALIFORNIA SCHOOLHOUSE. ALL OF THEM STILL LIVE IN THE WEST

# **CLASS OF 1886**

Alumni of one-room schoolhouse relive their childhood days When Henry Fenton went to a one-room schoolhouse in California's San Pasqual Valley 58 years ago, he was the bad boy of the school. He usually played hookey and had to be forced back by his mother's buggy whip. Today Henry Fenton is a wealthy rancher and owns the schoolhouse. This summer he had it rebuilt and invited back for a reunion all the children who went to school with him in 1886.

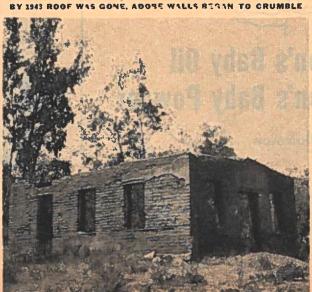
The teacher, who was only 21 in 1886, and 13 of the original 20 pupils are still living. Although the

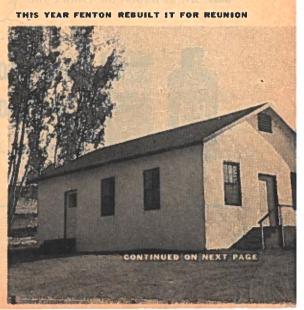
youngest is now 63, they all came back. For a celebration they marched into the renovated schoolhouse and went through their childhood lessons. Donald Moore, 72, recited Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, Albert Moore, 68, followed with Little Bo-Peep. Lottie Sessions, 67, read a lecture on umbrellas, and Spencer Ward, 63, finished up with the fable of the mountain and the squirrel. Then Teacher Elizabeth Roberts, who is now 79, dismissed her class and they all ran out to join their grandchildren in a watermelon feast.

SCHOOL SERVED ALL GRADES BEFORE TURN OF THE CENTURY



WAS GONE, ADORE WALLS BEGAN TO CRUMBLE







# "Now Ill be the mama:

BABY: Let's have some fun, Mom. Pretend you're my baby, and I'm taking care of you ...

MOM: All right, punkin—but be careful! Remember, babies are delicate little items!

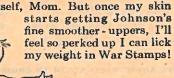
BABY: Precisely, Mom. So if you were my little girl, I'd see that you got plenty of wonderful smooth-overs with Johnson's Baby Oil . . . and lots of nice, soft dustings with Johnson's Baby Powder!

MOM: Whoa! You mean you need both? BABY: All us babies do. Didn't you

hear my doctor say to use Johnson's pure, gentle oil on me often—to help protect me from the irritating effects of urine? Those were his very words! And Johnson's Powder, to help chase little chafes and prickles!

MOM: Goodness, honey-I haven't been such a good mother!

BABY: Well, I haven't been so good myself, Mom. But once my skin starts getting Johnson's





## Johnson's Baby Oil Johnson's Baby Powder

Johnson Johnson





In 1886, on graduation day, entire school poses. Henry Fenton, who behaved himself for first time for his graduation, is the very proper little boy, second from left

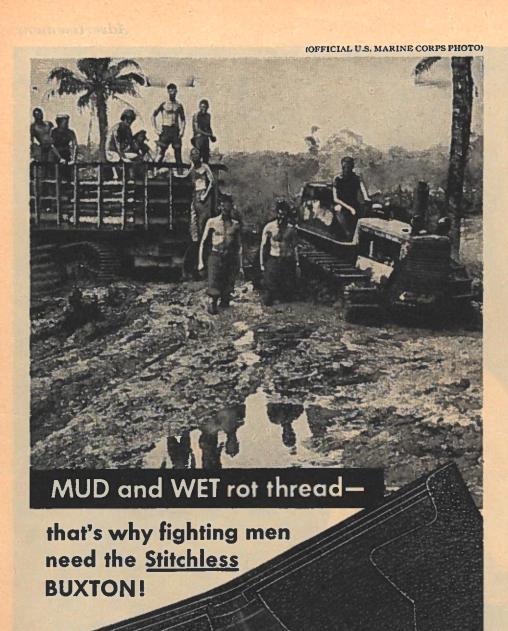


In 1944, on their reunion day, alumni take same pose they took 58 years before. They left empty spaces for the two girls and five boys who are no longer living.



Schoolbell is rung by the teacher to call alumni in for their lessons. They troop in single file, the boys on one side and the girls on the other, just as they did in 1886.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44



Buxton "3-Way" in Levant Goat (black or brown)
-\$3.50 + tax

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Mary Rockwood Peet, 65, housewife and class historian, wears pinafore and pigtails, reads poem about members of class, living and dead. She wrote the poem herself.



Amy Darling Van Auken, 70, gets caught while caricaturing teacher; Spencer Ward, 63, plays innocent. Of living alumni one is doctor, rest are ranchers and housewives.



Albert Moore, 68, yanks Mary Peet's pigtails. He then tried to dip them in imaginary inkwell. After all this Fenton will use schoolhouse to store grain for his cattle.

#### NORTH COUNTY YESTERDAY



Photograph courtesy of the Escondido Historical Society

### Class of '88

Time stands still on the handless schoolhouse clock as the San Pasqual Valley Class of 1886 gathers for a reunion on July 20, 1948. Nine members of the original group of 13 answered when their names were called in the old adobe school at the east end of the valley. The cypress wreaths, arch and "welcome" signs are arranged exactly as 62 years ago for the first day of classes, according to an article by Mary Rockwood Peet. Pictured are teacher Elizabeth Judson Roberts, top;

Albert Moore, Henry Fenton, Don Moore, Ben Ward and Spencer Ward, back row; Edith Ward Francis, Laura Fenton, Mary Rockwood Peet and Cara Ward Webb, front row. The festivities, which lasted three days, included a parade led by a sixmule team and barbecue attended by more than 1,500 San Diego County old-timers at the Fentons' Bandy Canyon Ranch. The final day wound down with a wiener, corn and watermelon feast in honor of Henry Fenton's birthday.