

MISS LUCY HATCH, RAISIN PIONEER, CLAIMED BY DEATH

Fresno Woman Active In Farm
Development Here For
Half Century

Miss Lucy H. Hatch, 64, who pioneered the existing growing industry of the San Joaquin Valley and watched Fresno grow from an insignificant village to its present status as the metropolis of Central California, died yesterday at 410 Divisadero Street. She had been identified with the social and club life of Fresno as well as with the agricultural interests of the county since 1878. She was a charter member of the Fresno Lavender Club and served as its president for three years.

Funeral services will be held at 4 P. M. tomorrow at the Fresno Crematory.

Born In Maine

Miss Hatch was born in Hallowell, Maine, and attended the St. Mary's Academy, now the Holyoke College. After leaving school she was a teacher in Hallowell for three years, and then moved to Hallowell where she taught at the Hallowell University before coming to California and settling in San Francisco. Becoming interested in new land development projects that were attracting attention at that time, Miss Hatch and three other women teachers, Miss M. P. Austin, Miss Cleveland and Miss Hart, purchased 100 acres in a new tract known as the Central California Colony.

Organized Within Year

By the next year, Fresno grapes were produced. They are vines and produced grapes, increasing the business until finally they were engaged in shipping grapes to various parts of the country as far as London. Their raisin work probably was the first started in the San Joaquin Valley.

The house which they built at Hallowell, Vermont, at the property was the first country residence in Fresno County and was located on a grape vine. The property owned by Miss Hatch and her associates is located on 1000 Avenue Street, south of Fresno.

Miss Austin died in 1888 and the sixteen years after her death, Miss Hatch moved to Fresno. Although never married in Hallowell, Miss Hatch was a leader in social and agricultural circles. She was president of the Fresno Lavender Club in 1888, in 1890 and 1891.

The Fresno dryer built by Miss Hatch and her associates for a long time at the south, was the first dryer in the county. A small parking house has since been converted into a dwelling. The dryer was used for decades and social affairs for a number of years.

Miss Hatch was the last of the women that composed the small group that pioneered the raisin industry. Miss Cleveland and Miss Hart were her best friends. Miss Cleveland died in 1890 just before the San Francisco earthquake and Miss Hart in 1903.

George Washington Jones, well-known California writer and author of "The Raisin Industry," was a friend and associate of Miss Hatch. They were acquainted for many years and having been forty-two years old when she died.

The last anniversary of Miss Hatch's death was held at a luncheon at the Fresno Lavender Club at which a large number of friends were gathered.

The only relatives are Miss and Mrs. Jones in the East.

Death Calls



MISS LUCY HATCH

MISS LUCY HATCH, RAISIN PIONEER, CLAIMED BY DEATH

Fresno Woman Active In Farm
Development Here For
Half Century

Miss Lucy H. Hatch, 94, who pioneered the raising-growing industry of the San Joaquin Valley and watched Fresno grow from an insignificant village to its present status as the metropolis of Central California, died yesterday at 916 Divisadero Street. She had been identified with the social and club life of Fresno as well as with the agricultural interests of the county since 1878. She was a charter member of the Parlos Lecture Club and served as its president for three years.

Funeral services will be held at 4 P. M. to-morrow at the Fresno Crematory.

Born In Maine

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Miss Hatch was born in Rockland, Maine, and attended the Mt. Holyoke Seminary now the Holyoke College. After leaving school she was a teacher in Rockland for three years and then moved to Kansas where she taught at the Ottawa University before coming to California and settling in San Francisco. Becoming interested in new land development projects that were attracting attention at that time, Miss Hatch and three other school teachers, Miss M. F. Austin, Miss Cleveland and Miss Hart, purchased 100 acres in a new tract known as the Central California Colony.

Created Raisin Pack

~~For the next ten years their~~ ranch prospered. They set vines and produced raisins, increasing the business until finally they were engaged in shipping raisins to various parts of the country as far as Boston. Their raisin pack probably was the first created in the San Joaquin Valley.

The house which they built at Hedgerow Vineyard at the property was the first two-story residence in Fresno County and was regarded as a show place.

The property owned by Miss Hatch and her associates is located on Elm Avenue, four miles south of Fresno.

Miss Austin died in 1889 and for sixteen years after her death, Miss Hatch remained at the ranch and then moved to Fresno. Although actively engaged in farming, Miss Hatch was a leader in social, civic and musical circles. She was president of the Parlor Lecture Club in 1900, in 1910 and 1911.

Built County's First Dryer

Bull County's First Dryer

The raisin dryer built by Miss Hatch and now used for a barn at the ranch, was the first dryer in this county. A small packing house has since been converted into a dwelling. The dryer was used for dances and social affairs for a number of years.

Miss Hatch was the last of the women that composed the small group that pioneered the raisin industry. Miss Cleveland and Miss Hart never lived here. Miss Cleveland died in 1906 just before the San Francisco earthquake and Miss Hart in 1919.

George Wharton James, well-known California writer and son of John James, one of the first settlers at Oleander, was a friend of Miss Hatch, their acquaintance having begun forty-six years ago.

On her ninety-third birthday, February 28th, 1927, Miss Hatch was the guest of honor at a reception at the Parlor Lecture Club at which a large number of friends were gathered.

Her only relatives are three cousins living in the East.

Transcription of the Newspaper clipping Miss Lucy Hatch, Raisin Pioneer, Claimed by Death

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