

DARBY, Milton Payne
The Sacramento Bee
4-1-1915

BUTTE LOSES ONE OF HER OLDEST PIONEERS

Milton Payne Darby, Who Came
to State in 1851, Passes Away
at Home in Bangor, at
Age of 92 Years

OROVILLE (Butte Co.), April 1.—
In the death of Milton Payne Darby
at his home in Bangor, Butte Coun-
ty losses one of its oldest citizens
and pioneers. Mr. Darby was born
in Alabama on October 29, 1822.

After his marriage to Mary Eliza-
beth Rhodes the two moved to Mis-
souri and in 1851 drove across the
plains to California with an ox
team. They settled near what was
known as Honcut City, where their
first son was born, the first white
child to be born in Butte County.

The survivors are his wife, almost
ninety years of age and seven chil-
dren: Mrs. Martha Thompson of Al-
berta, Canada; Mrs. Mary Brown of
Durham; Mrs. Florence Osgood,
Henry Darby and Robert Darby of
Bangor, Benjamin F. Darby of Oro-
ville, besides thirty grandchildren
and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held this after-
noon from the family residence in
Bangor, interment being in the Ban-
gor cemetery.



Milton Payne Darby
and his wife
Mary Elizabeth (Rhoades) Darby
Abt 1913

MRS. RUTHERFORD NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL

Supervisors Get Mixed in Program and Surprise Themselves; Dr. Reardon Gets Dr. Gates' Old Job

Two surprises were sprung on the public yesterday by the Board of Supervisors, one of which is said to have been somewhat of a surprise to the supervisors, themselves.

Mrs. W. B. Rutherford of Bangor was appointed county superintendent of schools to succeed the late Mrs. M. S. Abrams and Dr. T. B. Reardon of Oroville was named county physician to succeed Dr. W. F. Gates.

It was no surprise to the public, however, when Dr. L. Q. Thompson of Gridley was named county health officer to succeed himself and Marion Copeland was reappointed superintendent of the county hospital at Thermalito.

While the appointment of Mrs. Rutherford meets with general approval throughout the county because of her known qualifications for the office, yet her appointment wasn't on the program, according to those who are "in on the know."

Here is the "low down," according to a seemingly authentic source:

Robert Hill, son-in-law of Supervisor C. E. Porter, was to receive one vote on the first ballot while two women applicants received two each; on the second ballot he was to tie with one of the women, two to two, and on the third ballot his third vote was to be swung to him.

But what the supervisors needed was a dress rehearsal. Hill didn't get any votes on the first ballot and received only one on the second ballot. In the meantime three of the supervisors got mixed up in their instructions and all three voted for Mrs. Rutherford, electing her on the second ballot.

Chico Record 1-8-1915

The vote in the first ballot stood: Miss Nellie Wilson, two; Mrs. T. H. Richards, two; Mrs. Josephine Mansfield, one. The second ballot was: Mrs. W. B. Rutherford, three; Mrs. Richards, one; Robert Hill, one.

The fact that the supervisors had had other plans as to the outcome of

the vote, which went awry, doesn't mean that Mrs. Rutherford is not qualified for the position. Those who have been associated with her for many years are high in their praise of her work and she has made an enviable record.

She is the widow of the late William B. Rutherford, former supervisor from the third district and member of the Board of Education, who died about six years ago. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford had taught school before their marriage. After her husband's death, Mrs. Rutherford resumed her teaching activities and at present is teacher in the Bangor school.

The appointment of Dr. Reardon as county physician came as a surprise to many. He and Dr. Gates, who had been county physician for a number of years, were the only applicants. The vote stood three to two in favor of Dr. Reardon.

Chico Record
9-23-1915

1020 ACRE-TRACT AT BANGOR SOLD

The Los Verjels Land and Water Company has closed a deal whereby it has purchased 1020 acres of orange and olive land near Bangor. The land is a part of the W. T. Bourware estate.

Chico Record

12-12-1915

PIONEER WOMAN OF BANGOR AND CHEROKEE PASS AWAY

OROVILLE, Dec. 11—Mrs. Bridget Knecht, seventy-six years old, mother of Mrs. C. G. Thunen of this city and a pioneer resident of Cherokee, died this morning in Oakland.

Mrs. Byers, Ninety, is Dead

OROVILLE, Dec. 11.—Mrs. Minerva J. Byers, for sixty-three years a resident of Butte county, died last night at her home near Bangor. Death was caused by the infirmities of old age. She was ninety years old.

BANGOR WILL ASSIST IN STARTING NEW INDUSTRY

Oroville
The Daily Register
Feb 21, 1916

KEEN INTEREST IS SHOWN AT MASS MEETING OF GROWERS

That Bangor will assist in the establishment of a fruit shipping industry in this district was evidenced on Saturday night at a meeting held under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of that city. Messrs. J. E. Bergtholdt and J. A. Teagarden of Newcastle were present as well as a dozen or so representatives of the Chamber of Commerce of Oroville. The meeting was very largely attended by landowners of the Bangor district and the keenest interest was displayed throughout the evening.

Tell of Newcastle Industry.

Messrs. Bergtholdt and Teagarden told of the development of the deciduous fruit industry about Newcastle, and declared that this district could take advantage of the experience of Newcastle, thus avoiding the necessity for experimentation. The industry, they declared, was beyond the experimental stage now, and as the best proof of that statement, they called attention to the long term leases on profitable terms that could be made in the Newcastle district.

The speakers contended that the Bangor District had every advantage that the Newcastle district offered.

Planting Suggested.

The interest that was taken in the discussion was shown by the many questions that were asked. In response to one of these questions, Mr. Bergtholdt declared that on a fifty-acre tract in the Bangor District, he would advocate planting of about five acres of plums; a few acres to very early ripening peaches; and the balance in olives, plums, and Bartlett pears.

Transportation Problem An Easy One.

Both speakers declared that the Bangor District was close enough to railroad facilities to make the production of shipping fruits practicable. Discussing this matter, they stated that the Bangor District was even in a more advantageous position than some of the localities in the Newcastle District. They told how in Newcastle the motor truck had solved the problem of road transportation, and how, during the fruit season, motor trucks went from farm to farm, gathering up the fruit along the way. The same thing, it was declared, could be done in the Bangor District.

Will Make Planting.

A number of farmers stated at the conclusion of the meeting that they intended to make a planting to deciduous fruits this year.

The meeting was called to order by Superior Judge H. D. Gregory. At 11 o'clock an adjournment was taken to a neighboring hall, where a sumptuous repast was served by the ladies of the Bangor Chamber of Commerce.

Visit Sunny Slope.

In order that they might better see the country, Messrs. Bergtholdt and Teagarden were taken by C. C. Keyes and E. B. Ward to Bangor early in the afternoon. From Bangor they went to the Sunny Slope Nurseries, where they were tremendously interested in the showing made, and particularly interested in the semi-tropical trees that were growing there. Both men pronounced the district an ideal fruit section.

ALL COUNTY TO CO-OPERATE FOR STATE DISPLAY

The Diamond Match Company will co-operate with the managers of the Butte county exhibit at the State Fair in September by placing in conjunction with the exhibit a display of apilary supplies and honey. Arrangements for the display are being made by W. B. Dickinson, manager of the apilary department of the company.

It is believed the Butte county exhibit will be one of the best county displays in the fair. A letter from Charles Payne, in charge of the fair exhibits, promises the co-operation of the fair officials. A large space, comprising the entire end of the north middle section of the building, has been set aside for Butte county.

The work of gathering the exhibit is proceeding rapidly. Paradise, Cohasset, Durham, Gridley, Biggs, Bangor, and probably Oroville, besides mountain towns which have not as yet been heard from, will assist in making the display of credit.

Durham will be represented by almonds, Paradise by pears, apples, berries and almonds; Chico by prunes, almonds and hops; Gridley and Biggs by rice; Bangor by fruits and vegetables.

The Northern Star Mills and the Durham mills will place a display of flour. Growing rice will be a feature of the exhibit.

Chico Record
7-30-1916

**GREAT OLIVE NURSERY
WILL BE ESTABLISHED**

OROVILLE, July 29.—A. C. St John, one of the most prominent nurserymen in Southern California, has returned to Oroville from Bangor, where he has been inspecting the branch of the famous St. John nurseries now being planted on the property of the Los Verjels Land and Water Company.

The Bangor branch will specialize in olives and will be the largest olive nursery in the States. Over 300,000 olive trees have been planted already. William Munson is in charge of the planting. The head offices of the St. John nurseries are in Los Angeles.

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR.—NO. 217.

FOREST FIRE IN BUTTE IS CONTROLLED

Damage from Flames Between
Wyandotte and Bangor Not
as Great as First Supposed

Desperate Fight Is Made to
Save Orchards; Three Men
Die in Other Timber Blazes

After hours of desperate fighting, the forest fire which burned over 2000 acres of territory between Bangor and Wyandotte during the past two days was brought under control last night. The damage, while extensive, is not as great as was at first reported.

The fire was one of the largest ever seen in this section of the State. Originating at 10 o'clock Sunday morning, it raged unobstructed until yesterday morning, when it was somewhat checked by the efforts of hundreds of fire fighters who rushed to the scene.

A desperate fight was waged against the invading flames around Wyandotte to save the orchards from destruction. The ranch of Victor Hayes was saved by a narrow margin by Hayes, his brother Clare, Dick Werner and several others. The trio, with L. Cress, his wife and daughter, narrowly escaped being caught in the flames, and had to flee to safety. Finally, by strenuous efforts, the fire was halted right at the edge of Wyandotte.

Fire fighters at Wyandotte were organized, and it was through their efforts that the place was saved after a battle which lasted more than twenty-four hours.

Several times Bangor was in danger, but the fire fighters managed to save the orchards there. The fire spread to Honcut creek, and at one time the Mission Olive acres narrowly escaped destruction.

One fire started near Ben's ranch on the Hurlston road and burned to Honcut creek, burning all between John Daniels' ranch and Rocky Honcut creek, where it was checked by the lands already burned over by the fire of a few days ago. The other arm of the fire went down Wyman ravine to the Garden ranch. It was checked by backfiring.

The chief loss is pasture and brush lands, but little damage being done to any ranches, though several had narrow escapes from destruction.

The flumes of the Palermo Ditch Company and the South Feather River Company were in danger several times but were saved by the firemen. The men in charge of the dams were notified by telephone and turned in full heads of water, which aided materially in fighting the fire.

Everyone in Wyandotte and the surrounding section turned out to fight the fire, as well as many Oroville men, who rushed in autos to the assistance of their neighbors.

Several hundred cords of wood were destroyed and considerable fencing on ranches.

The fire could be seen from Chico, and at a late hour Sunday night the blaze in the distance created a beautiful spectacle.

The fire was not without its freak reports, one of which follows:

John Daniels lost all his pasture land, valued at \$300. He states while fighting the fire he saw a coyote rush from the midst of the flames with his tail on fire. Every jump the coyote made he set a new fire. The animal disappeared in the far distance, leaving a trail of fire behind him.

Chico Record

12-9-1916

A petition asking the confirmation of the sale of real estate belonging to the estate of the late F. S. Rowe of Bangor was filed. R. A. Lewis purchased eight lots in Bangor. The remainder of the realty was purchased by C. C. Reed.

HOT DEBATE STAGED OVER BANGOR ROAD

**Delegation of Citizens Protest
Against Alleged Diversion
of Funds**

**AGREEMENT REPUDIATED
CHARGE OF DELEGATION**

**Third District Highway Again
Subject of Bitter Discussion
Among Supervisors**

The mooted question of the construction of the Bangor road formed the topic of a heated discussion staged before the Board of Supervisors yesterday. A delegation from Bangor and Wyandotte waited upon the board, protesting against the expenditure of the \$5000 allotment out of the General Fund to the Third District in the improvement of other roads than the Bangor cut-off until such road had been completed.

The debate centered between Supervisors Whipple and Porter and the members of the delegation, which was headed by T. F. Hornung.

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It was charged that the sum of \$5000 had been originally appropriated for the completion of the road and that Supervisor Whipple had diverted \$2000 of this sum to other work. Supervisor Whipple admitted that he had spent but \$3000 on the Bangor cut-off, but declared that the allotment of \$5000 was made not for any particular road, but to the Third District generally. T. F. Hornung, Fred Cornehl, F. M. Turner and John Watkins took direct issue with this statement, declaring that they were present when the appropriation was made and that it was made for the construction of the so-called Bangor cut-off.

F. M. Turner questioned Chairman Whipple as to why he had not called for a contract for the completion of the road with the \$5000 now available. He stated that Whipple had informed the people of Bangor that \$5000 had been appropriated for the Third District, which sum was sufficient to build the road.

The fact that a mile and a half of the road lies in the First District brought Supervisor Porter into the debate.

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HOT DEBATE OVER BANGOR CUT-OFF

(Continued from Page One.)

Mr. Whipple asserted that he would have his portion of the road completed as soon as Porter's portion was finished. Mr. Porter stated that he would agree to finish his part this winter. Mr. Whipple declared that he could do so without getting another appropriation from the General Fund, which it was not certain that the Board would grant.

Chairman Hornung and the other members of the delegation asked for a definite statement of when construction work could be started. The matter came to a head by reason of the fact that bids were opened yesterday for the improvement of the present Wyandotte road and a portion of the Bangor cut-off, which contemplated the expenditure of the \$5000 granted Mr. Whipple. Mr. Whipple finally suggested that inasmuch as the County Surveyor considered the bid of O. A. Peter

too high, that he be rejected, and that the matter go over until December 19th. At that time the representatives of Wyandotte and Bangor will be asked to meet with the Board. An attempt will be made at that time to reach an agreement relative to the expenditure of the \$5000 in question.

The matter of rights of way was also discussed, and T. F. Hornung suggested that the Board institute condemnation proceedings against the few property owners, who had not given rights of way. He was appointed chairman of a committee to see if the rights of way could be obtained without litigation, and was instructed to report back December 19th.

W. W. Gngles, representing the Chamber of Commerce, which took an active part in urging the construction of the Bangor cut-off, also addressed the Board urging its completion as soon as possible.

The following proponents of the Bangor cut-off appeared before the Board: T. F. Hornung, John Watkins, Fred Cornehl, L. E. Colé, C. M. Osgood, F. M. Turner, and H. C. Darby.

THINK BANGOR MINER HAD STARVED TO DEATH

OROVILLE, Dec. 14.—That Francis Snyder, the aged miner whose body was found on the bank of a stream near his cabin at Bangor, had practically died of hunger, was the report of the coroner's jury yesterday.

A small piece of dried bacon and some crusts of bread were all that were found in the cabin, while the appearance of the cabin showed that the man had probably suffered mental derangement, making it impossible for him to go to town to purchase food or to prepare food, for several days prior to his death.

A letter found in the cabin reveals the fact that the deceased has a niece Annie Helms, living in New York, and word has been sent to her.

Chico Record

2-9-1917

The Supreme Court has reversed the decision of the Superior Court in the matter of the estate of James Aldersley, deceased. Attorney Geo. F. Jones, who with Attorney C. N. Riggins of Napa, was the counsel for the Napa, received notice of the reversal. The case attracted considerable attention. Aldersley died about three years ago in Bangor. The estate was in process of administration and the final account of the administratrix, Ellen Williams, was filed. The Bangor heirs, the McClouds, claimed the property belonged to them under trust deeds executed some years before Aldersley's death.

The Napa heirs, heirs of Lyall Aldersley, brother of James Aldersley, also deceased, claimed the property belonged to them, and brought a suit for partition and objection to the accounts. Judge Gregory decided in favor of the McClouds and in favor of the accounts of Ellen Williams. Attorneys Jones and Riggins appealed the case on behalf of the Napa heirs. The Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower court. The partition settlement has not yet been decided by the Supreme Court, but Jones submitted the same briefs on it as he did in the former appeal.

Chico Record
2-11-1917

PROGRESS REPORTED
ON BANGOR CUTOFF

County Surveyor Martin C. Polk has reported to the supervisors that work on the Bangor cut-off is proceeding rapidly and that on the Bangor end 1000 feet of the new roadway is graded and ready for the gravel, which will be placed in a few days.

4-10-1917

PARADISE WILL BE TOLD HOW WATER IS AIDING BANGOR

How irrigation has transformed the Bangor district from one with little promise into a booming country with a good future will be reported to the Paradise Water Users' Association by J. H. Kimball and A. Hanscom as a result of their visit the first of the week to the Los Verjels Irrigation project.

Kimball and Hanscom also were interested in the multiple arch type of dam erected at Bangor by the Chico Construction Company, which may be the type adopted for the proposed Paradise Irrigation project.

They were shown over all of the project by Dr. McGillicuddy, president of the Los Verjels Land and Irrigation Company, and were surprised to note the development of the brief period since the dam was completed. Much of the land is being sold, the principal buyers being Oroville men, who, strangeto say, formerly would not pay \$7.50 an acre for the land and now are giving \$125 an acre.

The Bangor country was practically undeveloped before the project was established, while Paradise has the advantage of an already good development, which with irrigation, it is declared, would grow into one of the most productive sections of Northern California.

RESIDENT OF BANGOR FOR 63 YEARS DIES

BANGOR, April 9.—Erasmus Parks, one of the oldest residents of the Bangor district, passed away at his home in Bangor yesterday morning. He had been bedridden for over two years, due to an attack of paralysis.

Erasmus Parks was a native of Albion, Ill., and was eighty-two years old at the time of his death. He had been a resident of the Bangor district for more than sixty-three years and followed the occupation of stock-raiser and farmer, up to the time when he received a stroke of paralysis. His wife died last December, and he leaves no known relatives.

The remains will be interred in the Upham cemetery.

The Gridley Herald

TWICE-A-WEEK

July 14, 1917

BANGOR RESIDENT IS CALLED BY DEATH

William Calborn Bishop, a native of Indiana, died Wednesday at his home in Bangor, aged 72 years, 5 months and 12 days. Heart trouble was the cause of his death. He had been seriously ill for two months and his death was not unexpected.

He had been a resident of California for the past 56 years and had engaged in farming near Bangor for the last thirty years. He is survived by a brother, Benjamin Bishop, of Bangor, three sons, J. W. Bishop, of Oroville, Samuel Bishop and John Wesley Bishop of Bangor.

Chico Record

11-22-1917

BANGOR WATER USERS COMPLAIN OF DITCHES

BANGOR, Nov. 21.—A complaint has been filed with the State Railroad Commission by a number of land owners under the Los Verjels Land and Water Company's system, in which the Railroad Commission is asked to order the water company to keep its ditches in better repair.
