Russ Family Research Notes

Susie Van Kirk

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Vital Records Flowers/Russ/Jones

Joseph Russ (first), born c. 1837, died 8 Oct. 1886
Joseph Russ (second), born 27 Nov. 1876, mother Patrick, died 28 July 1940
Joseph Russ (third), born 15 April 1909, mother Flowers, died 27 Feb. 1991
Edward Russ, born 1 Nov. 1855; died 7 Nov. 1855
James Russ, born 15 Nov. 1856; died 15 May 1875
Mary E. Russ Robarts, born 28 Dec. 1858; died Nov. 1901
Margaret C. Russ Coombe, born 28 Dec. 1860; died 3 March 1947
Ira A. Russ, born 6 Oct. 1863; died Sept. 1919
Annie J. Russ Harville, born 6 Oct. 1865; died 26 May 1945
William N. Russ, born 13 Dec. 1867; died Sept. 1937
Georgia Russ Williams, born 13 April 1870; died
Bertha Russ Lytle, born 16 Oct. 1874; died 3 Oct. 1972
Winifred Russ, born 19 March 1878; died 11 Dec. 1879
Zipporah Russ (daughter), born 8 Nov. 1879; died 9 Feb. 1900
Sarah (Sadie) Agnes Flowers Russ, born 20 July 1876; died 14 May 1953
Herbert E. Russ, born 9 Nov. 1913 died 30 June 1973 in San Francisco
Terry E Russ, born 1 Oct. 1916; died 14 June 2002, Ferndale
Zipporah Patrick Russ, born 21 Nov. 1838; died 20 Nov. 1929

United States Censuses

1880, Ferndale, page 434A
14. Flowers, William, 37, farmer, Penn.; England; Ireland
15. _____, Sarah A., 36, Maryland; Maryland; Ireland
16. _____, Robert H., 12, California
17. _____, Thomas, 11
18. _____, Mary, 9
19. _____, Annie E., 7
20. _____, William, 6
21. _____, Sarah A., 4
22. _____, Jane, 2

1880, Ferndale, page 435B
39. Russ, Joseph, 53, stock raiser, Maine, Maine, Maine
40. _____, Zipporah, 41, keeping house; Penn.; Conn.; Penn.
41. _____, Maggie, 19, traveling; California
42. _____, Ira, 16, traveling; California
43. _____, Annie, 14, at school, California
44. _____, Willie, 12
45. _____, Georgia, 10
46. _____, Edythe, 8
47. _____, Bertha, 6
48. _____, Joe, 3
49. _____ Zipporah, 7 months
50. Ladde, Nellie, 53, house keeper, Maine
51. Dixon, Mary, 36, servant, Ireland
52. Bobbins, Joe, 40, carpenter, Maine
53. Killor, John, 34, carpenter, Nova Scotia

1900, Island
Flowers, William J., 56
_____ , Sara A., 56
_____ , Said E., 23
_____ , Jennie R., 21
_____ , Bertha I., 19
_____ , Francis J., 16
_____ , Charles H., 14
Whitney, Mary, 29
_____ , Herbert, 2
Bouchard, Henry, 19

1900, Bear River, page 168B
60. Russ, Joseph, 23, born Nov. 1876; Calif.; Maine; Penn., farmer
living with six other men

1910, Pacific, page 107A
23. Russ, Joseph, 33, stockman, California
_____ , Sadie A., 33, born 1877, Calif.; father Penn.; mother Maryland
_____ , James D., 3
_____ , Joseph, Jr., 1.
Greis, Harry, 40, hired man

1920, Ferndale
Russ, Joseph, 43
_____ , Sadie, 43
_____ , Joseph, 10
_____ , Herbert, 6
_____ , John, 2 years and 11 months

1930, Ferndale
Russ, Joseph, 53
_____ Sadie, 53
_____ Joseph, 20
_____ Herbert, 16
_____ John, 13

1940 U.S. Census, Humboldt County, Pacific Township, Ferndale-Wildcat Road
54. Russ, John D., head, age 20, stock ranch laborer
55. _____, Eloise H., wife, 22
56. _____, Louise A., 4 months

1940 U.S. Census, Humboldt County, Pacific Township, Bear River
65. McBride, Rex L. head, 31, born Arizona, rancher stock ranch
66. _____, Viola D., wife, 34
67. _____, William R., son, 6
68. _____, Jon B., son, 4
69. _____, Andrew, son, 3

1940 U.S. Census, Humboldt County, Mad River, pg. 474A
7. Russ, Herbert E., head, 26, College 4; Ferndale in 1935, farm foreman, cattle raising
8. _____, Terry E., wife, 23, College 3, Alameda in 1935
9. _____, Judith L., daughter, age 1

Connick Family
Harris Russ Connick, b. 10 Oct. 1912; d. 28 Oct. 1994, mother Russ m. 3 June 1939 Mary Harriet Hine (1913-1959)
Mary Connick, b. 3 Sept. 1913; d. 21 July 1959; father Hine; died Humboldt Co.
John Connick, b. 30 Nov. 1942; d. 14 Oct. 1994; mother Hine d. Humboldt County, age 51

1920 U.S. Census, Glen Ridge, Essex Co., New Jersey
Connick, Harris D., head, 46, Calif.; Nova Scotia; promoter moving pictures
_____ Edythe, wife, 46, Calif.
_____ Harris R., son, 7
_____ John D., son, 5

1930 U.S. Census, Essex Co. New Jersey, Glen Ridge
Connick, Harris D., head, $65,000, 55, Calif.; Nova Scotia; Missouri Corporate executive
_____ Edythe, wife, 58, Calif.; Maine, Penn.
_____ Harris R., son, 17, Calif.; parents Calif.

1940 U.S. Census, Alameda Co., Oakland, Calif.
Connick, Harris D., 67, Calif.; father Canada; mother Mass.
_____ Edythe, wife, 68, Calif.; father Maine, mother Penn.

WW I Draft Registration
Harris DeHaven Connick, vice-president American International Ship Building Co.

Residences
1907 Harris D. Connick, civil engineer, Board of Public Works, San Francisco
1930 Harris R. Connick, age 20, Exter, N.H., student
1933, HRC, student Princeton University
1937 HRC, San Francisco, with Bank of California
1946, HRC, Ferndale

Joseph Russ (the first) represented Humboldt County in State Assembly: 19th session (4 Dec. 1871-1 April 1872); 22nd session (3 Dec. 1877-1 April 1878); 26th session (5 Jan. 1885-11 March 1885); some months in 1886; died 8 Oct. 1886 at Alameda. WHT (15 Jan. 1876) Pioneer Society lists Joseph Russ’ arrival in Humboldt county as 7 Nov. 1852.

REFERENCES

HT (25 Nov. 1854) Notice to persons indebted to the firm of Adams and Russ are requested to settle up accounts with said firm immediately or they will be handed to Bunson and Hannah. Adams and Russ, Eureka, Nov. 18.


HT (24 Oct. 1857) Mr. Russ brought down by way of the Klamath over a hundred head of cattle from Oregon during the week. He took them to his place on Salt River.

HT (14 Nov. 1857) Article regarding bringing livestock into county from Oregon and Sacramento valley.

HT (19 Oct. 1862) County Fair—The first annual fair of the Humboldt County Agricultural Society held at Hydesville last week was pronounced by both members and visitors to have been a decided success….cattle, Judges F.F. Cassens, S.W. Morrison, Joseph Russ, J.N. Eddy, J.W. Cooper.


HT (22 March 1861) Dissolution. The co-partnership heretofore existing under the name and style of Russ & Olmstead has been dissolved by mutual consent. Either of the parties will sign in liquidation. Joseph Russ. W.T. Olmstead, March 17, 1862.


HT (15 Aug. 1863) New Meat Shop—Olmstead and Russ have finished and moved into their shop. Front Street, opposite Webster and Hart. It is a neat building well suited for a meat market.

HT (6 Feb. 1864) The premises of Mr. Joseph Russ on Bear river were entered last week by the Indians and robbed of everything valuable. The property taken consisted in part of a good rifle and bullet moulds, eleven pairs of blankets, three hair mattresses and nearly all the clothing belonging to himself and his family.


HT (11 March 1865) The new firm of Russ and Williams publishes their card in our columns today. Co-Partnership Notice: The undersigned, having this day purchased the entire interest in the meat and vegetable market, heretofore conducted by Russ & Vance, and subsequently by Russ, Vance and Williams under the firm name of Jos. Russ & Co., will continue the same at the old stand under the name and style of Russ and Williams. Jos. Russ and R.M. Williams, 21 Feb. 1865.

HT (10 Feb. 1866) Notice is hereby given that on or after the 10th day of March 1866, I will apply to the Register of the State Land Office for a Patent to the following described lands located in the name of H.N. Thacker to wit: W half of NW qt and W half of SW qt, sec 4, 2N2W, 160 and 26/100 acres. Joseph Russ, Eureka, 10 Feb. 1866.

HT (31 March 1866) R.M. Williams of the firm of Russ and Williams has disposed of his interest to Messrs. Luther and Wallace. Hereafter to be known as Russ, Luther and Co. Co-Partnership Notice, Meat and Vegetable Market, Joseph Russ, Christopher Luther and Wm. Wallace.

HT (13 Oct. 1866) Fourth annual fair of Humboldt Agricultural Society in Rohnerville. For the best 50-pound keg of fresh butter, not less than three months old, Joseph Russ and H.H. Severns, premium divided equally, $10.

HT (16 Feb. 1867) Meat and Vegetable Market. Having purchased the interest of G. Luther and W. Wallace in the Meat and Vegetable Market heretofore conducted by Russ and Williams, will continue at same old stand. Fresh and salt meats, also vegetables. I will always keep on hand and for sale beef and stock cattle, milch cows, horses, mules, hogs, and sheep. Anyone wishing to purchase or sell stock will leave orders at my residence on Willow Creek near Centerville. Joseph Russ.

HT (13 March 1869) We heard it stated that E. Cousins in connection with others will build a sawmill.
HT (22 May 1869) On Monday last Messrs. Russ, Wood, and Co. commenced work on new sawmill; site is on Indian Island a short distance below the mill of Buhne, Kentfield and Jones.

HT (29 May 1869) Mill to be completed in three months.

HT (31 July 1869) The mill being built opposite town by Buhne, Wood, Russ and Cousins will be ready by Sept. 1. Cost $30,000-$35,000. The company is getting large lot of logs on Elk River.

HT (6 Nov. 1869) Fair results: 2nd best 2-year-old stallion, J. Russ.

HT (12 Nov. 1870) Joseph Russ has purchased the interest of M.P. Roberts in firm of Russ, Wood & Co.

HT (25 March 1871) Eureka Meat Market will hereafter be conducted at 1nd and F in building formerly occupied by Pratt’s Furniture Store. Joseph Russ.

HT (6 May 1871) Joseph Russ of Pacific Township announces himself as a candidate for the Assembly from Humboldt County, subject to the decision of the Union Republican Party at the primaries.

HT (22 July 1871) Final results of primary election: Russ 403; Huestis 395; Shaw 24. Russ won in seven out of 13 precincts. He lost in Arcata, Eureka, Bucksport, Table Bluff, Rohnerville and Hydesville.

HT (9 Sept. 1871) Josephs Russ won Assembly seat with 563 votes.

HT (23 Sept. 1871) Russ 1119; Adams 547; Neibur 25. Majority of 574 votes.

HT (2 Dec. 1871) Among the many passengers that went below on the steamer, we particularly noticed our Senator J.J. DeHaven and Assemblyman Jos. Russ on their way to the State Capital to take their place and assume their duties as such, at the calling of the roll on next Monday….Mr. Russ, being well known to you, needs no recommendation as to his faithfulness to serve the people well in the office to which he has been elected.

HT (17 Feb. 1872) Joseph Russ introduces bill for control of Canada thistle in Humboldt county. $100 fine or 3 months in jail if you allow thistle to go to seed.

Marriages: Augusta Russ and John G. Graham, 6 March 1873; Hydesville.

HT (30 March 1872) Russ introduced bill to annex territory now in Klamath county to Siskiyou and Humboldt. Issue would be submitted to voters in all three counties.

HT (13 April 1872) Birth of a daughter to wife of J. Russ, Ferndale, 4th of March.
HT (7 June 1873) J. Russ announces candidacy for Assembly subject to Republican primary.

HT (16 Aug. 1873) W.P. Huestis wins nomination for Assembly in Republican primary. Lost two years ago to Russ by seven votes; beat Russ this time by 12 votes.

HT (27 Sept. 1873) Robert Searles purchased an interest in business firm of Dodge and Russ merchants of Ferndale. Firm to be known as Dodge, Russ & Co.


WHT (26 Sept. 1874) Man in the employ of Joseph Russ herding cattle near Russ slaughter house a short distance below South Park.


WHT (14 Nov. 1874) At Russ Pickard & Co.’s mill, schooner loading 175,000 feet of lumber for San Francisco.

WHT (23 Jan. 1875) Lumber production for mills in 1874: Russ, Pickard & Co., Lumber 5,300,000 feet; lath, 390,000; and pickets, 40,000. Compared to Dolbeer and Carson, 9,500,000 feet and D.R. Jones and Co., 14,000,000; Dolly Varden mill, 2,576,824 feet.

HT (22 May 1875) James Russ, age 19, drowns in Eel River.


WHT (14 Aug. 1875) From Sunday’s Daily. Hon. Joseph Russ and family returned from their trip to the southern part of the state by the Pelican on Friday.

WHT (21 Aug. 1875) Russ, Pickard & Co. mill, commonly known as the “Cousin’s Mill” has, for some time, run night and day. Employs 50 men; produced 45,000 feet per day.

WHT (28 Aug. 1875) Republican meeting in Ferndale. Hon. J. Russ served as chairman.

WHT (11 Sept. 1875) Fire in Ferndale levels Dodge, Russ & Co. store, Robert’s Hotel and store of Granger’s Business Association. Dodge, Russ & Co. loss is $25,000; insured for $14,000, fire “supposed to be work of incendiary nature.”

WHT (25 Sept. 1875) Extensive barn which Hon. J. Russ had recently built on Bear River for purposes of stall feeding beef cattle during winter was consumed by fire. Sparks from cooking fire. Barn was 40x150 feet; 200-300 tons of bundled oats and hay lost. Mr. Russ had made extensive arrangements for butchering stall-fed cattle during the winter and this disaster will seriously interfere with the enterprise this season.
WHT (2 Oct. 1875) Dodge, Russ & Co. occupying warehouse, contemplate new building in spring to replace one destroyed by fire.

WHT (9 Oct. 1875) Russ mill near Ferndale burned. Known as Patrick’s mill. Russ purchased it from Patrick some time since paying for same with 1,200 acres of land, $8000. New machinery and refitting cost $5000. Thos. McDonald recently purchased half interest. “First his building in Ferndale, then his mammoth barn on Bear River and now his mill.”

WHT (15 Jan. 1876) Pioneer Society organized; Joseph Russ arrived in Humboldt county on Nov. 7, 1852.

WHT (22 Jan. 1876) Lumber statistics for 1875: Russ, Pickard & Co. mill on Indian Island. 8.9 MMBF, 1 million shingles, 260,000 shakes and 20,500 posts.

WHT (29 April 1876) District Court. Joseph Russ vs. N. Delany. The court ordered judgment entered in accordance with prayer of complaint.

WHT (6 May 1876) Improvements at Russ, Pickard & Co. mill. Wharf lengthened to 290 feet, mill to have new engine and gang saw, “it will no longer be the ‘little’ mill but will be able to turn out lumber with any mill on the bay.”

WHT (15 July 1876) Russ in eastern states.

WHT (16 Sept. 1876) New brick building for Dodge, Russ & Co. in Ferndale is almost completed. Brick layer is John Depuy.

WHT (11 Aug. 1877) Republican candidate for Assembly, J. Russ, age 54, born Maine, lives in Ferndale, occupation stock raiser.

WHT (25 Aug. 1877) Adv. Republican speaking. Hon. Joseph Russ and George A. Knight will address citizens of Humboldt county on the political issues. Garberville, Aug. 20; Blocksburg, 21st; Bridgeville, 22nd; Hydesville, 23rd; Rohnerville, 24th; Petrolia, 25th; Ferndale, 27th; Salmon Creek Hotel, 28th; Trinidad; 30th; Arcata, Sept. 1, Eureka, Sept. 4.

WHT (1 Sept. 1877) “An honest day’s pay for an honest day’s labor is a good motto with state and individuals alike. In private affairs, it is good for both employer and employed. It will be found to work equally well when applied between taxpayers and public servants.” Joseph Russ.

WHT (15 Sept. 1877) Joseph Russ wins Assembly seat.

WHT (19 Jan. 1878) Russ introduces railroad bill; Eureka to Eel River Valley.

WHT (2 Feb. 1878) Bill to regulate rate of interest in state, Russ.
WHT (9 Feb. 1878) A private letter from Joseph Russ says that the bill for a franchise to build bridge at Prigmore’s on Mad river has been referred to Board of Supervisors.

WHT (23 Feb. 1878) Bill for securing liens by laborers in Humboldt County, Russ.

WHT (2 March 1878) Bill for relief of Humboldt county; bill for Elk River boom, Russ.

WHT (20 April 1878) Joseph Russ returns home from Legislature session.


WHT (1 June 1878) Maggie and Mary Russ graduate from Humboldt Seminary. Maggie performed musical numbers at exercises.

FE (1 June 1878) Hon. J. Russ and daughters have gone to San Francisco to attend the great musical concert.

Demo Standard (20 July 1878) Walton, Russ & Co. is the name of a new lumber firm in Sacramento county. Messrs. Joseph Russ and E.B> Cousins of this county are members of the firm.


FE (29 Nov. 1878) Mr. Joseph Russ has subjoined a large, fine, two-story addition to his residence.

FE (21 Feb. 1879) Dr. J. McFayden of Rohnerville passed through town yesterday on a professional visit to the family of Hon. Joseph Russ.

FE (12 Sept. 1879) We learn that Hon. Joseph Russ is dangerously ill.

FE (19 Dec. 1879) Obit Winifred Russ died Dec. 11 after a short illness of inflammation of the bowels, age 1 year, 8 months and 22 days.

FE (30 Jan. 1880) In case of J. Russ vs. D.A. Spear; jury found in favor of plaintiff for recovery of house or for its value of $150.

FE (6 Feb. 1880) Hon. Joseph Russ and two daughters and Mr. A. Putnam have gone to S.F.

DS (6 March 1880) We print today the marriage notice of Mr. Jas. T. Robarts and Miss Mary E. Russ, oldest daughter of Hon. Jos. Russ of Ferndale. The event is one of more than passing moment, not only that the lady is the daughter of one of Humboldt’s most prominent pioneers, who has greatly helped to smooth off the rough edges for the advancement of civilized settlement, but more especially that the young lady herself has developed a mind and disposition
that wins for her love and warmest friendship from all who have her acquaintance…married at Ferndale 4 March 1880 by Rev. G.M. Dexter.

FE (9 April 1880) Masquerade Ball. Miss Maggie Russ was “Moonlight on the Bay” yellow satin dress, short, silver trimmings, silver crown trimmed in jewels.

FE (14 May 1880) Adv. Russ, Searles and Putnam Commission Merchants, dealers in groceries, provisions, dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, hardware, medicines, paints, oil, glass, etc. Farm produce taken at highest market value.

FE (21 May 1880) We are informed that Hon. Joseph Russ, who has gone to Chicago as one of the California Republican delegates, will before his return, visit Texas and the Yellowstone for the purpose of discovering their relative adaptation to stock raising.

Demo Standard (10 July 1880) Joseph Russ building new market in Eureka at G and 3rd; 40x110 feet; 2 stories [long description given]

FE (10 Sept. 1880) The bell donated to the Congregational Church by Hon. Joseph Russ has been put in place.

FE (15 Oct. 1880) Annie Russ wins second premium at the fair for horsemanship.

FE (25 Nov. 1880) Hon. Joseph Russ is now making extensive improvements in the shape of new buildings near his residence at Willow Farm. The boys say they are for the exclusive use as a camping ground for the men folks. That’s right, separate the sheep from the goats.

FE (23 Dec. 1880) The Leader says Mr. Isaac Minor has sold his band of cattle to Mr. Joseph Russ for the snug rum of $14,000.

FE (17 March 1881) Messrs. J. Russ & Co. have out thanks for the special edition of the San Diego Union.

FE (7 April 1881) We are glad to see that Mr. Russ has again returned from his southern tour. The balmy breezes of the land where the citron blooms did not disagree with him.

FE (7 April 1881) Russ & Robarts Meat Market in ashes and very little of the contents saved from the store room of Russ, Searles and Putnam in the rear of the market.

FE (14 April 1881) Messrs. Russ and Robarts have designed their market building and already have the lumber on the ground. Building on site of old market and warehouse. New building will be 24x40 feet, one story high with square front. Market room 20x24 feet; barn 20x50 feet at rear with 40 feet between shop and barn. Builders Nissen and Robbins.

FE (20 May 1881) Russ and Robarts new building is now complete.
FE (2 June 1881) Russ and Robarts barn looms up in grand proportions. Style is somewhat classical, the Roman arch being a prominent feature.

FE (9 June 1881) Mrs. Jos. Russ and Mrs. West were driving from the residence of the former to Ferndale when the horse was frightened by a fawn which ran under it. Horse turned over buggy; Mrs. Russ was quite severely injured. They walked home about half a mile. Horse came to town.

FE (16 June 1881) Many improvements are being made to Russ & Co.’s mill on the Island. New and improved machinery, increased capacity and better facility.

FE (28 July 1881) Congregational Church dedicated; Phillip Coombe, pastor. Figures of financial report “show in bold relief the noble munificence of that grand price of donors, a man of whom this entire county may well feel proud—Hon. Joseph Russ. The Society received in gifts from this source, the lumber for the entire building, a fine bell, and about one-sixth of the entire debt.

FE (28 July 1881) New schooner named after our townsman, Hon. Joseph Russ. Built by Mr. Cousins. Capt. Hendrix will assume command. She will ply between this port and San Diego and receive her load at Cousins & Co.’ mill. Owners are Joseph Russ, Capt. Hendrix, and Cousins., $22,000.

HT (6 Aug. 1881) List of County’s 20 richest men: Joseph Russ was number one with $231,274 based on assessments; Dolbeer and Carson number 2nd with $118,142; Wm. Carson number 9 with $35,394.

FE (11 Aug. 1881) Joseph Russ sailed for San Diego with 376,000 feet of lumber. Miss Annie Russ and friend Miss Hubbard took passage on the Joseph Russ to visit home of Miss Hubbard in San Diego.

Fe (18 Nov. 1881) Joseph Russ and others have arranged to have their homes illustrated in Elliott.

FE (2 Dec. 1881) A Notable Weeding, Nov. 29, marriage of Maggie Russ, second daughter of the Hon. Joseph Russ, and Rev. Phillip Coombe. Description of wedding. Parents gave her a set of diamonds and silverware and other useful and ornamental objects from friends. Mr. Coombe received a very fine and valuable gold watch and chain from Mr. Russ. Speech by Russ.

FE (6 Jan. 1882) Ira Russ sailed for S.F. on the Los Angeles.


FE (19 May 1882) Hon. Joseph Russ put in an appearance last week fresh from San Diego and the southern country. He has large lumbering and mill interests in that section, but Humboldt has too many attractions which always bring him back.
FE (30 June 1882) The family of Mr. Russ celebrates the nation’s birthday by camping out at Fort Baker.

FE (11 Aug. 1882) The Republican delegation from this county to the State Convention are instructed for Joseph Russ for governor and De Haven for Congress.

FE (18 Aug. 1882) Editorial. The Delegates to the State Convention were instructed for Hon. Jos. Russ for Governor. We can only hope Humboldt may be able to sit at the head of the political table for the coming four years. No man in the State can fill the gubernatorial chair so acceptably to the whole people and particularly so to the wage class, as our own honored citizen, Joseph Russ. He is probably the strongest candidate in the Republican ranks. His record is unimpeachable, he is clear on the Temperance question and is the friend of the working man…

FE (8 Sept. 1882) DeHaven was nominated, but Russ was not. Editorial very critical of delegation.


DS (30 Sept. 1882) A very important change in Russ & Co. firm. Messrs. Dodge, Bullock & Cousins sold out to C.H. King and retired from firm. Now firm is Russ & King. King will have sole charge of business in S.F. David Evans will have full charge of affairs at this end. Office foot of F Street.


FE (10 Nov. 1882) Pleasant social evening was passed by young folks at residence of Hon. Jos. Russ.

FE (29 Dec. 1882) Russ gone to S.F.

FE (16 Feb. 1883) Jos. Russ elected Director of Humboldt County Bank for ensuing year.

FE (18 May 1883) Hon. Joseph Russ returned below on steamer Saturday.

FE (8 June 1883) Mr. Russ is buying cattle most extensively.

FE (8 June 1883) Miss Annie Russ has returned from below where she has been at school. Master Wm. Russ came up on the last Humboldt from San Jose. Some 60 friends gathered at Fern Cottage to welcome back Rev. and Mrs. Coombe after several weeks in southern and middle California.

FE (27 July 1883) Mrs. Jos. Russ and Mrs. James Robarts return from visit below.

FE (3 Aug. 1883) Articles of incorporation filed in San Francisco for California Redwood Lumber Co., $10,000,000 capital stock. Joseph Russ, C.H. King, David Evans, J.M. Streeter and
W.S. Wood. Company has purchased entire Trinidad mill, and land and property of Buhne, Kentfield and Jones will be purchased.


FE (21 Sept. 1883) Ninth District Fair….In the stock lines, J. Russ has 11 head of Durham cattle, which show the advantages of this breed for beef and milk. He also shows one Jersey heifer. D. Bryant has also a thoroughbred Durham cow of the milking variety. In this lot of Durhams are shown three distinct varieties. The beef Durham is from the noted Si Morrison Bear River herd, which surpass in beef production qualities of all others. They are also more than average milkers. The flat horn bull, Joaquin, represents the dairy or milk producing Durham. Joaquin cost, when a yearling, $250. The pure deep red Durham bull, Roderick, is the representative of the combined milk and beef variety. Nat Hurlbutt, the Bear River dairyman, shows the Ayershire breed in cows, heifers and bull. J. Graham shows a Jersey cow, Jersey bull calf, and a Jersey heifer, and a four-year-old Holstein bull….

DS (6 Oct. 1883) There is to be an exhibition of forestry production in Edinburgh next year, and rare specimens of redwood are being prepared to represent Humboldt.

DT-T (20 Jan. 1884) Fort Baker ranch of Russ, Hanson and Porter, 30,000 head of sheep; largest range in county.

HS (28 Feb. 1884) Timberland indictments. U.S. Grand Jury against David Evans, Charles Beach, John Vance, Harry Marks, C.G. Noyes and M.P. Roberts on charges of subordination of perjury. Another man to be indicted, presently out of state.

HS (24 Marcy 1884) The U.S. Grand Jury has found an indictment against another citizen of Humboldt county for alleged frauds under the Timber Act. Bail is fixed at $5,000. The name of the indicted person is withheld from publication until after his arrest.

FE (29 March 1884) Editor visits Mazeppa Ranch, one of Mr. Russ’ principal dairy ranches; blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, butcher shop, harness shop, one of largest barns in county, 150 cows milked; 20 men employed.

FE (24 May 1884) Hon. Jos. Russ returned on the steamer from an extended tour through Arkansas and Colorado.

FE (31 May 1884) The schooner Mary E. Russ brought up on her last trip two locomotives for California Redwood Co.
FE (5 July 1884) Joseph Russ has purchased race course property of A. Putnam.

FE (26 July 1884) Hon. Jos. Russ left to attend State Republican Convention.

FE (13 Sept. 1884) Jose. Russ is Republican candidate for Southern Humboldt Assembly District.

FE (15 Nov. 1884) Russ elected to Assembly.

HS (3 Jan. 1885) William Russ gone to attend the Santa Clara College


FE (10 Jan. 1885) Birth of son, Jan. 8, to Coombes.

FE (21 March 1885) Legislature adjourned. Mr. Russ arrived on Yesterday’s steamer.

FE (27 May 1887) A large barn is to be erected at Fern Cottage and a fine cattle scales has just been placed into position there.

FE (15 March 1889) Russ Estate Distributed


FE (19 April 1889) Administration of Russ estate finally closed.

FE (2 May 1885) Joseph Russ has retired from firm of Russ, Mason and Early and hereafter the business of the brick store is to be conducted by Mason and Early. On account of fast failing health, Russ is compelled to concentrate his business and in the future, free his mind to a great extent from the cares of so many different branches of trade.

FE (9 May 1885) Jos. Russ has given railroad a right of way through his property near Eureka.

FE (9 May 1885) Jos. Russ and A. Putnam have been granted permission to form a reclamation district by Board of Supervisors.

FE (23 May 1885) Jos. Russ returns to S.F.

FE (30 May 1885) Jos. Russ has sold his interest in Fort Baker sheep range to Port of Hydesville.

HS (4 June 1885) Article about California Redwood Co., Scotland.

FE (8 Aug. 1885) Mrs. Russ returns on Chester.
HS (8 Sept. 1885) Transfer of property from California Redwood Co. to J. Russ & Co.

FE (10 Oct. 1885) The Hon. Jos. Russ came very nearly losing his life by drowning. Headed to S.F. when he drove off long bridge at Dungan’s Ferry. He was soon in a dangerous predicament and had it not been for the immediate assistance of the two ferrymen. Mr. Russ would probably have lost his life. Valuable horse, Pinafore, drowned.

FE (9 Jan. 1886) William Russ has returned to school at Berkeley.

FE (28 Jan. 1886) Article on California Redwood Co.

FE (6 Feb. 1886) According to the Times-Telephone: It is stated in connection with the transfer of property by the California Redwood Co. to Russ and Evans that there is a misunderstanding of some kind in regard to the shingle mill erected by the company at Freshwater.


FE (27 March 1886) Russ and Putnam to form reclamation district of 650 acres of swamp land in Centerville Marsh district.

FE (27 March 1886) Russ gone to S.F. Brick store advertised as Russ, Mason and Early.

HS (9 April 1886) Redwood timber cases, arrest and bonds posted: Bell, Beach, Marks, Roberts.

HS (10 April 1886) Joseph Russ and David Evans have commenced suit in Superior Court against the California Redwood Co. to quiet title to certain land and possessions in this county.

FE (5 June 1886) Dr. W.J. Mason has sold his interest in the mercantile firm of Russ, Mason and Early to Frank Williams, formerly of Hydesville.

FE (19 June 1886) References to California Redwood Co. mill on Indian Island.

FE (17 July 1886) Board of Supervisors rejects Russ and Putnam’s application; asks for more definite plan.

FE (27 Aug. 1886) Jos. Russ is building a new packing shed at Bucksport.

FE (10 Sept. 1886) Buildings on dairy ranch on upper Bear River belonging to Russ burned. “Supposition that the fire was the work of an incendiary.”

FE (24 Sept. 1886) Hearings granted for owners of land to show cause why all entries should not be cancelled—known as northern syndicate lands—alleged that property obtained through fraudulent means.
FE (15 Oct. 1886) Death of Joseph Russ—The painful though not unexpected news crossed the wire Friday afternoon announcing the death that day of Alameda of the Hon. Joseph Russ. In penning these lines which tell of the departure of Joseph Russ from this world to that one beyond the mysterious river, we do so knowing that as they are read by those who knew him in life, the same feelings will encompass them that possess us now—those feelings which tell us that Humboldt county has suffered an irreparable loss, that society has lost an honored member, that the poor have lost a helping friend, that a wife has lost a devoted husband, and a large family of children, a kind and loving father. Mr. Russ’ life has been made up of kind and philanthropic deeds, for charity was his greatest virtue. Although a wealthy man, the poor received an equal consideration at his hands with the rich. The hundreds of men in this county who have labored under his employ will learn of his death with the deepest regret. They knew him but to honor and respect him, and now that his span of life has been broken, they can but realize how great is their loss. In all the works of life, Jos. Russ was highly esteemed and respected. He bore no ill-will of none, but the friendship of all.

Mr. Russ was born in Maine in 1825, came to California in 1850, and to Humboldt county in 1852. By industry and perseverance, he accumulated his present large estate, but in doing so, he never neglected his duty to his country or his fellow man. He has served the people of this county faithfully and well in the legislative halls, having been elected to the position of Assemblyman twice. To the family he leaves behind, our deepest sympathies are extended. The life of the devoted husband and father, although prematurely ceased by the Devine Hand, has been a success. True business sagacity honorable dealings and strict application to the affairs of life, gained for him that position among men which brought him honor and admiration. This county was the scene of his success in life. Humboldt was proud to own him and today she mourns for her departed dead.

FE (22 Oct. 1886) At Rest….pallbearers were Judge J.J. DeHaven, Wm. Carson, John Vance, K. Geer, S. Morrison, Cutler Hatch, C.S. Ricks, A.D. Sevier, Jas. Smith, Isaac Minor, W.T. Olmstead and L.S. Hicks….The funeral train was nearly two miles in length. The business houses of Ferndale closed their doors and the different establishments in the county in which the deceased was interested suspended business for the day…. 

Online: Joseph Russ owned a sawmill in Appleton, Maine, when news of the discovery of gold in California made its way around the world. He had the frame for a small building constructed and with a stock of merchandise had all shipped to San Francisco. He arrived there 15 March 1850. Everybody going to the diggings, so he sold merchandise and frame and went to diggings, but not to mine. He operated a sawmill. Got into merchandising business, cattle, feed, hay, etc. In fall 1852 he purchased 100 head of cattle in Placerville and with two men drove them over the coast range to Humboldt County, where he sold them in Eureka. In spring of 1853, he filed a claim and built a cabin near Centerville with his partner Berry Adams. Back to Sacramento to buy more cattle; there met Patrick family and encouraged them to come to Humboldt which they did. More cattle into county, pastured on range at Bear River. He married Zipporah Patrick (age 16); he was 29, on Dec. 17, 1854. He began acquiring land which eventually totaled 50,000 acres. “Nearly all the ranches are still owned and operated by the descendants. Built first part of Fern Cottage in 1866; three ships, sawmills, business in San Diego, butchering and meat market in Eureka, merchandise business in Ferndale, dairies, cattle, sheep. Served in Assembly, 1871-72; 77-78; 85-85. Died 8 Oct. 1886.
HS (20 Nov. 1886) Dispatch from Washington, D.C. on timber land frauds.


FE (8 April 1887) The California Redwood Co. has sold its railroad at Freshwater to the Excelsior Co.

FE (22 April 1887) Russ & Payne Butcher Shop, Ferndale.

FE (20 May 1887) Mrs. Jos. Russ returns from visit to Eureka.

FE (10 June 1887) Surprise birthday party for N. Patrick, June 1, age 74.

FE (17 June 1887) Mr. Ira Russ now drives a handsome span of iron gray colts. They are beauties.

FE (29 July 1887) Miss Annie Russ is on a visit below.

FE (5 Aug. 1887) George A. Knight has commenced suit against the executors of the Russ Estate. The suit is brought to recover a fee of $1,500 which the plaintiff alleges is due him for services as attorney in U.S. District Court at S.F. in the defense of Russ, Evans, et al. in what is known as the Redwood cases. The defendants, through their attorneys, Chamberlin and McGowan and J.H.G. Weaver, have filed an answer denying that Mr. Knight was ever employed by Mr. Russ in any capacity whatever, or to defend him in any suit. The case will probably come to trial sometime during September.

FE (12 Aug. 1887) Miss Annie Russ returns, accompanied by Mrs. Huntoon, daughter and son of Sacramento.

FE (23 Sept. 1887) Geo. A. Knight obtained a judgment in the Superior Court last week against the Russ Estate for $1,500, amount claimed to be due the plaintiff from the late Hon. Joseph Russ for professional services rendered at the time Mr. Russ was involved in certain land difficulties.

FE (28 Oct. 1887) A handsome life-size portrait of the late Hon. Jos. Russ, executed by the Universal Copying and Photographing Co. of S.F., will hereafter adorn the private office of Russ, Early & Williams of the Brick Store, the purchase of the members of that firm. It is a splendid likeness of our departed citizen.

HS (29 Oct. 1887) Fraudulent timber claims article.

FE (4 Nov. 1887) Executors of Russ Estate asked Court for permission to sell interest in Russ Mill & Lumber Co. and in Excelsior Redwood Company.

FE (11 Nov. 1887) Miss Annie Russ on visit to S.F.
FE (18 Nov. 1887) Amount of butter shipped this season from Russ estate ranches, Jan.-Oct:
Bunker Hill, 9900 pounds
Bolivia, 1300
Bonanza, 9950
Central Park, 8500
Green Pond, 10,000
Seattle, 11,580
What Cheer, 12,252
West Point, 10,000
Lone Star, 9150
Mazeppa, 26,490
Woodland Echo, 11,780
May Flower, 11,690
Ocean House, 10,000
Centennial, 16,584
Mt. Glen, 13,966
Mtn. View, 8,500 (rented out)
Spicy Breezes, 12,000 (rented out)

FE (16 Dec. 1887) In the matter of the estate of Joseph Russ, deceased, the Superior Court ordered that Geo. D. Murray be appointed attorney to represent Wm. N. Russ, Joseph Russ and Zipporah Russ, minors, and that Geo. W. Hunter be appointed attorney to represent Georgia A. Russ, Edythe J. Russ and Bertha L. Russ, minors, in all proceedings hereafter to be had during the administration of said estate.


FE (16 March 1888) The executors of the estate of Joseph Russ have sold the interest of deceased in the firm of Russ, Sanders & Co., doing business at 213 Clay Street, S.F., to Wm. N. Russ, for $7,460 and have filed their petition, asking for the court to approve the sale. April 27 set for hearing.

FE (16 March 1888) Miss Georgia Russ goes below.

FE (16 March 1888) The Secretary of the Interior has instructed Attorney General to commence suit for the cancellation of a large number of redwood timber entries in Humboldt County. It is shown that the Department proposes to go for the record of the California Redwood Co. in its showing of fraudulent entries. Some 150 entries of this nature are charged to have been made as far back as 1879, only a year or so after the timber act was passed.

FE (13 April 1888) The timber land entries made in this county by James Whiting and Frank Duffy for David Evans, have been cancelled. The timber land witnesses from this county who couldn’t give bonds and who were taken below last week are confined in Alcatraz Military Prison. One witness taken to S.F. to testify in the land cases of Beach, Marks and Evans needed new clothes.
FE (13 April 1888) Georgia Russ incoming passenger.

FE (27 April 1888) Annie and William Russ return from S.F. after sojourning there for some time past.

FE (4 May 1888) Annual account of J. Russ estate: real estate appraised at $478,810.92; cash on hand, $152,390.54; personal property, $175,648.56 for a total of $806,840.02.

FE (11 May 1888) Ira Russ will commence the construction of a telephone line from Mazeppa to Singley’s station to connect at that point with the wire to Eureka. Way offices will be established at Fern Cottage and the Brick Store.


FE (18 May 1888) Zipporah Russ, Ira Russ and N. Bullock, the executors of the Jos. Russ Estate, have filed a petition in the Superior Court asking for a distribution of the estate, value of over $800,000. Zipporah entitled to one half; remainder to 10 children, deducting shares already conveyed prior to his death to Maggie Coombe, $11,800; Ira, $6,573.92; and Mary Robarts, $9,641 all at 6% annual interest.

FE (25 May 1888) Beach case went to Jury but failed to agree on verdict. Eight for conviction; 4 for acquittal. Charged with perjury and subordination of perjury in connection with timber land frauds.

FE (22 June 1888) Ira Russ wins leather medal with score of 40 (gold medal was 42) at Ferndale Rifle contest.

DHS (26 July 1888) Russ Estate. Zipporah asks for $444,947.94.

FE (27 July 1888) Executors of Russ Estate ask for distribution: Mrs. Russ, half of community property; Ira, $38,000; Mary E. Robarts, $34,000; Maggie Coombe, $31,000; each of other children, $45,000. Hearing Aug. 6.

FE (3 Aug. 1888) George Robertson, marble cutter of Eureka assisted by H.H. Niebur of Ferndale, busy in completing Russ vault in Ferndale Cemetery. Made of brick laid in cement, walls 2 feet thick, sunk into ground 5 feet; granite wall 1 foot thick...Marble slab laid on walls to form covering of vault. Marble slab 10 feet long, 5 feet wide and 6 inches thick, 2-3 tons in weight. Inscription: In Memory of Joseph Russ, Born Dec. 19, 1825 in Washington, Marin; Died Oct. 8, 1886 in Alameda, California. Aged 60 years, 9 months, and 19 days. “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the Called according to His purpose—Rom. Viili-28.”

Heading the inscription is the Royal Arch, Square and Compass, Masonic emblems, Mr. Russ having been a member of that fraternity. A foot of vault near middle of family lot. Mr.
Robertson has erected a handsome marble vase 2 ½ feet high and 2 feet in diameter. This vase rests upon a marble bowl which holds 3 gallons of water.

FE (3 Aug. 1888) Ira Russ and six others return from two-week camping trip on Redwood. Killed 18 deer and 2 panthers.

DHT (28 Aug. 1888) Handsome new residence of James Robarts near Ferndale nearing completion.

FE (7 Sept. 1888) Mrs. Zipporah Russ appointed guardian of the persons and estates of William, Bertha, Edythe, Joseph and Zipporah, Jr., minors.

FE (5 Oct. 1888) Rev. Coombe and wife and Mrs. James Robarts started overland for S.F. Will be absent several weeks.

FE (19 Oct. 1888) Poles for a telephone wire from Fern Cottage to Mezeppa are being hauled.

FE (19 Oct. 1888) Nuptials—In S.F., Oct. 16, 1888 at the First Congregational Church, Mr. Benjamin F. Harville of S.F. and Miss Annie J. Russ, third daughter of the late Hon. Joseph Russ and Mrs. Zipporah Russ of Ferndale, were joined in the holy bonds of wedlock.

FE (30 Nov. 1888) Mrs. Z. Russ and son William have returned from below.

FE (7 Dec. 1888) The Russ Estate has connected its telephone wire with Singley’s Station thus getting through connection from Mazeppa on Bear River Ridge to Eureka. Intermediate offices at Fern Cottage and Brick Store. Ira Russ has received from below a fine span of carriage horses.

FE (21 Dec. 1888) In the matter of the Russ Estate; Court found the $8000 executors claimed should be charged against Mrs. J.T. Robarts’ estate should not be charged, that the value of the life interest of Mr. and Mrs. Robarts in a certain piece of land upon which they reside should be charged as the advancement. Final account petition denied. Hearing set for Dec. 28.

FE (4 Jan. 1889) The Russ estate will soon be partitioned among the heirs. Mrs. Robarts charged with $8000 instead of value of life lease of the old Creis place. N. Bullock allowed $1,800; Ira, $2,250 for services rendered in connection the business of Eureka Meat Market.

FE (4 Jan. 1889) Mr. B.F. Harville and wife, nee Annie Russ, of San Diego are visiting relatives in the valley. The many friends of Mrs. Harville were very glad to welcome her back.

FE (11 Jan. 1889) Mr. and Mrs. B.F. Harville have returned to their home in San Diego.

FE (18 Jan. 1889) Edythe and Georgia Russ return to school in S.F.

FE (18 Jan. 1889) Port Kenyon—Messrs. Robarts Bros. certainly deserve credit for they have made the navigation of Eel river a success. It is a wonder that someone who understands running a creamery does not locate here, for there is certainly a good opening.
FE (25 Jan. 1889) The Russ telephone between Mazeppa and Eureka is in first-class running order. The telephone wire between the Brick store, Ferndale, and the Port Kenyon warehouses is now in perfect working order, with installment having also been placed in the residences of J.R.T. Robarts and J.M. Early. It is a private line, constructed by the enterprising firms of Russ, Early & Williams and the Robarts Bros.


FE (15 March 1889) Russ Estate distributed:
Zipporah—Eureka Market and slaughter house; Mazeppa and West Point dairies with cows; the Robarts and Redwood ranges on Redwood Creek; one-half Fort Baker ranch with 4000 sheep; one-third interest in tugs Buhne and Mary Ann; 240 acres timber land; six shares of San Diego building stock; 500 shares in Excelsior Redwood Co.; 120 shares of Humboldt county bank stock; 40 shares Times Publishing Co. stock; 15 shares of Centennial Hall stock; 218 shares of Humboldt Seminar stock; also the personal property belonging to the various business interests.
Ira—Cape land and portion of Davis Creek pasture and 300 head stock
William—Spicy Breezes and Central Park dairy ranches and the sheep ranch with cows, sheep and personal property belonging to same.
Edythe—What Cheer and Bolivia dairies with personal property.
Bertha—Mountain Glen and Bunker Hill dairies
Joseph—Mayflower and Woodland Echo dairies
Zipporah, Jr.—Bonanza, Olympia and Seattle dairies
Georgia—Centennial and Green Pond dairies
Annie—Mtn. View dairy; brick store and portion of South Ridge pasture
Mary—One-half Riverside and Seaside ranches and one-third Occidental ranch
Maggie—Ocean View dairy and portion South Beach dairy
With each dairy went a specified number of cows and personal property thereon and cash on hand divided among heirs.


FE (15 March 1889) We are informed that Mrs. Russ intends building a large residence on the old homestead this side of Centerville in the near future.

FE (22 March 1889) The Russ Market, Eureka, is now under the proprietorship of Mrs. Z. Russ & Sons.

FE (5 April 1889) Deed of the Thos. Hunter ranch in Petrolia section to Marshall Patrick and Zipporah Russ has been filed for record, 1,357 acres at $20 per acre.

FE (19 April 1889) Administration of Russ estate finally closed.

FE (19 April 1889) Ira Russ has sold to Maggie Coombe, 80 acres in 1N3W.
FE (19 April 1889) Last week 400 yearlings, belonging to Z. Russ and Sons were driven from Bear River section to Mad River ranges.

FE (3 May 1889) B.F. Harville of San Diego is offering large stock of buggies for sale in Eureka.

FE (10 May 1889) 95 cows milked at Mtn. Glen ranch belonging to Bertha Russ; 95 cows milked at Mazeppa, making 114 pounds of butter per day belonging to Zipporah; 74 cows at Green Pond, 100 cows at Seattle, belonging to Miss Zipporah.

FE (10 May 1889) Josiah Bell, C.F. Roberts and C.W. Long have been appointed appraisers of the estate of Russ minors.

FE (17 May 1889) 83 cows milked at Bonanza ranch.

FE (24 May 1889) 90 cows milked at What Cheer Ranch, Edythe’s; each ranch has a resident manager plus workers.

Ira and Will Russ buy John Rouse and Lee Cathey place on Rainbow Ridge.

FE (14 June 1889) 96 cows at Spicy Breezes, William’s; 86 cows at Ocean View, Maggie’s.

FE (28 June 1889) Articles of Incorporation filed for Ferndale Building Association. Directors include among others William Russ. Capital stock $25,000 with 250 shares at $100. Subscribers so far include among others: F.G. Williams, James T. Robarts each with 10 shares. Purpose is buying and selling lands, buildings upon and improving lands and hiring and letting of building and tenements. Other involved.

FE (5 July 1889) On next Monday, Russ family, F.G. Williams, and W. Reis of Ferndale plus others are going to Fort Baker to rusticate for a couple of weeks.

FE (12 July 1889) Joining the Russ camping party, B.F. Harville and wife, James T. Robarts and family, Maggie Richmond and John Graham.

FE (19 July 1889) Rev. P. Coombe and children returned from Russ camp but Mrs. Coombe stayed. Rev. Coombe will dairy 30 cows from Ocean View at the home place near Ferndale for the rest of the year.

FE (26 July 1889) Russ camping party returns.

FE (6 Sept. 1889) Z. Russ & Sons give notice that no hunting or shooting will henceforth be allowed on any of their ranches.

FE (27 Sept. 1889) B.F. Harville and wife and Miss Maud Robarts took their departure for San Diego.
FE (18 Oct. 1889) Will Russ and others drove down 120 head of cattle from Redwood to be fattened at Fern Cottage where large quantity of hay raised this season.

FE (3 Jan. 1890, Friday). The Creamery—It afford the Enterprise much pleasure to be able to state that the Humboldt Creamery is now in operation, having started on Monday morning under very favorable prospects. The machinery of the new institution works like clockwork, and Mr. Stewart, under whose general supervision the new establishment was erected and equipped, has established the fact beyond the possibility of dispute that he thoroughly understands and has completely mastered the business he has chosen to follow. This is the first real creamery on the eastern plan in California and Ferndale may well be proud of starting an enterprise that promises a most important forward step in one of California’s leading industries.

The Humboldt Creamery is second to but two out of 2000 in the United States and for arrangement and equipment second to none. The main creamery building is 30x80 feet and rests on a solid brick foundation. Half of the building is used for manufacturing butter and the other half for cold storage purposes, to store butter, eggs and other perishable. The capacity of the creamery is estimated at 3000 pounds of butter per day, two patent cream separators, two churns and two butter-workers operated by steam being necessary to perform the work. The cold storage apartments are sufficiently large to store 60,000 dozen of eggs, which can be kept from spring to winter in a perfect condition. The ice factory is 30x30 feet and is operated by the same power as runs the creamery. Ice will be manufactured in ample quantities to not only supply the storage rooms, but the county demand for that article as well. Those interested in the creamery feel confident that their investment will prove a profitable one and expect by the time spring fairly opens to receive milk in sufficient quantities to keep the creamery in steady operation. We understand that Mr. S.H. Paine is to act in the capacity of manager of the new institution and a more competent, reliable and trustworthy gentleman could not have been selected.

In connection with this notice, it is but justice to state that J.W. Blakemore superintended the construction of the creamery building and C.L. Fuller, the placing of the machinery, all of which was executed in a manner most satisfactory to those interested.

The officers of the creamery association are President Ira A. Russ, Vice-President N. Hurlbutt; Secretary and Manager S.H. Paine; Treasurer F.G. Williams, who with P. Calanchini comprise the Board of Directors. The stockholders in the corporation are: Z. Russ & Sons; Russ, Early & Williams; Russ, Sanders & Co.; Mrs. M. Henry; C.A. Dow; P. Calanchini; N. Hurlbutt; and S.H. Paine.

FE (3 Jan. 1890) A. Putnam has sold to Mary E. Robarts 69.100 acres in the NE qt NE qt sec 2, 2N2W and the undivided half SE qt NW qt sec 28, 3N2W.

FE (7 March 1890) Ira Russ drove a band of beef cattle to Eureka. He has been feeding them at Fern Cottage. They were in good condition.

FE (21 March 1890) As a result of the hard winter, Ira Russ says they lost in Bear River section only 70-75 head of dairy cows out of 1500, but lost 50% of calves. Loss on Redwood of stock about 1/3; loss of sheep on Mad River about 2/3. Correspondent for Watchman says Russ Co. lost 300 head of young stock on Bear River Ridge.
FE (28 March 1890) Law Suit. Maggie Coombe vs. D. Zanone decided in favor of plaintiff over ownership of 60 acres in Singley’s Flat section.

FE (4 April 1890) Building to be erected by Ira Russ on the International Corner in Ferndale.

FE (4 April 1890) Rev. Coombe and other man started; Ocean House ranch with 80 yearlings.

FE (18 April 1890) James Robarts having house built on Occidental ranch for men employed there. Plans to milk a large number of cows.

FE (2 May 1890) Out of 6000 sheep at the beginning of winter on the Russ-Graham ranges on Mad River; only 1100 are now alive.

FE (2 May 1890) B.F. Fox disposed of his 5 acres between Ferndale and Port Kenyon to Mrs. Z. Russ for $2,500.

FE (2 May 1890) Rev. P. Coombe has sold the Singley Flat dairy cows, 90 in number, to Wm. N. Russ. Mr. Coombe will stock the Singley Flat ranch, believing it to be more profitable than dairying.

FE (9 May 1890) Rev. Coombe has sold 90 Singley Flat dairy cows to Wm. Russ. Mr. Coombe will raise stock cattle because he believes they are more profitable.

FE (23 May 1890) Brick on ground for foundation of Ira’s new building.

FE (23 May 1890) Joseph Davenport has sold 6.5 acres at Grizzly Bluff to Z. Russ.

FE (23 May 1890) Fred Fox…has been in the employ of the Russ’ for the past 17 years and stationed at Mad river section for last 8 years.

FE (30 May 1890) James Thompson of Fortuna superintending brick foundation.

FE (6 June 1890) Georgia and Edythe Russ graduate from Irving Institute in S.F.

FE (13 June 1890) Ira Russ receives billiard table from S.F. Will set it up in Fern Cottage.

FE (13 June 1890) Mrs. Jas. T. Robarts and adopted daughter Maud returned from their visit below.

FE (27 June 1890) Mrs. Harville and son of San Diego visiting Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Robarts.

FE (11 July 1890) The misses Georgia and Edythe, who returned from San Francisco, were accompanied on the trip by a young cousin from the east named Huntoon. The young gentleman will spend several weeks visiting.
FE (11 July 1890) The framework up for new slaughter house is already up, and the machinery for windlasses, pumps, etc. is being hauled to the ground. The new building occupies the site of the rear of the old slaughter house and near the edge of Humboldt Bay.

FE (11 July 1890) J.W. Blakemore’s carpenters working on Ira’s new building.

FE (18 July 1890) A copy of Writ of Attachment in suit of Zipporah and Ira Russ et al. vs. Frank Smith for $303.42 and costs of suit filed for record.

FE (1 Aug. 1890) Ira’s building assuming huge proportions.

FE (22 Aug. 1890) James T. Robarts and wife and nephew, the Misses Russ and F.G. Williams were camping on Bear River this week. Frank Harville of San Diego visiting relatives in this section.

FE (29 Aug. 1890) Little Zipporah Russ recovering from severe attack of measles. Mrs. Z.B. Patrick and Mrs. Z. Russ have been visiting home of Marshall Patrick at Petrolia.

FE (17 Oct. 1890) Second coat of plaster for interior of Ira’s new building.

FE (21 Nov. 1890) Rev. Coombe and family return from Ocean House where they have been sojourning for several weeks.
Ten years ago—James T. Robarts purchased the Criss farm near Ferndale for $3,500.

FE (12 Dec. 1890) Z. Russ sues O.C. Potter, H.W. Hollister and R.W. Hutchens to foreclose mortgage of $662 on 100x50 foot lot in town of Ferndale.

FE (26 Dec. 1890) Frank Harville is back from San Diego and will spend the holidays with his wife, his baby boy and his other relatives and friends. Why not locate in Ferndale, Frank? Our people would gladly welcome you as a permanent resident.

FE (2 Jan. 1891) A very happy event occurred at Fern Cottage Christmas. Marshall Patrick of Petrolia was married to Mrs. Forbes. Service performed by Rev. Coombe, witnessed by quite a number of relatives and friends.

FE (9 Jan. 1891) Georgia and Edythe return below to school.
Mrs. N. Johnston and daughter Miss Ettie have taken charge of the “sanctum” at Fern Cottage.
Directors elected for Humboldt Creamery Association, Ira Russ, president; W.N. Russ.

FE (30 Jan. 1891) Frank Williams and Jim Robarts went quail hunting Sunday, but as the “mess” they promised us did not materialize, we suppose no game was secured.

FE (6 Feb. 1891) Ira Russ and John Graham have leased to S.C. Graham oil rights to certain lands for 50 years for 1/10 of crude product.
FE (13 Feb. 1891) A Handsome and Solid Edifice; The Best Wooden Structure in Humboldt County. New Russ Building at southwest corner Francis and Ocean, 60x90 feet with long side on Ocean; two stories, cupola at corner. First floor divided into three apartments, corner room for bank other two for stores. 33 rooms on second floor. Tin roof with sky light; 6 large bay windows extending both stories. Listed craftsmen who worked on building. Thos. J. Frost, Ferndale Architect; J.W. Blakemore, superintendent of work. “In conclusion we wish to state that the people of this section feel deeply grateful to Mr. Ira Russ, the owner of the new building, for the public spirit and enterprise displayed in having erected such a magnificent structure.

FE (17 April 1891) We are informed that a fine new residence will probably be built at the site of Fern Cottage this summer by Mrs. Russ.

FE (24 April 1891) Mrs. Z. Russ has received from below two very pretty guinea hens and a Wyndotte rooster of immense size.

    Social evening at Mr. and Mrs. James T. Robarts, assisted by Miss Edythe Russ.
    Many improvements at Mazeppa but nearly all “old boys” gone. Milking 110 cows. Will Russ, who is manager of the Russ interests in this section, has proven himself equal to the task and affairs run very smoothly on all dairies. He is full of business.

FE (8 May 1891) Edythe Russ and Belle Cowan on visit to S.F.

FE (22 May 1891) Rev. P. Coombe is to utilize the waters of Singley Creek for irrigating the flat at Ocean House.

FE (22 May 1891) The owners of the Centerville Creamery are continually improving that establishment. The engine now rests on a new brick foundation laid by H.H. Niebur and the boiler has been treated to a thick coating.

FE (29 May 1891) Wm. N. Russ gone to S.F. on business.

    Mazeppa news; milking 137 cows; making 159 pounds of butter daily for Eureka market. Mr. Leavey expert butter maker; Mr. Rogers manipulates separator, keeps books. Will Peters herds mule team over the roads. Joe Robbins will build some new dairy houses and barns.
    Will Russ forded Eel River with band of cattle, first crossing this spring.

FE (26 June 1891) Ira Russ and others took a spin to Ferndale on bicycles.

FE (10 July 1891) The Russ-Robarts-Williams camping party will leave for two-week outing up Eel River.

FE (17 July 1891) Camping party consists of 25 including John Graham and family, Milton Carson and wife, Harry Atkinson and Robert Skinner, the misses Russ, F.G. Williams, J.T. Robarts and family, Ira Russ, Miss Cowan, Miss Williams, Miss Van Winkle, Mrs. A. Putnam and daughter.

FE (24 July 1891) Camping party pitched tents near Jacobsen Valley on South Fork Eel.
FE (31 July 1891) Mrs. Robarts injured when she fell from horse. F.G. Williams went for physician, drove rig to Scotia, 35 miles in 3 ½ hours. Special train went from Scotia to Eureka to get Dr. Wallace, who arrived at camp after midnight on Saturday.

FE (15 May 1891) The J.T. Robarts residence on the old Criss place near Meridian, is being raised and repaired. Mr. Evan Thomas and family will occupy it.

FE (22 May 1891) The Rev. P. Coombe is to utilize the waters of Singley Creek for irrigating the flat at Ocean House. One mile of canal will be required and we understand that Mr. Coombe has selected E.G. Eastman to engineer the work.

FE (19 June 1891) The work of bringing water to irrigate the bottom land of the Ocean House dairy farm, below the Cape, still goes on. Mr. Coombe feels satisfied that his venture will prove a success. Carpenter Clark is superintending.

FE (26 June 1891) Will Russ returned last week from his trip to San Francisco.

FE (17 July 1891) J.T. Robarts and A. Putnam are having a large dam built in Francis creek at their places. Dan and George Branstetter are doing the work.

FE (7 Aug. 1891) Mrs. Russ and daughters, Jas. T. Robarts and wife, and Messrs. Ira Russ and F.G. Williams returned from Eel River. Mrs. Robarts, while far from being well, is greatly improved and steadily gaining her strength.

FE (14 Aug. 1891) Mr. Clark informs us that the main flume [at Ocean House] is completed and that quite a piece of bottom land at the flat is being watered daily.

FE (28 Aug. 1891) Z. Russ & Sons to ship 3,000 mutton sheep to San Francisco on the Newport. The steamer will take 300 head each trip.

FE (4 Sept. 1891) Rev. P. Coombe is now irrigating the flat at the Ocean House farm. Singley creek furnishes the water. Mr. Coombe and family have been spending most of their time at the Ocean House of late. It is a beautiful place at which to rusticate.

FE (16 Oct. 1891) Mrs. Z. Russ and family will spend the winter in Eureka. “It is earnestly hoped that they will again take up their residence at Fern Cottage in the spring.”

FE (23 Oct. 1891) Mrs. Z. Russ, we are reliably informed, carries the next heaviest life insurance of any lady in the U.S. Mrs. George Hearst, $300,000; Mrs. Russ, $100,000.

FE (13 Nov. 1891) Will Russ took band of cattle to Whitmore place on Van Duzen.

FE (4 Dec. 1891) Mrs. Z. Russ and daughter Edythe departed Wednesday for a visit to Mrs. Harville in San Diego.

FE (12 Feb 1892) Mr. and Mrs. James T. Robarts will take their departure for a month’s visit in San Diego.

FE (4 March 1892) J.T. Robarts has sold all his real estate to Ira Russ.

FE (11 March 1891) Russ slaughter house recently destroyed by fire will be rebuilt.

FE (11 March 1892) James T. Robarts and wife who have been visiting for the past month in San Diego are expected home on Sunday’s steamer.

FE (18 March 1892) Daughter born March 13 to Coombes.

FE (25 March 1892) Mrs. Z. Russ of Eureka visiting relatives in Ferndale. Robarts return from San Diego.

FE (1 April 1892) Fire at Fern Cottage last Friday; telephone dispatch came to Brick Store that the sanctum or boarding house was on fire. Fire company went out. “the sanctum and all its contents, save the bedding, were destroyed.” The adjoining building, including the big barn a few feet distant, were saved. Fire started from a board which had been placed on top of the chimney to keep the wind from flowing down it, caught fire and the pieces fell on roof. Loss probably $1200 to $1500. No insurance.

FE (8 April 1892) Georgia visiting relatives in Ferndale

James Robarts going to S.F. to purchase engine and boiler for Occidental Dairy to replace the old horse-power.

Russ family, through William, showed its appreciation to those who helped with the first in most substantial way.

FE (22 April 1892) Will Russ getting 500 head of young stock to take to Redwood to graze for summer.

FE (6 May 1892) In San Diego April 25th daughter born to B.F. Harville; wife former Annie Russ.

FE (6 May 1892) Will Russ and assistants, who drove a big band of young cattle to pasture on Redwood Creek a week or so ago, brought back with them a drove of fine beef cattle for the Russ Market, Eureka.

FE (13 May 1892) Bids for building new sanctum at Fern Cottage will be received at Brick Store.

FE (13 May 1892) Mrs. Z. Russ visited Ferndale last week. The lady and her family will return from Eureka to the old homestead at Fern Cottage in a week or ten days and will spend the summer there.
FE (17 June 1892) Mrs. Z. Russ returned from Eureka to Fern Cottage where she will remain this summer.

FE (17 June 1892) The Ferndale Creamery near Centerville is rolling but five boxes of butter a week now. The balance of the product is packed in kegs. This institution is turning out a fine article.


FE (1 July 1892) Ira Russ and Milton Carson visiting Lake Tahoe.

FE (8 July 1892) Bert Haywood, Bert Matthews and Pete Anderson are engaged in doing some carpenter work on Fern Cottage. Tom Wilson is also engaged in painting the Cottage.

FE (8 July 1892) A Putnam and family and J.T. Robarts and wife went to Bear River where they intended to spend their Fourth of July.

FE (15 July 1892) Miss Edythe Russ of Eureka is at present sojourning with Mrs. J.R. Robarts.

FE (22 July 1892) The Misses Georgia and Bertha Russ returned from their visit below, accompanied by cousin Miss Huntoon of Sacramento, who will visit at Fern Cottage a few weeks. The young ladies in company with Ira Russ and Milton Carson spent Fourth of July at Lake Tahoe.

FE (5 Aug. 1892) Joseph Huntoon from Sacramento visiting Aunt and cousins at Fern Cottage with sister.

FE (12 Aug. 1892) Mrs. P. Coombe was an outgoing passenger on the Pomona Saturday. She goes on a visit to relatives and friends in other parts of the state.

FE (12 Aug. 1892) Misses Edythe and Bertha and Master Joe Russ were outgoing passengers on the Pomona Saturday. The first named and her brother go on a short visit to relatives and friends, while Miss Bertha intends entering a San Francisco educational institution.

FE (12 Aug. 1892) The carpenter work at Fern Cottage has been finished and the Cottage looms up fine.

FE (19 Aug. 1892) Arriving on Pomona were Mrs. Coombe and Edythe Russ. 900 tons of hay cut on Russ Estate this season.
Mrs. Z. Russ is erecting a summer resort on the Bonanza ranch on Bear River. Mayor Joe Robbins is superintending the job.
Ira Russ returns from consulting physicians in S.F. He hasn’t been in the best of health.

FE (26 Aug. 1892) Ira Russ and others went fishing on Price Creek; caught 30 fine large trout.
FE (2 Sept. 1892) Pete Anderson has been working at Fern Cottage for several weeks past. Pete tells us that the carpenter work at the Cottage was completed Tuesday and that Tom Wilson is now wielding the paint brush in lively shape.

FE (2 Sept. 1892) James Robarts and Dick Francis spent several days hunting on Bear River.

FE (9 Sept. 1892) J.T. Robarts and wife, Rev. and Mrs. P. Coombe, Rev. J.D. Hughes, F.G. Williams and the Misses Huntoon and Georgia and Edythe Russ spent several days at the new summer resort on the Bonanza ranch on Bear River.

FE (16 Sept. 1892) The work of painting Fern Cottage has been completed and the Cottage now present a handsome appearance. Tom Wilson did the “dabbing.”

FE (30 Sept. 1892) Ira Russ, Robert Skinner, Milton Carson, J.T. Robarts, Richard Francis and Harry Hitchings left for two-day hunting and fishing trip to Bear River section.

Ira and James Robarts won some blue ribbons at fair for cattle
Robarts shipped Jersey bull to Oregon.

FE (7 Oct. 1892) Ira Russ and friends return from hunting trip on Bear River. Killed foxes and quail. Mrs. Z. Russ, Mrs. J.T. Robarts, F.G. Williams, Georgia and Edythe spent a couple of days with them.

FE (14 Oct. 1892) A large new barn on the Spicy Breezes dairy ranch on Bear River is about completed; put up by Joe Robbins and Jas. Davis. New barn also being built on Bonanza ranch by Al Brown. [for Russ family]

FE (28 Oct. 1892) The Wild Cat extension completed and teams can now go from Ferndale to Bear River without traveling the beach or Centerville grade. Hurrah!
Belle Cowan visiting Misses Russ.

FE (4 Nov. 1892) Josiah Bell and wife of Eureka were guests of Mrs. Z. Russ and family at Fern cottage on Saturday and Sunday. Belle Cowan leaves Fern Cottage for Honolulu.

FE (11 Nov. 1892) The Misses Georgia and Edythe Russ gave a very pleasant invitational dance social at Roberts Hall on Thursday evening of last week, which was attended by some two dozen or more young people. Dancing was indulged in until a late hour and a most enjoyable time was had. Those present….

FE (18 Nov. 1892) Z. Russ & Sons shipped 110 fat hogs from Ferndale section to San Francisco last week. FE (25 Nov. 1892) Correction. It was Robarts Bros. who shipped hogs.

FE (25 Nov. 1892) Z. Russ & Sons to erect two-story frame building on 3rd Street in Eureka near Russ Market. Lower story for restaurant, upper for gentleman’s club rooms.

FE (9 Dec. 1892) Marriage of Eva Huntoon in Sacramento. Georgia and Edythe attended with Edythe as bridesmaid.
FE (16 Dec. 1892) Ira Russ suffering considerably from rheumatism, which prevents him from moving around much.

FE (30 Dec. 1892) Joe Russ returned from Oakland where he has been attending Hopkins Academy.

FE (30 Dec. 1892) Mrs. Z. Russ has recovered from severe attack of la grippe. Ira Russ still confined to Fern Cottage with rheumatism.

FE (30 Dec. 1892) Big Storm. Many buildings of the Mayflower dairy on Bear River were badly wrecked as were the dairy house, barn and dwelling at Spicy Breezes dairy.

FE (13 Jan. 1893) Ira Russ still confined to house. Condition of inflammatory rheumatism grows no better.

FE (20 Jan. 1893) B.F. Harville returning to San Diego after visiting at Fern Cottage. Mrs. Harville will remain some time yet before joining her husband.

FE (20 Jan. 1893) Joseph and Bertha Russ have returned to their studies at Hopkins Academy, Oakland.


FE (10 Feb. 1893) Rev. P. Coombe is selling off the dairy stock on his Ocean House dairy preparatory to placing upon the ranch a new grade of stock.

FE (10 Feb. 1893) False in its Entirety—[letter in Hoard’s Dairyman, published in Chicago, signed by W.H. giving an account of what he learned when he visited Eel River valley. Enterprise responding]

The article contains the biggest aggregation of falsehoods ever crowded into a single column…. In one part he says, “The dairymen there (Eel river valley) seem to think the trouble is with the system. They don’t know what is the matter.”

System, indeed! The separator system has been in use in this section for more than five years past—two years before the creamery was built—having been first introduced on the dairies of the Russ Estate and A. Keohan in 1887 and the butter shipped from this valley finds a ready and immediate sale upon its arrival in San Francisco at the highest market prices, which is convincing evidence of its excellent quality. [more]

FE (18 Feb. 1893) J.T. Robarts suffering past two weeks with rheumatism. Thinks he caught it from Ira.

FE (17 Feb. 1893) Beautiful residence of Mr. and Mrs. Robarts was scene of progressive euchre party. Those present included Georgia, Edythe, Ira, William, and F.G. Williams.
FE (10 March 1893) Ira Russ again confined to Fern Cottage with rheumatism.
    William N. Ross goes below.
    Rev. Coombe has leased Ocean House Dairy to William. Doesn’t include stock.

FE (17 March 1893) The Ferndale Creamery at Centerville is running steadily and is receiving about 6000 pounds of milk per day.

FE (24 March 1893) Incoming passengers on steamer, J.T. Robarts who has been on a visit to the metropolis and B.F. Harville of San Diego who will visit at Fern Cottage where his wife has been since Christmas.
    Ira Russ out of house, visiting Eureka
    Ladies’ Aid Society social at Robarts.

FE (31 March 1893) Putting vault in Russ Building for Ferndale Bank; in corner room.

FE (7 April 1893) B.F. Harville and P. Coombe outgoing on steamer. Mrs. Harville still at Fern Cottage, but Harville plans to move to Oakland. Coombe going to other parts of state for visit.

FE (21 April 1893) Edythe gone below for visit. Ira gone to springs for health.

FE (28 April 1893) Will Russ in charge of Russ Market in Eureka.


FE (12 May 1893) Ira Russ at Paso Robles springs; Edythe with him.

FE (19 May 1893) Zipporah and Georgia outgoing to visit elsewhere in State.

FE (26 May 1893) Over 300 head of cattle driven from Russ possession on Bear River to Redwood above Blue Lake during past ten days.

FE (16 June 1893) Weeott arrives at Port Kenyon. Edythe returns, says Ira now at Harbon Springs in Lake County.

FE (23 June 1893) Mrs. Z. Russ and daughter Miss Georgia, who have been spending several weeks visiting friends and relatives in different parts of the state, returned on Sunday’s steamer.
    Articles of Incorporation field for Russ, Early and Williams Co., for 50 years at $150,000 capital stock; 1,500 shares of which 1,002 have been subscribed; Ira Russ, A.J. Harville, Jno. Early, Frank G. Williams; 250 shares each; Wm. N., 2 shares.

FE (30 June 1893) Josiah Bell at Fern Cottage Sunday. His daughter Fay and Miss Blanche Graham are guests of Misses Russ.
FE (7 July 1893) Russ party returns from several days sojourn at their beautiful Bear River resort.

FE (14 July 1893) J.T. Robarts and wife, F.G. Williams, Georgia, Bertha, Zipporah, Joe and Miss Bell left for several days outing at Russ summer resort on Bear river.

FE (21 July 1893) Ira gives Will power of attorney.

FE (28 July 1893) B.F. Harville arrives from San Diego for month’s visit. Russ party returns from “Idlewild Retreat.”

FE (11 Aug. 1893) Miss Bertha Russ and brother Joe returned to their studies in Oakland and at Belmont, respectively, per Saturday’s Pomona.

FE (18 Aug. 1893) Mrs. Z. Russ, Misses Georgia and Edythe Russ, A Putnam and family, J.T. Robarts and wife and B.F. Harville and wife returned from Idlewild on Bear River where they had been camping for several days.

FE (1 Sept. 1893) Mrs. P. Coombe’s household furniture will be sold at public auction. B.F. Harville and family go below.

FE (8 Sept. 1893) Ira A. Russ, who is now in San Francisco, is reported greatly improved in health. He will accompany the Russ-Harville-Robarts-Williams party on their eastern trip.

Adv. Mrs. P. Coombe will sell at auction, Sept. 9, all her household furniture; harness, saddles, wagon, buggy, 3 horses 11 cows, etc.

FE (15 Sept. 1893) On Saturday last, Mrs. P. Coombe disposed of her household furniture at auction and in a short time expects to leave with her children for San Francisco, there to join her husband.


FE (29 Sept. 1893) Letter from Russ-Robarts-Harville-Shaw party states they are now taking in the sights of Yellowstone National Park where they will remain a week, then on to World’s Fair. Encountered snow storm. Mrs. I. Shaw has the grippe.

FE (6 Oct. 1893) Mrs. Z. B. Patrick entertains with farewell party for Mrs. P. Coombe. Little son of Mrs. Coombe on returning to Fern Cottage from Ferndale was stopped near Gravelly Point by man who took his candy and handkerchief.

The Coombe place near town has been rented by Z.B. Patrick.

FE (3 Nov. 1893) William Russ gone to S.F. on business.
FE (17 Nov. 1893) Mr. and Mrs. James Robarts, F.G. Williams, Edythe return from two-month trip to World’s Fair and leading cities. Ira and Georgia staying in S.F. at present.

FE (17 Nov. 1893) Band of 80 cattle belonging to Russ Estate on way from Redwood to southern Humboldt passed through Blue Lake.

FE (1 Dec. 1893) B.F. Harville arrived on Pomona.

FE (15 Dec. 1893) Georgia home from long trip and recent visit with friends and relatives in S.F. and Sacramento.

FE (15 Dec. 1893) Another Creamery—W.N. Russ has completed all arrangements for a new creamery on the Bunker Hill ranch this side of Bear River. Plans were prepared by R.A. Simpson; lumber on the ground. The new institution will be supplied with two large separators and will be capable of handling the milk of nearly 1,000 cows.

FE (22 Dec. 1893) Bertha and Joe return from Snell’s College in Oakland for holidays. Mrs. P. Coombe, who with her husband and children, is now located in the metropolis, arrived per last week’s Weott for a visit of a few weeks. [Weott was a Port Kenyon steamer]

FE (22 Dec. 1893) Work has been started on Wm. Russ’ new creamery at the Bunker Hill ranch. Mayor Joe Robbins and Tom Ferrill handle the hammer and saw.

FE (5 Jan. 1894) Ira here for holidays, but plans to soon depart for Sandwich Islands
P. Coombe returns below, but Mrs. Coombe will stay a little longer.
Harvilles leave for San Diego but still plan to move to S.F.

Fern Cottage was the scene of a very happy family reunion on Christmas night and the evening was one that will long be remembered, especially by Mrs. Russ to whom the pleasure of witnessing all her children and grandchildren simultaneously assembled at the old home was inexpressibly great. The evening was pleasantly passed. A fine musical and literary program preceded the distribution of presents from the heavily laden and handsomely arranged tree, and at a late hour, all sat down to a magnificent spread. In addition to children and grandchildren there were present J.T. Robarts, B.F. Harville, Rev. P Coombe and F.G. Williams.

FE (26 Jan. 1894) New Russ creamery being erected at Bunker Hill dairy; will have two separators, capable of handling milk of 1,000 cows. Will receive milk from Bunker Hill, Seattle, What Cheer and Mtn. Glen dairies.

Party at Z.B. Patrick, gotten up by Misses Russ and Graham, lots of folks and family.

FE (9 Feb. 1894) Edythe and Ira go to S.F. along with cousin Miss Graham.

FE (16 Feb. 1894) Ira Russ left San Francisco Sunday for Honolulu where he expects to remain until late in the spring.

Mrs. P. Coombe and children, after spending several weeks with their relatives at Fern Cottage, departed by the last outgoing Weott to join Mr. Coombe, who now officiates as pastor in a Congregational Church at San Francisco.
FE (16 March 1894) Kausen & Williams are at work on an order for 42 milk cans received from W. N. Russ for the new creamery at Bunker Hill.

FE (30 March 1894) Foreclosure by Z. Russ on mortgaged property, two parcels, 1,500 acres and 360 acres.

FE (11 May 1894) New Bunker Hill creamery is operating.

FE (18 May 1894) Mrs. Z. Russ and daughter Miss Georgia were outgoing passengers on the Pomona Saturday. The ladies will visit friends and relatives in other parts of the State and view the sights at the Midwinter Exposition.

FE (25 May 1894) Ira A. Russ, who has been absent from the county for several months, seeking benefit for his impaired health, returned on the Humboldt last Sunday. Ira looks and feels greatly improved and states that he never felt better in his life than at the present time. He visited the Sandwich Islands during his absence.

FE (1 June 1894) Mrs. A. Putnam and daughter Edna and Mrs. James T. Robarts left on Saturday’s Pomona for a visit to the Midwinter Fair….

FE (8 June 1894) Edythe and Mrs. Robarts incoming passengers. Mrs. Robarts returned early because James Robarts was injured in accident at Occidental Dairy. Miss Bertha Russ, who has been attending college in San Francisco, returned on the Pomona yesterday. Among those arriving per steamer Humboldt Sunday were…Mrs. I Russ, Mrs. J.T. Robarts, Miss Edythe Russ….

FE (8 June, Friday, 1894) A Serious Accident—On Friday morning last our esteemed fellow citizen, Jas. T. Robarts, met with an accident on the Occidental ranch, which was indeed a narrow escape from instant death, and which was of such severity as still cause the physicians to be unable to definitely determine the outcome. Mr. Robarts and several others were engaged in cleaning out the artesian well and had a derrick erected consisting of four, 3-inch pipes leaning together at the top to assist them in their work. While extracting the “cleaner” from the well, the pipes from a sudden side-pressure brought to bear upon them, started to topple. Everyone sprang out of the way with the exception of Mr. Robarts, who seized a suspended rope and endeavored to hold the pipes in position; in this he was unsuccessful, however, and the heavy pipes came down up him, the “block” first striking him upon the head and inflicting a small gash, also rendering him insensible. The lead was immediately lifted from off his back and he was removed to the house where he shortly afterward gained consciousness. Physicians were sent for and upon their arrival, it was found that the unfortunate man was seriously hurt about the back and internally in addition to his slight wound on the head. At last accounts, he was resting easily with indications heightening for recovery. Dr. Wallace of Eureka has been called to the scene as an assistant several times since the accident. James’ large circle of friends are earnestly hoping for his early and complete recovery.

FE (15 June 1894) Mrs. Russ incoming.
FE (29 June 1894) Frank Harville up for few days from S.F. Richard Francis caring for James Robarts.

FE (13 July 1894) William Russ shipped 100 head of cattle on North Fork.

FE (27 July 1894) Ira, Frank Williams, and Richard Francis return from two-week hunting trip on Mad River. Captured all the game they desired.

FE (24 Aug. 1894) Ira and others enjoyed Bear River hunting trip.

FE (31 Aug. 1894) A band of 200 sheep belonging to Russ Market passed through Ferndale en route for Fern Cottage where they will be kept until winter.

FE (21 Dec. 1894) The Ferndale football team has elected Joe Russ captain. Will play Eureka on Christmas.

FE (8 Feb. 1895) Frank Harville up for few weeks visit.

FE (15 Feb. 1895) Frank Harville of Russ, Sanders & Co. of S.F. tells us J.T. Robarts will return from the City next month. He is improving slowly, bears his misfortune without complaint.

FE (1 March 1895) Outgoing passengers Mrs. Z. and Miss Z. Russ.
FE (29 March 1895) Zipporah Russ suing C.A. Doe to foreclose mortgage for $5000 given March 24, 1890 upon his Petrolia ranch.

   James T. Robarts is at present sojourning at the St. Helena Sanatorium in Napa County. Jim’s condition is slightly improved….

FE (26 April 1895) Doctors at St. Helena’s think they can cure James Robarts. Will Smiley, who has been in attendance upon J.T. Robarts for several months returned from below yesterday. Miss Edythe Russ also came up.

   Brick Store undergoing renovation.

FE (17 May 1895) Frank Harville makes flying visit last week. F.G. Williams now has private office in Brick Store where he will keep the books.

FE (24 May 1895) Miss Zipporah Russ who has been sojourning below for some time is greatly improved in health.

   Ira Russ won shooting match at Samoa.

FE (31 May 1895) Miss Cowan late of Sandwich Islands visiting Edythe at Fern Cottage.

FE (5 July 1895) Ira Russ and Richard Francis leave on prospecting trip to Trinity mountains.

FE (12 July 1895) Rev. Coombe up for few weeks visit.

FE (19 July 1895) Miss Scruggs of the Irving Institute of S.F. has been visiting Miss Russ at Fern Cottage. Miss Graham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Graham of Eureka, visiting Misses Russ at Fern Cottage.

FE (26 July 1895) Rev. Coombe paid Enterprise office a visit. He and children here for visit. He is pastor of Richmond and Pierce Streets churches in S.F.

FE (26 July 1895) Port Kenyon—W.N. Russ had a handsome Hereford bull come up on this last Weeott. Mr. Russ is the only one in the county that imports that breed of cattle, it being the best breed known for beef.

FE (2 Aug. 1895) W.N. Russ will ship 150 head of beef cattle below on today’s Pomona and on next week’s trip, Putnam and Smith will ship 150 head.

FE (9 Aug. 1895) Mrs. B.F. Harville and three children of S.F. are visiting Fern Cottage, having arrived on the Weeott last week.

FE (16 Aug. 1895) Ira and Richard Francis no on Mad River ranch.

FE (23 Aug. 1895) Bertha and Edythe to leave for Palo Alto to take up their studies at Stanford.

FE (20 Sept. 1895) California Dairymen’s Association meeting in San Francisco; W.N. Russ chosen as a director.
FE (1 Nov. 1895) Mrs. J.T. Robarts returned from San Francisco Sunday for a two-weeks’ stay in Ferndale. Mr. Robarts is still at the French hospital in San Francisco and we are glad to learn is somewhat improved.

FE (8 Nov. 1895) John Hanson has rented of Z. Russ & Sons the Occidental ranches. N.P. Hansen, who is to move from the Francis place to the Russ Creek place near Centerville, advertises a public action….28 head of fine dairy cows will be sold at auction on the Francis place, Nov. 30; also 30-40 tons of oat hay baled. N.P. Hansen.

FE (22 Nov. 1895) John Hansen and family will move to the Occidental and N.P. Hansen and family to the Russ creek ranch the first Monday in Dec.

FE (29 Nov. 1895) The livestock taken down on the Pomona last week consisted of 160 head of beef cattle shipped by Wm. Russ….

FE (13 Dec. 1895) A band of fine beef steers from Fort Baker passed through Ferndale en route to Russ.

FE (20 Dec. 1895) Jas. T. Robarts submitted to an operation at the French Hospital in San Francisco on Tuesday and on Wednesday a telegram was received in Ferndale by his brother. W.H. Robarts stating that he was resting comfortably and doing well. A legion of friends here are earnestly hoping that Jim will yet be a well man.

FE (20 Dec. 1895) Joe Russ returns from Alameda where he attends school; he will kick the pigskin with Ferndale’s football team this winter.

FE (20 Dec. 1895) To Dairymen and Others—On and after the 20th of Dec. and until further notice, the Humboldt Creamery will be operated by J.P. Hanley, under his own management and responsibility. The Directors of the Humboldt Creamery Co. will not be responsible for any debts contracted by J.F. Hanley. Wm. N. Russ, president; W.H. Robarts, secretary.

FE (10 Jan. 1896) Z. Russ and Sons shipped 123 head of beef to S.F. on Wednesday’s Pomona.

FE (17 Jan. 1896) Creamery Auction, Feb. 1st at Humboldt Creamery, one mile north of Ferndale by order of stockholders, sale by auction. All real estate, buildings, fittings and fixtures of Humboldt Creamery Co.

This creamery has a capacity of 1800 pounds of butter per day, fitted with all modern conveniences, 20-horse power boiler and engine, five separators, four cream vats, milk vats, two patent butter cutters, two churns, butter worker, butter boxes, scales, testing machine. The hog pen is the best situated and most complete in the county. Terms 10% at time of bid and balance on receipt of deed. W.M. Russ, president; W.H. Robarts, secretary.

FE (17 Jan. 1896) Harry Robarts will leave in a few days to join his uncle Jas. T. Robarts in San Francisco.
FE (31 Jan. 1896) Mrs. Z. Russ, Georgia, Zipporah and Ira are spending the winter in Arizona.

FE (11 Feb. 1896) Ira deeds right of way to Cape Mendocino lighthouse across his land to government $50.

FE (18 Feb. 1896) Three bids for running Humboldt Creamery: Russ, Sanders Co.; J.F. Hanley; Peter Philipsen & Co. [Russ bid highest]

FE (28 Feb. 1896) Frank Harville of Russ, Sanders & Co. in town for few days.

FE (6 March 1896) Sam Lytle came down from Russ and Graham’s Mad River ranch to visit parents and family. Wm. Lytle, Sr., had dinner with his seven sons and photo taken at Ferndale Hotel—Sam, Tom, Will, Frank, Edward, Hensley and James. There are six daughters and two deceased from original family of 15.

FE (10 March 1896) Z. Russ & Sons received six inch tire wagon on Weeott.

FE (20 March 1896) Attention Dairymen; meeting called by California Dairy Association to secure new members and receive suggestions; Samuel E. Watson, secretary, will be there; also W.N. Russ, vice-president.

FE (24 March 1896) Meeting of Dairymen; well attended; a number joined; decided to organize a local association to be composed of members of the state association; W.N. Russ chosen president; E.B. Carr, secretary; June 15th and 16th, a dairy convention will be held in Ferndale under the auspices of State Association.

FE (7 April 1896) W.N. Russ says Georgia and Zipporah will stay awhile longer in Arizona. Zipporah’s health is improved.

FE (5 May 1896) Judge rules in two suits: Z. Russ & Sons vs. Tax Collector Crichton, regarding patents, tax sales, etc.

FE (22 May 1896) Jos. Russ graduates from school at Alameda.

FE (26 May 1896) 140 cows milked at Mazeppa; milk from 70 cows at West Point going to Mazeppa for butter; daily butter output 285 pounds.

FE (9 June 1896) Mrs. Coombe arrived with family to spend few months in the valley.

E (16 June 1896) Miss Russ an incoming passenger.

FE (14 July 1896) Georgia and Bertha Russ return on Pomona.

FE (21 July 1896) William and Joe Russ and another man left Petrolia with band of cattle purchased from several men. Shipment on Pomona.
Edythe home on Friday’s Pomona.

FE (24 July 1896) Rev. Coombe came up to visit. Mrs. Coombe and family have been at Fern Cottage for over a month.
Russ & Co. shipped 135 head of beef.

FE (31 July 1896) The Misses Russ will entertain friends with lawn party.

FE (7 Aug. 1896) Jas. T. Robarts and wife to return from S.F.

FE (7 Aug. 1896) An Evening at Fern Cottage—Last Monday evening, the Misses Russ entertained a large number of friends at Fern Cottage, the beautiful home of their mother, Mrs. Z. Russ, three miles from Ferndale. The occasion was a lawn party and a more enjoyable affair has never taken place in this community. The cottage and its surrounding grounds were brilliantly illuminated with Chinese lanterns, presenting a most inviting appearance and beneath the trees was erected a dancing platform for the convenience of those who desired to engage in that amusement. Prof. William Kausen and daughter, Miss May, furnished the music. The weather was perfect and numerous hammocks afforded resting places outside the cottage for those who did not dance. Souvenirs were furnished the guests in the shape of dance programs which were quite original and very pretty, all showing different designs drawn by the young ladies. Several hours were most happily spent in dancing, social intercourse, music, etc. and at the proper time, ice cream and refreshments were served. All present were made to feel perfectly at home and the open hospitality for which Fern Cottage is noted as fully in evidence on this occasion and Mrs. Russ and her agreeable daughters have placed their friends under obligation to them for a most enjoyable evening.

FE (14 Aug. 1896) 120 rods of dyke being built on marsh for Z. Russ & Sons.

Russ camping party returns.

FE (21 Aug. 1896) Yesterday morning at about 2 o’clock, the Grizzly Bluff Creamery and Cheese factory, about five miles from Ferndale, was burned to the ground, together with all its machinery, 30 boxes of butter and between $1500 and $1600 worth of cheese….The Grizzly Bluff creamery was owned by a joint stock company, composed of Russ, Early & Williams; Moller and Boyston; and a number of dairymen of the Grizzly Bluff section….The Creamery will likely be rebuilt.

FE (1 Sept. 1896) Bertha and Edythe go back to Stanford. Miss Zipporah entertains a number of her young friends.

FE (11 Sept. 1896) Georgia and Miss Zipporah rusticating at Whitmore place.


FE (29 Sept. 1896) Z. Russ & Sons shipped 150 head of beef from Mad River ranch; Sam Lytle and two others brought 120 head from Redwood to pasture on ridge this winter.


FE (8 Jan. 1897) C. Ambrosini who runs Russ Centennial Ranch on Bear River Ridge tells us that a new dwelling house is soon to be erected on Centennial.

FE (12 Jan. 1897) Joe Russ departed on Pomona to enter Heald’s Business College in S.F. After spending their vacation at Fern Cottage, Misses Edythe and Bertha Russ have returned below…to attend the University at Pomona. Miss Zipporah Russ is also at Pomona where she is spending the winter.

FE (19 Jan. 1897) Ira Russ has sold his fine billiard table to the Humboldt Wheelmen of Eureka.

FE (12 Feb. 1897) W.N. Russ goes below.

FE (19 Feb. 1897) Z. Russ & Sons shipped 50 head of beef below. Big band of cattle passed through town, purchased for Z. Russ & Sons.

FE (9 March 1897) Ira Russ and J.C. Erickson purchased 100 head of choice dairy stock, 90 cows and 10 heifers.

W.N. Russ and sister Georgia Russ were incoming passengers on Pomona.

FE (2 April 1897) Joe Russ returns from school in S.F.

FE (13 April 1897) Ira Russ is sufficiently recovered from illness to go to S.F., accompanied by sister Georgia.

FE (16 April 1897) Ira Russ, who has been quite ill for some time past, gone to Paso Robles Springs where he hopes to get relief and cure from rheumatism.

FE (14 May 1897) The Misses Edythe, Georgia and Bertha Russ will make a tour of Europe this summer.
FE (18 May 1897) Misses Bertha, Georgia and Edythe Russ, accompanied by Prof. Powers and wife and three young lady students from Stanford University, leave the City today for a trip through Europe.

FE (28 May 1897) Ira Russ and John Graham dissolve firm. Russ to pay debts and continue stock business.

FE (1 June 1897) Mrs. Frank Harville, nee Russ, and three children arrive.

FE (8 June 1897) H. Lytle kills coyote at Fern Cottage when found in field with calves.

FE (22 June 1897) Joe Russ and Hensley Lytle killed lynx near Fern Cottage. Z. Russ & Sons shipped 150 head of cattle to S.F.

Frank Harville of S.F. of the commission firm of Russ, Early & Harville was incoming passenger.

FE (13 July 1897) Work is progressing rapidly on Z. Russ & Sons new barn at Fern Cottage.

FE (17 Aug. 1897) Joe Russ captured big cat owl at Fern Cottage.

FE (31 Aug. 1897) Ira Russ returned from below; considerably better from rheumatism.

FE (10 Sept. 1897) Ira Russ and Richard Francis off to Redwood Creek to rusticate.

FE (24 Sept. 1897) Miss Russ incoming passenger on Pomona.

Z. Russ and Sons shipped 45 yearlings below to Miller and Lux.

In April 1896, Z. Russ & Sons brought suit in Superior Court against tax collector to restrain him from issuing deeds to state for certain lands sold to state for delinquent taxes and appeals were taken to Supreme Court. Supreme Court’s decision says when state issues a parent, it conveys all right, title and interest in land that state has no title by virtue of tax sales to the state prior to issuance of patents.

FE (28 Sept. 1897) Miss Z. Russ, who has been sojourning in the southern part of the state for several months past for the benefit of her health, was incoming passenger on Thursday’s Pomona. Young lady is feeling better, but expects to return below in the near future.

FE (1 Oct. 1897) Ira Russ and Richard Francis return from upper Mad River

FE (5 Oct. 1897) Z. Russ & Sons make another big shipment of cattle to Miller and Lux.

FE (8 Oct. 1897) Joe Russ and others took 110 head of cattle to Mattole section to pasture them on Mrs. Radcliffe’s Petrolia ranges, rented by Z. Russ & Sons for two years.

Among passengers arriving on Wednesday’s Pomona was Miss Georgia Russ who recently returned from an extended tour of Europe and she is now at Fern Cottage. Host of friends welcome her back.
FE (12 Oct. 1897) Misses Edythe and Bertha Russ are still in Europe and will remain at Berlin this winter studying music and German.

Rev. P. Coombe and wife arrived from S.F. on Sunday’s Pomona.

FE (15 Oct. 1897) At Fern Cottage near Ferndale, last evening at 8:30 o’clock, Mr. Frank G. Williams of the Russ, Early & Williams Co., and treasurer of the Town of Ferndale, was united in marriage to Miss Georgia Russ, daughter of the late Hon. Jos. Russ and Mrs. Z. Russ. Rev. Phillip Coombe of S.F. was the officiating clergyman and the ceremony was witnessed by relatives only.

FE (19 Oct. 1897) Groom is eldest son of Hon. George Williams and wife. The bride…like the gentleman who has won her heart and hand, is a general favorite with all who know her. Possessed of every qualification that makes the true and perfect woman, she will ever prove a loving and faithful life partner to the husband of her choice.

Rev. Phillip Coombe and wife of S.F. and F.G. Williams and bride went to Bear River last Friday for a few days stay at the Russ summer cottage.

Frank Harville accompanied by Ira Russ returned to S.F.

FE (26 Oct. 1897) Rev. Coombe conducted services at the Congregational Church on Sunday. He has returned to S.F.

Edythe Russ added to subscription list of Enterprise, now in Berlin, Germany.

FE (29 Oct. 1897) Mrs. Coombe staying at Fern Cottage a few more days.

Mrs. Z. Russ will spend the winter at the Pomona College in Claremont in the southern part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. F.G. Williams will receive their friends at Fern Cottage on Fridays during November.

FE (30 Nov. 1897) Mrs. Frank Harville and family who have been spending several months at Fern Cottage departed on Friday’s Humboldt for their home in S.F.

FE (7 Dec. 1897) Sam Lytle is in charge of Russ Ranch on upper Mad River.

FE (21 Dec. 1897) Ira Russ is sojourning in L.A. for his health. Added his name to Enterprise subscription list.

FE (29 March 1898) The Ferndale Bank has re-leased from Ira Russ for five years longer the room in the Russ building now occupied by the bank.

FE (29 April 1898) Ira Russ returned from a long stay below. His health is improved.

FE (10 May 1898) Ira Russ and Richard Francis departed for ramble through upper Mad River section.
FE (17 May 1898) Mrs. J.H. Goff of Waddington and Mrs. Z. Russ of Fern Cottage were visiting Mrs. M. Patrick at Petrolia last week.

FE (7 June 1898) Fern Cottage, the home of Mrs. Z. Russ and family, is to be lighted by Acetylene gas, arrangements having been made with Mr. C.B. Woods, the agent for this new illuminant, now in Ferndale, to supply a 25-light plant. Kausen and Williams are putting in the required piping at the Cottage.

FE (14 June 1898) Donald Coombe, son of Rev. P. Coombe, came up from the City last week and Mrs. Coombe and her other children are expected at Fern Cottage in a few days.

FE (21 June 1898) Mrs. P. Coombe and family of S.F. are now visiting at Fern Cottage.

FE (12 July 1898) The Misses Edythe and Bertha Russ returned home after a year’s visit in Europe. Most of their time was spent in one of Berlin’s famous musical conservatories. They were accompanied from S.F. by their nephew, Master Russ Harville, who will spend the summer at the Cottage.

FE (15 July 1898) Ira and Richard off on fishing and hunting expedition on upper Mad River.

FE (22 July 1898) Ira and Richard gone again to Ira’s holdings on upper Mad River.

FE (12 Aug. 1898) Rev. Phillip Coombe, former minister of Congregational Church, will occupy pulpit Sunday. Rev. and Mrs. Coombe honored at church reception.

FE (16 Aug. 1898) Coombe daughters entertain friends at party at Robarts residence.

FE (30 Aug. 1898) Russ Co. shipped 411 head of cattle on two steamers. Edythe Russ left to attend Stanford University.

FE (27 Sept. 1898) Mrs. Z. Russ and daughters Miss Zipporah and Mrs. James Robarts went below for visit. Miss Zipporah will winter in the southern part of the state, we believe.

FE (7 Oct. 1898) Maggie Coombe to Joseph Russ, land in sections 26, 27, 34, 35, 1N3W; sections 1,2,3, 1S3W.

FE (14 Oct. 1898) Frank Harville of the S.F. commission firm of Russ, Early and Harville is here on business and visiting.

FE (19 Oct. 1898) Rev. and Mrs. Coombe and family departed for home in S.F. Mrs. Maggie Coombe sold 1800 acre Ocean House stock ranch to brother, Joseph Russ, Jr.

FE (28 Oct. 1898) Ira Russ and Richard Francis go to Ira’s Mad River holdings. John Killer goes with them, he will erect new house for Ira.

FE (1 Nov. 1898) Mrs. Z. Russ returns from extended visit in S.F. and other points.
FE (10 Jan. 1899) Bertha Russ outgoing passenger on Friday’s Pomona.

FE (20 Jan. 1899) Ira Russ is laid up at Fern Cottage with another attack of rheumatism.

FE (24 Jan. 1899) Ira Russ in Ferndale after being in for two weeks with rheumatism.

FE (7 Feb. 1899) Joe Russ tells us water froze in wash bowls at Ocean House below Cape Mendocino last week. Snow in Ferndale.

FE (24 Feb. 1899) A motion for retrial denied in the reclamation suit of People vs. W.N. Russ.

FE (11 April 1899) Repainting Ira Russ’ big building in Ferndale.

FE (21 April 1899) Sam Lytle down from Russ Mad River ranch with band of cattle.

FE (25 April 1899) Sam Lytle and others taking 200 head of young stock cattle to Ira Russ’ Mad River range.

FE (19 May 1899) Mrs. Z. Russ has deeded the Congregational parsonage to M. Bugbee, Mary E. Robarts, and Mary Putnam.

FE (6 June 1899) Joe Russ donated beef for Ferndale fair barbecue.

Miss Edythe Coombe and her younger sisters arrived on Sunday’s Pomona to spend their vacation at Fern Cottage.

FE (9 June 1899) Mrs. P. Coombe of S.F. and Miss Zipporah Russ are sojourning in Colorado.

FE (16 June 1899) Ira Russ and Richard Francis return from fishing creeks south of Cape Mendocino.

FE (16 June 1899) At the Occidental—Last Tuesday, the editor in company with Liveryman Brice had occasion to visit Russ & Robarts Occidental ranch and we spent a couple of hours there very pleasantly with Mr. John Hansen, who has this fine place leased for ten years. The Occidental is reclaimed land, but is now one of the finest and most valuable ranches in Eel river valley, including what is known as the Seaside and Russ Creek ranches, consisting of about 400 acres combined, the Occidental consists of 1969 acres of land, the Seaside having been subleased by Mr. Hansen to John Christiansen, and the Russ Creek ranch to N.P. Hansen. On the Occidental, Mr. Hansen dairies about 100 cows, and he is also engaged in raising stock cattle on the place extensively. Several large fields are devoted to hay and grain, and on the place is a creamery, which at present is handling over three tons of milk a day, a portion of which is purchased by Mr. Hansen from neighboring dairymen. This creamery is a model in every respect and the butter turned out from it, a roll of which Mr. Hansen kindly gave us to sample, is first-class and is put up in the most attractive shape. Sophor Smith is the butter maker at this creamery and a neater or cleaner creamery we never visited. Not a speck of dirt could be seen anywhere and the floors were clean enough to eat off of.
Mr. Hansen is continually improving the ranch and employs eight men to assist him. Every season new fields are broken up and seeded, drain ditches are dug, and underground tiling place in position. The buildings on the place are all substantial structures….The Occidental is a model dairy and stock farm…. 

FE (20 June 1899) Miss Edythe Russ, who has been attending Stanford University, returned yesterday.

Little Donald Coombe and two of the Harville children came up with her.

FE (23 June 1899) Z. Russ & Sons, who are having a large barn built near Fern Cottage, on what is known as the old Islam Walker place, intend placing a big silo in it and maybe two. They have already one silo at the Cottage farm, which will hold 100 tons of ensilage and it is their intention to build another at the Mazeppa Ranch on Bear River ridge. Mr. Will Russ, who manages the Russ property, is a strong believer in ensilage.

FE (23 June 1899) Ira Russ and Richard Francis off to Mad River holdings.

FE (21 July 1899) Mrs. F.G. Williams, Misses Edythe and Bertha Russ, Messrs Wm. Russ, C.H. Williams of Ferndale; Miss Belle Cowan and Miss Brown of S.F. and Warren Littlefield of Eureka left this morning for a ten days outing at Idlewild resort on Bear River.

F.G. Williams and three others left on hunting trip to South Fork Mountain section.

FE (25 July 1899) Bert Haywood and Bert Matthews have just completed for Z. Russ & Sons at the Fern Cottage ranch, a large barn, 60x240 feet, in which has been built a silo with a capacity of 240 tons. FE (8 Aug. 1899) description of barn

FE (28 July 1899) James Lytle cut leg while chopping wood at Fern Cottage.

FE (1 Aug. 1899) Mrs. Z. Russ and daughter Bertha and Miss Blanche Graham will leave overland for S.F. in a few days. After visiting in the City, Mrs. Russ will go to Colorado to join her daughter Zipporah, who is sojourning there for the benefit of her health. Miss Bertha will again take up her art studies at the metropolis and Miss Graham returns to the Berkeley University.

Miss Edythe Coombe (?) is rusticating on Bear River.

FE (8 Aug. 1899) Z. Russ and Bertha and Miss Graham left yesterday overland. They will drive to Ukiah then take the train.

The big new barn recently completed at Fern Cottage is 62 feet wide by 150 feet long and contains a silo which will hold 280 tons of ensilage. The dimensions of this silo are: height 25 feet; diameter 24 feet 8 inches in the clear and it has a concrete bottom. The studding is 2x4, 14 inches apart and is lined with half-inch sheeting doubled with a layer of tar paper between. The lining is well oiled with linseed oil, which keeps the steam from penetrating the walls. D. Peacock, with the Varley engine, has been at work there of late cutting the fodder which is being placed in the silo and a Boss Carrier is used for elevating the ensilage after it passes through a No. 7 cutter. Charley Sweet feeds the cutter and Elmer Chase, V. Davenport, Geo. Hill, Chas.
Pettinigill, Peter Johnston, Al Hannah and Jas. Lytle comprise the hauling crew. It takes seven weeks work to fill the silo.


FE (22 Aug. 1899) W.N. Russ to build another silo in his new barn near Fern Cottage.


FE (31 Oct. 1899) Joe Russ has purchased a fine stock saddle from Kausen and Spillars. It is made on a ? tree and has Joe’s name stamped on the back of it. He leaves today for business trip to Harris.

FE (16 Jan. 1900) Joe Russ leaves on Pomona for other parts of state to purchase purebred bulls which he will bring to Humboldt and turn out on his possessions.

FE (26 Jan. 1900) Joe Russ returns from other parts of state with six purebred bulls.

FE (6 Feb. 1900) Z. Russ & Sons new building on Third Street, Eureka, to be occupied by the Humboldt Club, has been completed and is nearly ready for occupancy. Lease for ten years, second story building on north side of street between Russ Market and Carson Block.

FE (13 Feb. 1900) Death of Zipporah Russ. The sad, though not unexpected new announcing the death of Miss Zipporah Russ, youngest daughter of Mrs. Z. Russ of Fern Cottage, was received in Ferndale Friday. She had been in poor health for years past and was taken to Colorado for the benefit of health, but was recently taken to Berkeley where, on last Friday, the sad ending came. Her mother, sisters, and brothers were present at her bedside at the time of her death excepting Mrs. J.T. Robarts and Joseph Russ. Everything that money could do was done for deceased, but without avail. Surrounded by all that wealth could procure, possessed of every attainment, and to be taken away in the prime of life, here is indeed a mournful demise. She was universally respected, numbered her friends by the legion, and the news of her death will be received with feeling of deep sorrow by her many acquaintances in this section. Zipporah Russ born t Fern Cottage and was about 21 years of age at the time of her death. Her body was cremated and services held in S.F. yesterday, so we are informed. The heartfelt sympathy of the community goes out to the bereaved ones in their hours of sorrow.

FE (16 Feb. 1900) Funeral of Miss Zipporah Russ. Died 9th of February in Berkeley, age 20 years, 3 months, 1 day. The funeral services were held on Monday, Feb. 11, at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel of the Odd Fellows cemetery in S.F. and were conducted by the Rev. W.H. McDougall of Belmont school, who had received her into membership in the Pomona Congregation Church when he was pastor there and she was taking special studies at Pomona College. Harry Taylor of Berkeley sang tenor solo, “Calvary.” Henry Baugh and a male quartet rendered the hymns, “My
Jesus As Thou Wilt,” “Abide With Me,” “Fast Falls the Eventide,” which were deceased’s favorite hymns. Remains cremated and will be kept for a time in the Columbarium in S.F.

FE (21 Feb. 1900) Mrs. Z. Russ, Miss Russ, Mrs. F.G. Williams and W.N. Russ were incoming passengers on yesterday’s Orizaba.

FE (9 March 1900) Joe Russ in from Rainbow Ridge.

FE (16 March 1900) Ira Russ incoming passenger.

FE (10 April 1900) William N. Russ appointed administrator of sister’s estate valued at $30,000. Bonds were fixed in the sum of $70,000.

FE (13 April 1900) Ira Russ has purchased the Taylor residence on Clark Street, Eureka, from Hon. Frank McGowan. Looks suspicious, Ira.

FE (17 April 1900) Joe Russ goes below on Pomona. Mrs. J.T. Robarts is still reported quite ill. The bond of Wm. N. Russ in the sum of $70,000 has been approved by Judge Wilson and letters of administration issued to him upon the estate of his sister Zipporah Russ, Jr., deceased. The sureties, J.W. Henderson and Mrs. Zipporah Russ, justified in the sum of $70,000 each perhaps the largest justification ever probated in this county.

FE (20 April 1900) Joe Russ outgoing passenger.

FE (22 May 1900) Edythe Russ incoming passenger on Pomona.

FE (29 May 1900) Blanche Graham returns to home in Arcata from school in Berkeley.

FE (5 June 1900) Rev P. Coombe’s wife and family will spend the summer vacation with their mother Mrs. Z. Russ at Fern Cottage. Rev. Coombe has recently built a fine church in the Richmond district and is very popular in this district, not only by his congregation but all creeds.

June 1900 census: Ira Russ, born Oct. 1863, age 36, married two months
Alice B Russ, born April 1874, age 26, born Ohio
May Soper, 16, servant
Ira’s occupation listed as cattle dealer

FE (5 June 1900) Z. Russ & Sons will soon commence the erection of a fine two-story building on Main on the site of the J.E. French and Co. Meat Market. While the new edifice is being erected, Messrs French and Patrick will conduct business in the Brown Building, recently occupied by Aggeler Bros.

FE (8 June 1900) Joe Russ remodeling and repairing Ocean House near Capt Mendocino.

FE (12 June 1900) W.N. Russ is to build a very large cow barn at Fern Cottage, 150x76 feet and silo.
FE (22 June 1900) Carpenters Bert Haywood, George Kistner, Ed Holbrook and Mr. Simpson of Eureka are engaged in building a good-sized barn on the Russ property in the Centerville section. Lumber is being hauled to Joseph Russ Ocean House ranch where Bert Haywood is to make a number of improvements to the dwelling house.

FE (29 June 1900) Architect T.J. Frost has just completed the plans for Russ’ new meat market in Ferndale.

FE (27 July 1900) F.G. Williams and wife and C.H. Williams are enjoying camp life on South Fork Mountain. The Russ camping party has returned from Idlewild resort on Bear River.

FE (2 Aug. 1900) Bert Haywood and George Kistner last Friday completed the erection of a 240-ton silo for the Russes at Fern Cottage.

FE (2 Oct. 1900) George Kistner is building a hunting house and barn for F.G. Williams on the Occidental Ranch for duck hunting.

FE (7 Aug. 1900) Donald Coombe outgoing on Orizaba.

FE (21 Aug. 1900) Bert Haywood and George Kistner last Friday completed the erection of a 240-ton silo for the Russes at Fern Cottage.

FE (24 Aug. 1900) Bert and Eugene Haywood and George Kistner commenced remodeling Ocean House Hotel for Joseph Russ. Rev. Coombe and wife visiting in this section. He will occupy the pulpit at Congregational Church Sunday.

FE (14 Sept. 1900) Ed French sells his interest in Ferndale Meat Market to Joseph Russ.

FE (2 Oct. 1900) George Kistner is building a hunting house and barn for F.G. Williams on the Occidental Ranch for duck hunting.


FE (20 Nov. 1900) Sadie Flowers closes Cape Town school. Will return to valley to spend the winter with parents, W.J. Flowers.

FE (8 Feb. 1901) Creamery Matters—Officers of Pioneer Creamery: James Mullady, president; J.B. Aggeler, vice-president; W. Damon, secretary; Russ, Early & Williams Co., treasurer.

FE (22 Feb. 1901) Bertha Russ goes below.
FE (1 March 1901) Estate of Zipporah, Jr. has been distributed to her mother.

FE (1 March 1901) Riverside Creamery officers: W.J. Flowers, president; Hans Bonnicksen, vice-president; Mads Madsen, secretary and business manager; Russ, Early & Williams Co., treasurer.

FE (5 March 1901) Supreme Court decision reversed Superior Court decision in R.W. Robarts et al, vs. Z. Russ & Sons (Plaintiffs defeated in Superior Court), regarding dyking of Salt River and reducing flows to Eel River. One of the plaintiffs was an heir in the Russ estate which had reclaimed the lands and at the time she owned the Port Kenyon property. The latter, if Eel River became un-navigable, would be greatly decreased in value.


FE (23 April 1901) Will Russ incoming.

FE (30 April 1901) Sam Lytle and others driving 230 head of fine yearlings from Ira’s Rainbow and Cape Mendocino ranches to Ira’s Mad River range.

FE (7 May 1901) Miss Russ incoming on Pomona.

FE (14 May 1901) Bertha suffers dislocated right shoulder in train accident en route to woods at Newberg on pleasure trip.


FE (11 June 1901) Rev. Coombe and family visiting here for a few weeks.


FE (12 July 1901) Mrs. J.T. Robarts and Miss Russ will arrive on today’s Pomona.

FE (30 July 1901) Margarite Harville, Miriam Coombe, Ida Coombe, W. Coombe and Miss Richmond went below on last Pomona.

FE (16 Aug. 1901) Joe Russ hauling lumber to Woodland Echo ranch for new barn.

FE (20 Aug. 1901) Mrs. Harville of S.F. visiting mother Mrs. Z. Russ at Fern Cottage.

FE (23 Aug. 1901) F.G. Williams returns from month-long hunting trip in South Fork Mtn. section. Donald Coombe returns home. Has been sojourning at Ocean House ranch with uncle Joe since July 1st.

FE (20 Sept. 1901) Fair premiums
Best registered Durham bull, N. Friel
Best thoroughbred Durham bull over 3 years, N. Friel
Best thoroughbred Durham bull under 3 years, S.P. Kelly
Best thoroughbred Durham cow over 3 years, W.N. Russ, first and second
Best thoroughbred Durham cow under 3 years, W.N. Russ
Best thoroughbred Jersey Bull under 3 years, W.E. Elliott, Loleta; Wm. Samuels, 2nd
Best thoroughbred Jersey cow over 3 years, Wm. Samuels, 1st and 2nd
Best thoroughbred Holstein Bull over 3, Nis Petersen, Loleta; P. Johansen, Ferndale, 2nd.

FE (27 Sept. 1901) Rev. Coombe up to visit relatives.

FE (1 Oct. 1901) Mrs. Frank Harville outgoing.

FE (8 Oct. 1901) Obit John Graham, Arcata, age 60, native of Nova Scotia. Survived by wife and daughters Blanche and Gertrude. For many years, Mr. Graham was connected with Z. Russ & Sons Co.

Excerpts from Rev. Coombe’s sermon on death of McKinley, quoted in Chronicle.

FE (15 Oct. 1901) Mrs. J.T. Robarts of North Ferndale again reported quite ill.

FE (29 Oct. 1901) 135 head of cattle driven from northern Humboldt to pasture on Russ’ ranges on Bear River.

FE (5 Nov. 1901) Knifing 100 yard from Fern Cottage, Soper boys.

FE (8 Nov. 1901) W.N. Russ in Blocksburg looking after his business interest in that section.

FE (15 Nov. 1901) James Robarts has had plank incline built so he can roll his invalid’s chair from lower to upper stories of his house.

Slaughter Robinson and others have sold 500 mutton sheep to Z. Russ & Sons.

FE (26 Nov. 1901) To the Great Beyond. Friday evening, Nov. 22nd, 1901, at her home in North Ferndale, Mrs. James T. Robarts passed from life to the Great Beyond, surrounded by her devoted husband, mother, sisters, brothers and relatives. …one of the best and noblest of women…she possessed every virtue and not a fault. Ever faithful, ever kind, ever true, meeting every trial and care with resignation, and finding pleasure in the performance of every duty life imposed, activated at all times by the most unselfish and self-sacrificing impulses, a true Christian woman not in precept but in practice, all within the circle of her acquaintance knew her only to love, honor, and respect her. Uncomplainingly she met and endured the misfortunes that fell to her lot and uncomplainingly she bore her sufferings to the very end. Such a life as hers is not only one to be emulated but she made the world better by having lived in it. To her bereaved mother, sisters, brothers and other relatives and to her sorrowing and invalid husband, whose one great comfort she has been, and particularly since misfortune’s heavy hand was placed upon him seven long years ago, we offer every sympathy.

Mary Eliza Robarts, eldest daughter of the late Jos. Russ and Mrs. Zipporah Russ; sister to Mrs. P. Coombe, Mrs. B.F. Harville of S.F., Mrs. F.G. Williams, Miss Edythe, Miss Bertha
and Messrs Ira, Wm. N. and Joseph, Jr. of Ferndale. Born at Spicy Breezes ranch just south of Bear River, 28 Dec. 1858, married James T. Robarts, 4 March 1880; Never robust she did enjoy comparatively good health until two years ago.

FE (26 Nov. 1901) Ira Russ and wife of Eureka may move to Ferndale.

FE (3 Dec. 1901) Frank Harville, wife and family return to S.F. Mrs. Harville has been here several months.

FE (13 Dec. 1901) Mrs. Coombe returns home after several weeks here.

FE (24 Dec. 1901) W.N. Russ called to city on business.

FE (7 Jan. 1902) Wm. Russ returns from business trip to metropolis.

FE (4 Feb. 1902) Rev. Phillip Coombe is meeting with great success in the metropolis, most popular minister Richmond District ever had. Been at Richmond Congregational Church since 1893.

FE (4 March 1902) Joe Russ had two beautiful polished agates from beach near Ocean House set in gold for cuff link buttons for Bertha.

FE (4 April 1902) Joe Russ has been in Eureka for a week on jury duty.

HS (24 April 1902) South Bay Dyking Decision, Z Russ & Sons.

FE (25 April 1902) Joe up from Ocean House ranch, dehorned 60 cattle last week and branded 100.

FE (29 April 1902) Wm. Russ in S.F. on business.

FE (16 May 1902) 600 head of cattle passed through town from Russ’ ranges on Bear River; 350 belong to Ira and were going to Mad River; 250 to Z. Russ & Sons and headed for Bald Mtn. section; to be fattened before sale as beef.

Mrs. Ira Russ gone for two week visit in S.F. Ira sojourning at Mad River ranch.

FE (20 May 1902) Ferndale’s new jail complete, James T. Robarts, architect.

F.G. Williams and wife will go overland to S.F. for trip to Washington. Ted Lytle will drive them to Willits to take the train and will bring back Edythe who has been attending the State University and Bertha who has been sojourning in S.F.

FE (23 May 1902) The handsome nine-month old bull brought up from below for N.P. Hansen of the Russ Creek ranch is a thoroughbred Holstein-Friesian and was purchased by Mr. Hansen from A.M. Hotaling of San Anselmo, Marin county. “Stranger” registration number 29,090 and he is from the very best stock; his grandmother being the celebrated Mechthilda with a record of 39 pounds 10 ½ ounces of butter in one week and 12 gallons of milk per day.
FE (3 June 1902) Ira and wife from Eureka, visiting here. Bertha and Edythe plus friend Miss Hammond, a physician, arrived overland.

FE (10 June 1902) Mrs. B.F. Harville and four children arrive from S.F. to visit at Fern Cottage.

FE (13 June 1902) Joe Russ taking 100 head of calves to Ira’s Cape Ridge ranch.

FE (20 July 1902) Rev. Coombe up for three week visit.

FE (3 July 1902) Joe taking 130 head of young cattle which he purchased in Harris, to his Ocean House ranch.

FE (11 July 1902) Mrs. Z. Russ, Mrs. Harville and children, the Coombe children, Miss Hammond, Miss Hadley and Fred Hadley and Roy Hutchins left for outing at Idlewild on Bear River.

FE (1 Aug. 1902) Georgia, Edythe, Miss Hutner, Miss Lake of Santa Cruz, Miss Blanche Graham and sister, W.N. Russ left for 10 days at Idlewild.

FE (12 Aug. 1902) Fern Cottage, the hospitable home of Mrs. Z. Russ, has been entertaining the following named visitors of late: Mr. Thos. Pike of S.F.; Prof. Harry Connick of S.F.; Miss A Bell of Visalia; Miss V. Locke of S.F.; Miss N. Graham of Eureka; Miss B. Graham of Arcata; Miss W. Coombe and Miss F. Harville of S.F.

FE (15 Aug. 1902) Ira visiting from Eureka, enjoying best of health.

FE (19 Aug. 1902) Joe Russ and Mamie Light and Sadie Flowers thrown out of wagon on way into town.

FE (16 Sept. 1902) Suit of People vs. W.N. Russ to be heard 10 Nov. 1902.

FE (14 Oct. 1902) Spicy Breezes dairy on Capt Ridge, 3 miles south of Bear River.


FE (25 Nov. 1902) Sadie Flowers resigns as teacher at Capetown School after six years there.

FE (5 Dec. 1902) Frank Harville of Russ, Early, and Harville came up on business. Sam Lytle brought 60 head of stock cattle from Ira’s Mad River ranch to pasture at Cape this winter. Also delivered 40 beef cattle to Ralph Bull of Arcata at Alton.

FE (12 Dec. 1902) Russ-Flowers—At the home of the bride's sister Mrs. W. Power in San Francisco at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening, Dec. 10th, the Rev. Father Wyman joined in the holy
bonds of wedlock Mr. Joe Russ, youngest son of Mrs. Z. Russ of this valley, and Miss Sadie Flowers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Flowers of the Island. Miss Annie Schwetizer served as bridesmaid and Mr. Donald Coombe as groomsman. The happy couple will spend their honeymoon in the southern part of the state, returning to Ferndale later on, when their very many friends will have an opportunity of extending congratulations, etc. To Mr. and Mrs. Russ the Enterprise offers every good wish. Our young friend Joe has drawn a prize, for the lady of his choice is a general favorite with all know her. May they live long and prosper. May life's best blessings be theirs.

FE (30 Jan. 1903) Joseph Russ and wife, nee Sadie Flowers, who arrived from below on Monday's Corona will make their home with J.T. Robarts in North Ferndale for several months at least....Joe brought up with him from San Francisco a thoroughbred buggy mare for his own use.

FE (6 Feb. 1903) Joe Russ buys two acres in North Ferndale from Ted Weaver.

HT (8 Feb. 1903) Harbor Commission: Dam Must Go.

FE (10 Feb. 1903) Joe Russ to build on new lot.

FE (13 Feb. 1903) Russ Co. put dam across Salmon Creek to reclaim marsh land; Harbor Commission ordered dam removed. Renter of DeHaven property suffered $1800 damages, 46 acres recently seeded covered with sediment and drift. Had to dry up 27 cows, 1 drowned. Mr. Russ told him he would make his loss good. [beginning of long history of Russ activities at Salmon Creek relative to reclamation]

HT (17, 18, 19, 20 Feb. 1903) Re: Z. Russ & Sons Co. and Salmon Creek reclamation.

FE (17 Feb. 1903) Ira and wife visit in S.F. His mother and sisters have been occupying a pleasant home on Union St. during winter.

FE (20 Feb. 1903) Z. Russ & Sons want hearing before Harbor Commission before removing dam.

FE (3 March 1903) New ice plant in Eureka built by Z. Russ & Sons. No cost was spared by Mr. W.N. Russ in its construction.

FE (6 March 1903) Salmon Creek dam issue to go to Court.

FE (10 March 1903) Joe Russ suing to foreclose on mortgage on 21 head of dairy cows, $300 against W.H. Carter.

FE (20 March 1903) Bear on Russ Forest Home ranch on upper Bear River Ridge have killed 40 head of angora goats of late.

FE (24 March 1903) Rev. Coombe resigns from Richmond Church. Will go on vacation to East.
FE (31 March 1903) F.G. Williams and wife incoming passengers.

FE (7 April 1903) Z. Russ & Sons received 15 Hereford bulls for sale at Fern Cottage.

FE (1 May 1903) James T. Robarts ill; confined to home.

FE (5 May 1903) Sam Lytle and assistants came over from Ira’s ranch to get cattle from Mr. Russ’ Cape Mendocino ranch.
   Mrs. John Graham of Arcata to see daughter Blanche graduate from University at Berkeley.

FE (12 May 1903) W.N. Russ to be married today in S.F. to Miss Lake of Visalia. She has visited at Fern Cottage on several occasions.

FE (19 May 1903) Correction, marriage at Santa Cruz Congregational Church. Bride’s mother is a resident of Santa Cruz. Rev. Coombe officiated.
   Dinner in Eureka for 40 employees and wives of Z. Russ and Sons Co. to celebrate marriage of Chris Luther, employed by Russ for more than 40 years.
   Mrs. Z. Russ and Mrs. Williams return from below.

FE (2 June 1903) W.N. Russ and bride and Edythe and Bertha returned from below overland. William will live in Eureka.
FE (9 June 1903) Joseph Russ and wife of the Ocean House are spending a few days in this valley.

FE (30 June 1903) Bertha visiting Blanche Graham in Arcata.

FE (14 July 1903) Mrs. P. Coombe and two daughters, Mrs. W.N. Russ of Fern Cottage, and the Misses Hunter of Eureka are rusticating at Idlewild, the Russ Summer Resort on Bear River.

FE (31 July 1903) Mrs. Z. Russ, Mrs. Coombe, Bertha, and Mr. and Mrs. Williams with Ted Lytle as driver gone for a few days at Forest Home Ranch beyond Rio Dell.

HT (7 Aug. 1903) Corps of Engineers to look at Russ land on South Bay.

FE (14 Aug. 1903) Rev. Coombe says he will take church in East but family will stay in Berkeley where children are finishing their education.

FE (1 Sept. 1903) Rev. and Mrs. Coombe, C.H. Williams, Edythe and Bertha with Ted Lytle as driver have been on a trip around the block via the South Fork Eel town of Briceland and Mattole. Ira and wife drove out to Fern Cottage from Eureka.

FE (4 Sept. 1903) Last Sunday at Fern Cottage the beautiful home of Mrs. Z. Russ, a few miles west of Ferndale, a family reunion and dinner was enjoyed. All the children of the pioneer lady were present except Mrs. Harville along with daughters-in-law and sons-in-law.
FE (8 Sept. 1903) Mrs. Wm. Russ and Edythe gone to S.F.

FE (11 Sept. 1903) Wm. Russ has his silos at Fern Cottage filled with ensilage. C.B. Sweet, manager of Fern Cottage ranch.

FE (22 Sept. 1903) Sunday morning at the Sanctum at Fern Cottage, Claude Sweet, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sweet, accidentally shot himself in the leg.

FE (29 Sept. 1903) In past few weeks, Ira Russ has delivered 250 head of cattle to butcher Bull of Arcata.

FE (9 Oct. 1903) Rev. Coome still sojourning here writing life insurance for Pennsylvania Mutual.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams return after five weeks camp on South Fork Mtn.

FE (13 Oct. 1903) Letter in Standard urging Russ Family to give land next to Fort Humboldt for a park.

FE (30 Oct. 1903) Joseph Russ has purchased of R.W. Robarts and wife their beautiful Aylyton Avenue home, together with their 10 acres in North Ferndale and takes possession Dec. 1st. Joe also bought of Mr. Robarts his cows, the hay in the barn etc. This property adjoins the Coombe's place, of which Mr. Russ owns the west half.

FE (13 Nov. 1903) In the family tomb, recently constructed in Ferndale cemetery by Messrs O’Neill and Kleppa, the urn containing ashes of late Miss Zipporah Russ was placed.

FE (8 Dec. 1903) Mrs. Coombe and daughter and Frank Williams and wife outgoing.

FE (15 Dec. 1903) Mrs. Z. Russ went to Eureka for annual meeting of First Church of Christ Scientists and was elected to Board of Trustees, 54 members.

FE (5 Jan. 1904) Gertrude Graham visiting at Fern Cottage.

25 gentlemen friends of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ paid them a call on New Year’s night at their beautiful North Ferndale home. Singing, dancing, and refreshments.

FE (12 Feb. 1904) J.T. Robarts in precarious condition. Accident nearly 10 years ago left his lower extremities paralyzed.

FE (16 Feb. 1904) Death of James T. Robarts, Feb. 12th….This community, in which he resided for so many years, now deeply and sincerely mourns his loss, for no men among us stood higher in the affection and esteem of our people than did he….In this last tribute to his memory, it is not too much for us to say that he was one of the best men we ever knew, and his nobility of character, his strict integrity, his sympathetic nature, his charity, his forbearance, and the grand and admirable fortitude he displayed in the face of trials and sufferings that would have weighed others down, must ever remain as an inspiration to those at least who were closest to him.
Just 33 years ago, Feb. 14th, the date of his burial, and on Valentine’s Day, the deceased left his boyhood home in England for California, and he and his two companions, George M. Brice of Ferndale and R.F.B. King, now of Seattle, came direct to Humboldt county. Here he has resided ever since, excepting brief periods spent on two different visits to England, and his life among us has been as an open book.

While as a member of the well-known firm of Robarts Bros. he engaged in the shipping and warehouse business for a number of years and quite extensively, his chief occupation was that of farming and dairying, and up to the time Providence willed otherwise, he was classed among the most active, public-spirited and progressive of our citizens. Ten years ago the first day of the coming June, and while engaged in repairing a well at his Occidental ranch in the Centerville section, a derrick gave way, and from that moment, it was decreed that Jim Robarts should be a helpless cripple. The cruel blow he received practically broke his back, paralysis of the lower limbs followed and the every advantage was his that money could supply, the injury was permanent and no relief came. But notwithstanding, his life has been an exceedingly busy one, notwithstanding that one of his greatest enjoyments was outdoor sports, he accepted his fate with a fortitude that was the admiration of all, and the many spells of indisposition and suffering that were his to endure since, he bore without a murmur. Sick indeed was Jim Robarts when he failed of a smile or a cheering word for a friend. And this great fortitude, patience and endurance remained with him to the last. Is it any wonder then that the relatives and friends, who surrounded him, loved him?

But the terrible accident that befell Mr. Robarts was followed several years later by what to him was a far greater affliction—the death of his beloved wife, whose tender care, love, and sympathy were to him more than all else combined....

James Thomas Robarts was born in Garthna Greenock, Scotland, July 6, 1854, and was one of eleven children, those surviving him William H. and Robert W. Robarts of Ferndale [more] The deceased was married in 1880 to Miss Mary E. Russ, eldest daughter of the late Hon. Jos. Russ and Mrs. Zipporah Russ, but to them no children were born. Mrs. Robarts passed from life Nov. 22, 1901 [more]

FE (16 Feb. 1904) Estate of J.T. Robarts left to Maggie Coombe, Annie, Georgia, Edythe and Bertha, included his north Ferndale home of 3 ½ acres known as “The Maples.”

FE (18 March 1904) Maggie, Edythe and Bertha left for Maggie’s home for several months.

FE (8 April 1904) Big slide at Joe Russ’ Woodland Echo ranch; 200 acre slide into ocean and towards Oil Creek. Slide projected self through breakers and several hundred yards into ocean.

FE (10 May 1904) Mrs. Frank Harville and two of her children to visit for a time at Fern Cottage.

Joe Russ brings in cattle from Ocean House Ranch for Patrick Meat Market.

FE (17 May 1904) Zipporah and Mrs. Brown of Colorado visiting Mrs. John Graham in Arcata.

FE (27 May 1904) J.R. Graham, foreman of Russ Ranch on Redwood Creek and son, John, picked up yearlings from Russ ranches in southern Humboldt.
FE (10 June 1904) Edythe and Bertha, and Margarite and Joseph Harville, returned to Fern Cottage after several months in S.F.

160 head of cattle taken to Ocean House.

FE (24 June 1904) Donald Coombe visiting. Staying with Joe Russ.

FE (1 July 1904) Edythe and friends at Idlewild.

FE (19 July 1904) Edythe and Bertha entertain for visiting guests.

FE (26 July 1904) Carpenter D.P. Simpson of Eureka inspected Ira’s big two-story building; structure badly settled and foundation and floor joists badly rotted. New foundation will cost $1000.

Russ Harville returns below.

FE (5 Aug. 1904) Z. Russ & Sons are at work reclaiming the Hookton Marsh lands by consent of the War Dept. The Humboldt Bay Harbor Commission objected to the work and now since it has started, they have written the State Attorney General to ascertain what powers they have.

FE (5 Aug. 1904) Ira and wife spending couple months at Kneeland.

Joe Russ and wife, Bertha Flowers and Donald Coombe taking trip around the block via Blocksburg, Harris, Briceland, Petrolia, 10 days.

FE (2 Sept. 1904) Edythe, Bertha, Georgia and Mrs. Lewis Nickle and son of Sacramento on outing to Hoopa. Rev. Coombe still in life insurance business arrived overland from S.F.

FE (6 Sept. 1904) Big barn short distance north of Fern Cottage burns. Hay loss was 1/3 of what was stored, equally 40-50 tons. Spontaneous combustion.

FE (16 Sept. 1904) Donald Coombe goes back to Berkeley.

FE (27 Sept. 1904) Improvements on Ira Russ’ building completed.

FE (8 Oct. 1904) Sam Lytle now overseer of ranches and stock of Ira Russ who has moved to southern part of state for his health.

FE (25 Oct. 1904) Frank Harville comes up to get wife and children. They have been visiting for some months past.

FE (28 Oct. 1904) Ferndale Woman’s Suffrage Club organized; Ms. Z. Russ elected president.

FE (11 Nov. 1904) Bertha and Edythe gone to S.F. for awhile.

FE (14 Feb. 1905) Stockholders of Ferndale Creamery Co. of Centerville met; will make its own butter this season, but do not intend to put in a pasteurizer for the present.
FE (11 April 1905) T.L. Wilson last week completed the work of repapering and repairing a number of rooms in the North Ferndale resident of Joseph Russ. Tom is now employed at Fern Cottage where he is now doing a considerable amount of work in his line. Wm. Jensen, the Ferndale painter, has the contract to renovate the Russ home.

FE (14 April 1905) Will Lytle, manager of the Z. Russ & Sons Co.’s Mattolle ranches, passed through Ferndale with a band of something over 40 head of beef cattle which were taken to Eureka.

Bertha Russ returns from visiting friends and relatives in other parts of the state.

FE (25 April 1905) Carpenters David Hawley and L.M. Smith will soon tear down Russ, Early & Williams warehouse on Main in order to build new brick building, 100 feet deep and will be connected with store building now occupied by this company. Rear of old store will be torn out and an addition of 20 feet or more added.

FE (13 June 1905) Wm. Russ and wife of Eureka visiting in this section.

FE (16 June 1905) Contractor Foster and crew making rapid progress in advancing the improvements at the Brick Store. Masons will begin laying brick for walls of new building.

FE (30 June 1905) Rev. Coombe and daughter Amy arrived from S.F. to visit Russes for some time to come. Rev. Coombe still with Penn. Mutual Insurance Co. Mrs. P. Coombe and daughters Ila and Miriam came yesterday. Edythe, who has been making extended visit in City, also returned.

FE (11 July 1905) Z. Russ & Sons Co. will furnish butter to County Hospital the next quarter at 24 ½ cents per pound.

FE (29 Sept. 1905) Mrs. Phillip Coombe and daughters, Winifred and Edythe, left for S.F. accompanied by Mrs. Zipporah Russ. The Misses Coombe have been spending their vacation mostly at the Redwood Ranch.

FE (8 Dec. 1905) Another two weeks should see completion of new Brick Store.

FE (12 Dec. 1905) Joseph Russ gone to Ocean House ranch to get some fat steers for Ferndale market.

FE (26 Jan. 1906) Sam Lytle, head man at Maple Creek stock ranch belonging to Ira Russ.

FE (6 Feb. 1906) The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ died at the home of the parents in North Ferndale last Sunday night. The child had been ill with bronchitis for several weeks, but its death came as a surprise to the friends of the family...funeral from Catholic Church this afternoon.

FE (16 March 1906) Son born March 9th to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Russ of Eureka.
FE (27 April 1906) Manager F.G. Williams of the Russ, Early and Williams Co., whose elegant store was so badly damaged in last week’s earthquake, tells us that no definite plan has as yet been decided upon as to the rebuilding of the structure. Owned by Mrs. F. Harville.

FE (4 May 1906) Edythe Russ returning. Was in S.F.

FE (1 May 1906) W.N. Russ of Eureka has purchased the Beale estate in Coos County, Oregon; $40,000 for this big ranch.

FE (26 June 1906) We are told that Joseph Russ, Ben Snodgrass and Harry are hard at work at the Ocean House ranch endeavoring to get the hay crop harvested before another rain.

FE (26 June 1906) Considerable dyking is being done on the Centerville slough on the marsh. The dyke which is now there is being added to at the top and a new one is being built entirely along the opposite side of the stream.

FE (13 July 1906) Joseph Russ has been in charge of the Ferndale Meat Market’s delivery wagon the last few days. Joe is reported to be dead onto his job, and one of the most accommodating deliverymen that ever hit the road.

FE (24 July 1906) To Form Drainage District—The Coquille, Oregon Sentinel in its issue July 13th has the following reference to improvements William N. Russ of Eureka will make upon his extensive holdings in Coos County:

William N. Russ, the stock raiser and capitalist of Humboldt county, California, who has been in this section looking over his newly-acquired interests, departed for home by the overland coast route Monday….Mr. Russ bought the extensive Beale tract on the opposite side of the river from Coquille and another tract of 320 acres west of town on the occasion of his former visit to Coquille valley. During his visit he added to his holdings by purchasing the Jays place of 132 acres on the river just beyond our western suburbs. These lands he proposes to clear and drain and convert into first-class dairying tracts, the clearing to be done by contract and the draining by the formation of reclamation district, as the lands for most part are included in large bodies of water-soaked soil. [more]

FE (27 July 1906) Robert Patrick is now in charge of the Ferndale Meat Market’s delivery wagon and will drive the same for the next few weeks in place of Joseph Russ, who is now engaged in getting cattle on his Bear river ridge ranches for shipment to the markets.

FE (7 Aug. 1906) Ira Russ, Dr. Ottmer and Ed Baker left for a stay at the Russ ranch on upper Mad river.

FE (10 Aug. 1906) F.G. Williams and wife and Thomas Fennessy expect to leave for the Russ ranch on upper Mad river, where the party will enjoy an outing.
FE (10 Aug. 1906) The Russ camping party is enjoying camp life at Idlewild on Bear river. Among the party are Dr. Benj. Thomas of Palo Alto and the Misses Mabel Scofield and Marte Chevret and R.M. Wiley and Dr. A.F. Cooper of Arcata.

FE (24 Aug. 1906) The Misses Edythe Russ and Blanche Augusta Graham returned to Fern Cottage after spending a few days visiting friends in Arcata.

FE (4 Sept. 1906) F.G. Williams and wife, who are rusticating at the Ira Russ ranch in upper Mad River country, are expected home the middle of next week.

FE (25 Sept. 1906) Premium Winners of Ferndale Fair….Herefords, best bull over 3 years: Z. Russ & Sons Co.; best bull under 3 years: Z. Russ & Sons Co.; Class 1, Durham, purebred bulls, Z. Russ & Sons; purebred cows 3 years and over, Z Russ & Sons, 1st and 2nd prizes.

FE (16 Nov. 1906) Ira A. Russ and H.H. Buhne left Eureka by Monday’s Kilburn en route to Portland where they will combine business with pleasure for the next couple of weeks.

AU (9 Oct. 1909) Mrs. Z. Russ and Mrs. F.G. Williams have plans for a modern elegant Swiss chalet or bungalow to be built on the Murphy place beyond Bald Mountain, which belongs to Z. Russ & Sons Co. Sam Ralster builder. Mrs. Williams drew plans. Mrs. Russ and family will occupy during summer months.

FE (11 Jan. 1910) Joe Russ and family left yesterday for the Ocean House where they will reside….

FE (15 Feb. 1910) Not A Stopping Place—As I intend to make my home on the place in future, notice is hereby given that Ocean House ranch is not a public stopping place. The traveling public please take notice. Joseph Russ.

FE (8 March 1910) Z. Russ & Sons Co. and Will N. Russ have leased for a period of 40 years lands in sections 10, 15, and 21, 1N2W, located in Bear River section to Bear River Oil Co., controlled by Humboldt capitalists.

FE (12 April 1910) Mrs. Joseph Russ and two children returned to their home at the Ocean House ranch after a few days’ visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Glowers in North Ferndale.

FE (31 May 1910) Joseph Russ came up from the Ocean House accompanied by W.J. Flowers, who had been visiting there. Upon his return home, Mr. Russ was accompanied by Misses Bertha Flowers and Dora Rasmussen, who will enjoy an outing for a time.

FE (5 July 1910) Joseph Russ of the Ocean House and Donald Coombe of Mazeppa were transacting business in Ferndale Friday.

FE (19 July 1910) A 40,000 gallon cement reservoir is to be erected shortly to furnish water supply for Fern Cottage. The reservoir will be built on a hill near the place.
HS (18 Jan. 1911) Protests Against Dyking Marsh; Jud Johnson of Beatrice protesting against Russ reclamation activities

HS (21 Feb. 1911) Joseph Russ sells fine ranch, 20 acres to P. Jacobsen of the Fulmor place on the Island; fine home in North Ferndale. [?]

FE (26 April 1912) Ira Russ sells Rainbow Ranch, 3000 acres.

FE (30 July 1912) Obit William Raymond Russ, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, died at Ferndale; ill for month; age 2 months; burial Russ plot in Ferndale cemetery.

FE (5 Aug. 1913) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ of Ocean House moved into Ferndale where they will make their home during the time school is in session to allow their children to attend.

FE (22 Aug. 1913) Obit Mrs. William Russ, typhoid fever; survived by husband William N. Russ and seven-year-old daughter, Dorothy; father in Santa Cruz; before her marriage 10 years ago she was Viola May Lake.

BLA (20 Sept. 1913) New Bungalow on Russ Ranch on Redwood Creek for manager Jack Graham and his employees, 28x36 feet, 1 ½ stories, 6 rooms and pantry; carpenters Ole Anderson and J.J. McCahan, took 3 weeks to construct.

FE (16 Dec. 1913) Contractor A. Rusk and crew have just completed a fine bungalow for Z. Russ & Sons Co. at Fern Cottage. The building has nine large rooms and all the up-to-date conveniences.

FE (1 Jan. 1914) Donald, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ of North Ferndale, is critically ill with diabetes.

FE (13 Feb. 1914) A. Rusk and crew began Monday to build an up-to-date chicken house and paths for Russes at Fern Cottage.

HS (4 June 1914) Obit Donald Russ, three years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ; brothers Joseph and Herbert, oldest son.

FE (1 Jan. 1915) The Russ Interests Are Incorporated—Articles of Incorporation of the Z. Russ & Co., the Russ Investment Co., and the Russ Market were filed with the County Clerk Monday. The articles are dated Dec. 24, 1914 and the concerns are to be known respectively as the Z. Russ Co. to do general business including farming, etc., with capital stock of $1,000,000, the Russ Market Co. capitalized for $200,000 to do a wholesale and retail market and cattle business, and the Russ Investment Co. with a capital of $500,000 to deal in realty. The incorporation and directors of the three companies are Zipporah Russ, Ferndale; Wm. N. Russ, Eureka; Georgia Russ Williams, Ferndale; Bertha N. Russ, Ferndale; and Edythe Russ Connick, San Francisco.
FE (26 Feb. 1915) The following deeds were recorded this week: Z. Russ & Sons Co., to Z. Russ Co., Mazeppa ranch on Bear River ridge, 4243.47 acres; Olympia, Seattle and Bonanza ranches on Bear River ridge, 2351.69 acres; “RM” ranch on Bear River, 6836.61 acres; Holister ranch on Bear River, 880 acres; Davis Creek ranch in 1S3W, 553.59 acres; Petrolia ranch, 1396.42 acres; Walker-Hunter ranch, 1S1W, 1400 acres; Robinson and Patrick places at Grizzly Bluff, 78.50 acres; Williams ranch near Centerville, 380 acres; Occidental ranch near Centerville, 1890.61 acres; reclaimed land near Salmon creek, 1014.19 acres; Redwood ranch, in 4N4E and 5N4E, 12,404.59 acres.

FE (1 June 1915) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ of Ferndale returned from San Francisco where they had spent a couple of weeks viewing the sights of the exposition.

FE (8 June 1915) Wm. Russ was an arrival on Sunday evening’s train from San Francisco.

FE (27 Aug. 1915) Mrs. Margaret Coombe of San Francisco, accompanied by her two daughters, arrived Friday to visit her mother and other relatives at Fern Cottage for a few weeks.

FE (19 Oct. 1915) Joseph Russ and family of Ferndale have taken up housekeeping rooms at 1127 McDonald Ave., Santa Rosa, and plan to spend part of the winter at that place.

FE (11 Jan. 1916) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ and children will return to Ferndale when railroad is operating better (slides). Mrs. Russ is much improved in health.

FE (13 Jan. 1916) Obit William J. Flowers, Sr., nine of eleven children survive, including Mrs. Sadie Russ.

FE (14 March 1919) Joe Russ recently purchased in Woodland five head of thoroughbred Hereford bulls for his Woodland Echo and Mayflower ranches; Will Williams, manager of the ranches, brought them up.

FE (4 July 1919) Joseph Russ and family, Mr. and MRS. Frank Peters and Wm. Flowers returned from ten-day auto trip to Crater Lakes.

FE (22 Aug. 1919) Local Women Organized To Save Woods; Mrs. Frank G. Williams Elected Vice-Chairman for the Ferndale District at Meeting—The campaign committee of the “Save the Redwoods” League consisting of Mrs. A.J. Monroe, Mrs. Kate Harpst, Mrs. F.W. Georgeson, and Mrs. T.G. Atkinson visited Ferndale….Mrs. F.G. Williams was elected vice-chairman of the League for the Ferndale district and will soon appoint a committee to secure the name of every woman in this vicinity on the membership role of the League…. 

FE (5 Sept. 1919) Sudden Death of Ira Russ.

FE (24 Oct. 1919) Ira Russ’ estate, $200 to Ferndale Lodge of F.&A.M.; hunting and fishing gear to Frank G. Williams; remainder of estate to widow.
FE (5 Dec. 1919) Obit Mary J. Goff, born Illinois 1851; sisters Zipporah Russ, Mrs. Josephine Woolridge, Fortuna; and brothers Z. B. Patrick, Carlotta and Marshall Patrick; also six sons.

FE (9 Jan. 1920) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ and children returned to their Ferndale home from San Francisco where they spent the holiday with relatives.

FE (20 Feb. 1920) Birth of daughter on 9 Feb. to A.L. Beal and wife, former Miriam Coombe of San Francisco; Miriam is granddaughter of Z. Russ; baby is 13th grandchild in Coombe family and 18th great grand for Zipporah Russ.

FE (12 March 1920) The work of building a new telephone line from Bunker Hill to the Forest Home ranch, a distance of 10 miles, has been commenced by the Russ Co. and will connect a number of the Russ ranches in the Bear River section.

FE (29 Oct. 1920) 105-Acre Pleasure Ground Donated by Mrs. Russ; Splendid Site for Park Is Donated to the Town—Mrs. Z. Russ has offered to the Town of Ferndale a splendid park site as a gift….A strip one-quarter of a mile wide extending from the Francis Creek road to the road leading from Ocean Ave past the Catholic cemetery. [more]

Fe (5 Nov. 1920) Mrs. Russ’ Gift of Park Is Formally Accepted by Town

FE (15 April 1921) Frank G. Williams and wife in Florida; he has landed two tarpon out of eight hooked….

FE (10 June 1921) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ and children left for automobile trip to Yosemite.

FE (1 July 1921) Mrs. H. Connick and two children arrived from New Jersey to spend the summer with the lady’s mother, Mrs. Z. Russ and other relatives at Fern Cottage.

FE (14 Oct. 1921) “The Maples” one of the finest homes in Ferndale, was totally destroyed by fire Wednesday afternoon; barn and garage at rear were saved. Built 35 years ago by the late James Robarts; since his death, occupied most of the time by Mr. and Mrs. F.G. Williams and owned by ladies of Russ family.

Destroyed in the fires were many heirlooms, tapestries and family silver more than 150 years old were destroyed….

FE (9 June 1922) Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Russ and children of Ferndale departed for the Bear River section where they will enjoy camp life for a few weeks.

FE (26 Aug. 1922) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ were expected to return to Ferndale today after a ten days’ visit with relatives in San Francisco. They will be accompanied by Mrs. George Carbray [Flowers] of Independence, Oregon. The lady will spend time with relatives in this valley.

FE (20 June 1923) Joseph Russ and family, now spending the summer at their Ocean House ranch, arrived in Ferndale to spend several days at their home in this place.
FE (13 July 1923) Mrs. Russ Donates Tract of Redwoods To State For Park [Orock area; long article]

FE (20 July 1923) Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ and two children left Wednesday for San Francisco and bay cities for a couple weeks’ visit.

FE (10 Aug. 1923) Mrs. Williams Writes Verses on Redwoods; [regarding Z. Russ’ donation of redwood grove; includes verses] Mrs. Williams says that she feels that she is voicing the veneration of her parents for these ancient trees beneath whose shadows they dwelt for so many years. Her father, after a voyage around the Horn, made his first expedition to Humboldt county in 1850 and her mother, who crossed the plains, arrived in 1852. Mrs. Williams rejoices in the fact that the Save the Redwoods League is active in an effort to rescue the groves from destruction and that a great many public spirited citizens throughout the nation have joined in this endeavor to preserve the best of these groves.

FE (17 Aug. 1923) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ and sons left for Oakland, where they plan to make their future home….

FE (31 Aug. 1923) Mrs. E.B. Lytel entertained a number of ladies Tuesday afternoon at Fern Cottage. Bridge and ma joneg were played, the afternoon being concluded by the serving of refreshments.

FE (7 Sept. 1923) Mrs. Harris Connick left this week for her home in New Jersey after having spent the summer with her mother, Mrs. Z. Russ and other relatives at Fern Cottage.

FE (7 Sept. 1923) Mr. and Mrs. F.G. Williams took their departure for an extended trip through Canada and the east by train.

HT (24 April 1925) Obit Georgia Russ Williams; ardent member of Save the Redwoods League; In her book of poems devoted to the redwoods, she speaks in the preface of the giants of Bull Creek and Dyerville Flat, it was great joy to her to hear that these wonderful trees had been saved by law from the woodsman’s axe forever.

FE (30 July 1926) Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ of the Ocean House entertained a large number of guests last Saturday at the Bear River picnic grounds.

FE (17 Sept. 1926) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ returned to Ferndale from an extended automobile trip of several weeks’ duration. They went into Canada, visiting many points of interest as wel as taking in the sights of Oregon and Washington.

FE (6 April 1928) Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ drove to Ukiah Saturday where they met their son, Joseph, Jr., a student at St. Mary’s College in Oakland and returned to Ferndale the same day….They were accompanied by their sons, Herbert and John.
FE (20 April 1928) Coquille, Oregon—Wm. Russ arrived here last Saturday from Eureka accompanied by Chris Anderson, Humboldt county rancher….Mr. Russ came up to settle affairs in connection with the ranch and chicken farm that Jos. A. Harville gave up when he decided to become associated with the Central California Egg Producers Association.

FE (10 Aug. 1928) Two hay fires in barns in this valley have occurred the past week. The first one in a barn on the Fern Cottage ranch resulted in the complete destruction of the building and its contents last Friday afternoon…

FE (10 Aug. 1928) Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ and sons are spending the week at the Bar W resort near Bridgeville.

HT (19 Aug. 1928) One boy was killed and two seriously injured when the car struck lose gravel on the road between Ferndale and Centerville, 7:30 p.m.; car turned over. Dead John Connick, 13, of New York City; injured Harris Connick 16, fractured skull, may not live; Phillip Fields, 16 of Portland. Boys were on errand from Fern Cottage to Ferndale; they were spending summer with grandmother, Mrs. Z. Russ. John was thrown from car. The two Connick boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Harris Connick of New York City. Mrs. Connick was Edythe Russ before her marriage. The Fields boy is the great grandson of Mrs. Z. Russ, and son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Fields of Portland. Mrs. Fields is the daughter of Mrs. Margaret Coombe of Ferndale.

HT (24 Aug. 1928) Redwood Groves Saved In Three Counties….Russ Grove, 8 miles north of Orick, 100 acres; deeded to State in 1922 by Mrs. Zipporah Russ as memorial to husband Joseph Russ and all the pioneers of Humboldt county.

HT (25 May 1928) Last Rites for John Connick; Services at Fern Cottage.

FE (16 Nov. 1928) Obit Z.B. Patrick, 80, native of Pennsylvania; survived by sisters Mrs. Z. Russ and Mrs. Josephine Woolridge; brother Marshall Patrick.

HT (12 Nov. 1929) Photo Zipporah Russ, Pioneer Woman Passes Away

FE (15 Nov. 1929) Mrs. Zipporah Russ, Pioneer Ferndale Woman, Passes Away—Mrs. Zipporah Russ, widely known and beloved pioneer woman of this county, died last Sunday at Fern Cottage, near Ferndale, which had been her home for many years past. She had been in failing health for a long time but her condition had been serious but a few days and she passed away quietly and peacefully as she had lived.

Decedent was born in Wyoming County, Pennsylvania on Nov. 21st 1838, and with her family moved to Sycamore, Illinois when she was four years of age, the family later settling near Lincoln, Illinois. In 1853 they crossed the plains to California, settling first at Sacramento and in the following year came to Humboldt. Her father, Nehemiah Patrick, was one of the outstanding pioneers of Humboldt County.

On Dec. 17th 1854, she was united in marriage to Joseph Russ, then and later one of the most prominent men of northern California, who served this county as representative in the Senate and Assembly of California and was one of the leading stockmen and financers of the state.
For several years, they made their home at Centerville, later living at Salmon Creek and Bear River for a number of years and then establishing the home at Centerville known as Fern Cottage, which has been the family home for a great many years past.

To this union thirteen children were born, of whom six now survive, two sons and four daughters as follows: William N. Russ, Eureka; Joseph Russ, Ferndale; Mrs. Margaret Coombe and Mrs. Bertha Lytle, Ferndale; Mrs. Annie Harville, Berkeley; Mrs. Edythe Connick, Glenridge, New Jersey.

One brother Marshall Patrick of Waddington and a sister Mrs. Josephine Woolridge, Fortuna also survive her, as well as 17 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and other more distant relatives.

Mrs. Russ, during her long and eventful life, had gained for herself the love and respect of all who knew her. Braving the hardships of the early pioneer days in California as a bride, she had seen this community develop from a virtual wilderness into one of the leading agricultural and stock raising centers of the state, in this development work her husband having been a leading factor. Her many acts of benevolence and charity were unostentatious but liberal. Some years ago she gave to the state a splendid grove of redwoods in the northern part of the county as a memorial to her deceased husband, Pioneer Joseph Russ. Russ Park, Ferndale, was also a gift from Mrs. Russ. Charities of a worthy nature never appealed for her assistance in vain.

In the declining years of her life, surrounded by her loving children and grandchildren, she had spent a peaceful existence living over again in memory those stirring days when as a bride she and her young husband had labored side by side in carving out for themselves a home in the then rugged surroundings of the early days of Humboldt County. It was her delight to entertain all who called as her guests and she was a charming type of the truly hospitable hostess until the last.

Funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 from the family home, with a great number of sorrowing friends from all parts of the county in attendance. Rev. Douglas of the Ferndale Congregational Church officiated, assisted by a choir. Interment in family lot in Ferndale cemetery. A profusion of beautiful floral offerings, many from a distance, testified in a measure to the esteem in which this beloved pioneer woman was held by all who knew her.

BLA (14 Dec. 1929) The estate of the late Mrs. Zipporah Russ, pioneer Humboldt woman, will aggregate $1,596,835, according to the will of the deceased filed for probate in the Superior Court. Denver Sevier, Eureka attorney and former superior court judge, was named as executor of the estate. The estate consists of stocks and bonds valued at $1,285,000, notes in the sum of $130,000 and real estate valued at $90,000. The devisees and legatees named are: Mrs. Margaret C. Coombe, Mrs. Annie J. Harville, William N. Russ, Mrs. Bertha Lytel, and Joseph Russ, all of Ferndale; Mrs. Edythe Connick of Glen Ridge, New Jersey. Ira Russ and Mrs. Georgia Williams, now deceased, were also included in the will.

A permanent fund of $25,000 was set aside for the education of descendents of the decedent, to be administered by two of her children. Fern Cottage, home of the decedent, was left to Mrs. Georgia R. Williams during her natural life, but a codicil grants this property to Mrs. Edythe Lytel [probably Bertha Lytel] to be used as a home for the decedent’s children.

The codicil also provided a fund of $25,000 to be administered by Mrs. Lytel to care for the brothers of the decedent, Z.R. and Marshall Patrick.
FE (24 Jan. 1930) Miss Dorothy Russ departed for Arizona where she will resume her college studies after having enjoyed a month at Fern Cottage.

FE (4 April 1930) Joseph Russ, Jr. resumes studies at Davis after visit here.

FE (9 May 1930) Miss Carol Coombe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Coombe of Capetown, and a student at the high school at Maxwell, Colusa county, received first prize in the multilateral treaty poster contest.

FE (9 May 1930) Joseph Russ, Jr., home from Davis to spend summer with parents.

FE (16 May 1930) Appraisal Filed in Russ Estate—Z. Russ estate valued at $2,062,298.97. The personal property was appraised at $1,927,836.70 and consisted principally of stock in the Z. Russ & Sons Co. and cash. The real estate was appraised at $88,460.27 and lies in Humboldt county.

FE (1 Aug. 1930) Mrs. H.D. Connick of New Jersey arrived at Fern Cottage the last of the week and will spend a few weeks here with relatives. Mr. Connick, who accompanied her to the coast, is at present in the central part of the state but will arrive here later.

BLA (13 Aug. 1932) Fire Completely destroyed a barn and 160 tons of hay on the Russ ranch at Centerville which is leased by Joe Sousa, at 5:30 Monday morning. They were milking at the barn, 80 cows having been stanchioned, when one of the hired hands smelled smoke. Looking up he saw clouds of it rising from the hay and he ran to the house to inform Sousa, while other hired hands drove the cows out. By the time the Ferndale fire department arrived, the fire had gained too much headway for them to put it out, so the firemen turned their attention to saving other buildings close by. It was stated that the hay was covered by insurance.

FE (19 Jan. 1934) One of the most surprising events of the social season took place on Saturday afternoon at Sutter Creek, Amador County, when Miss Annette Tamboury of Blue Lake became the bride of Joseph Russ of this city.

The nuptial service was read at 2:30 at the home of the Rev. Father Joseph M. Hanrahan, an old time friend of the Russ family. Miss Jane Gillis of Los Angeles, a close friend of the bride was maid of honor and Herbert Russ, brother of the groom acted as best man.

The bride, who is of the brunette type, was a lovely picture in a smart street costume of the Spanish tile shade. Daughter of the late Jack Tamboury and Mrs. Tamboury of Blue Lake; graduate of Arcata Union High School and Eureka Business College; recently engaged in insurance business in Blue Lake; Russ is graduate of UC Davis in agriculture in 1931; now in charge of Mayflower ranch; couple will live there.

FE (4 Jan. 1935) First Creamery in California Organized Here....According to minute books loaned to the Ferndale Enterprise by F.G. Williams, the Humboldt Creamery Co., organized Nov. 29, 1889, probably ranks as the first organization of its kind in California. The organization's incorporation papers were signed by W.C. Hendricks, the Secretary of State.

Stockholders present at the first meeting were: J.A. Russ, W.N. Russ, John Stewart, N. Hurlbutt, C.A. Doe, P. Calanchini, S.H. Paine and F.G. Williams.... J.A. Russ elected president;
N. Hurlbutt, vice-president; F.G. William, treasurer; and S.H. Paine, secretary-manager. The company continued in business until June 26, 1922, when the real estate and assets were sold and the company dissolved.

During the early existence of the creamery, whole milk was bought by 100 pound lots and there were no Babcock separators to determine whether the creamery was buying milk, milk with some water in it, or water with some milk in it for coloring. Practically all of the butter made was marketed in San Francisco at about 10 cents a pound and was shipped from Port Kenyon.

It is interesting to note that in 1896, Pete Philipsen, now manager of the Humboldt Creamery at Fernbridge, Russ-Sanders & Co., and F. Hanley bid on leasing the plant....

FE (6 Sept. 1935) Purebred Sheep Purchased by Joseph Russ, Sr.—68 purebred Shropshire, 23 bucks and 45 ewes arrived via train along with 150 closely bred Shropshire ewes and were shipped to Ocean House and Mayflower ranches. The purebreds were from DR. J.W. Cook Wilbur, Oregon; other from Young and Garrison at Oakland, Oregon.

FE (10 Jan. 1936) Herbert and Joe Russ returned to St. Mary's College the latter part of last week after spending the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. of Ferndale and Ocean Ranch.

FE (15 May 1936) Herb Russ, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., arrived here this week following his graduation from St. Mary's College. Young Russ majored in economics. He was accompanied home by his brother John, also a St. Mary's student. John will return to St. Mary's in the fall and Herb will remain and take over one of his father's ranches.

FE (26 June 1936) Marriage of Barbara Griffith and DR. Walter Delfini; she is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Griffith of Wichita, Kansas, granddaughter of Mrs. Margaret Russ Coombe of Berkeley and great granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, pioneers; graduate of Stanford, Kappa Gamma.

FE (3 July 1936) One of the most important livestock movements in the county took place over the weekend when the Russ Company shipped 200 head of grade Dorset lambs to Frank Littleton, Oak Hill Farm, Aldie, Virginia; negotiations with Rex McBride; sheep for special breeding purposes in producing early market lambs for high class New York market.

FE (17 July 1936) Twenty carloads of lambs shipped to southern California markets; those shipping included Joseph Russ, Jr., Donald Coombe and others. Joe and Will Lowery accompanied the lambs to market.

FE (31 July 1936) 20,000 sheep shipped from Fernbridge on NWP this season; good market conditions; 25 carloads of beef.

FE (31 July 1936) Birth Joseph Russ, IV, 7 lbs; born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr., July 25th; 1st grandchild of Joseph and Sadie.
FE (20 Nov. 1936) Herb Russ of the Ocean House spent the weekend in the Bay region enjoying a visit with his former St. Mary's classmates. Mr. Russ stated he enjoyed the renewing of old friendships but could not enthuse about the Santa Clara-St. Mary's game which he attended.

FE (25 Dec. 1936) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and young son, Joseph, will have members of their family on Christmas day at the Mayflower Ranch. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., John and Herbert Russ, Mr. and Mrs. Will Clark, Mrs. Annie Powers and son, Rodney of San Francisco.

FE (6 Aug. 1937) Several thousand head of cattle were shipped out of Humboldt during the past week to meet the demand of southern markets. Among the local shippers were Domingo Zanone, John Edmundston, Joseph Russ, Sr., Joseph Mackey, Reed Cook, Frank Walker and Abe Walker.

A large train load containing some of the finest beef cattle in the state left from the Fernbridge station last night. Most of the cattle on yesterday's shipment were raised from Capetown south of the Mattole and were driven up the beach to Fern Cottage and then to Fernbridge.

FE (17 Sept. 1937) Obit William Nehemiah Russ, died in New York state; heart attack; was visiting sister Mrs. Edythe Connick of Glenridge, New Jersey; married in 1900 to Viola Lake, only child Dorothy Viola Russ McBride (Mrs. Rex)....

FE (1 Oct. 1937) Birth of Jack Russ, named for grandfather Jack Tamboury; parents Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr.

FE (24 Dec. 1937) Helm-Russ Wedding Held Thursday—Nuptial rites for Miss Eleanor Terry Helm of Alameda and Herbert E Russ of this city were read Thursday [Dec. 23] at high noon b Rev. Father J. Hanrahan in the Church of Immaculate Conception, Sutter Creek, Amador County.

The bride wore a silk crepe afternoon frock in burgundy with hat to match, black accessories and a corsage of orchids. She was attended by Miss Margaret Craig of Alameda, who wore a Windsor blue frock and hat and her corsage was of gardenias. The groom was attended by Walter Minague of Petaluma.

The church choir sang "Faithful and True" while the bride entered the church with her father, Mr. Ralph Jones, who gave her in marriage. The Rev. Father Hanrahan, a close friend of the Russ family, and his sister Miss Catherine Hanrahan and Mrs. C. Chisholm of Sutter Creek had beautifully decorated the church with palms, ferns, and blossoming potted plants. They also served a turkey luncheon in the Hanrahan home. The large table was covered with an imported lace table cloth, the centerpiece of all white flowers, lilies of the valley, cyclamen and freesias, beautifully arranged with maiden hair fern. White snapdragons and fern on the buffet and tall white tapers made a very pretty setting for the wedding luncheon. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones, Miss Ruth Jones of Alameda, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, Miss Margaret Craig, Walter Minague, Mrs. R. Rabb, Mrs. C. Chisholm, Miss Catherine Hanrahan and Rev. J. Hanrahan.

Mrs. Herbert Russ is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones of Alameda. She is a senior at the University of California.
Herbert Russ is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. He is a graduate of St. Mary's College and is now in charge of his father's Ocean House ranch, where the young couple will reside on their return from a honeymoon in southern California.

FE (31 Dec. 1937) Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. will entertain for Mrs. Herbert Russ, a recent bride, on Wednesday evening at the Village Club.

FE (9 Jan. 1938) The Village Club house was the scene of a reception Wednesday evening when Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. invited several hundred southern Humboldters to meet Mrs. Herbert Russ, who before her marriage in December was Miss Eleanor Terry Helm of Alameda.

Dancing and cards entertained the guests until a late hour, when refreshments were served buffet style in the auditorium and at small tables in the sun room. The fireplace mantel was very pretty with a large container of hydrangeas with lights behind them making the blossoms many hues of blue. Baskets of huckleberry hung in the auditorium. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ are now at home to their many friends at the Ocean House ranch.


FE (15 April 1938) The Branstetter home at Capetown was the scene of a dinner party on Sunday honoring Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ. The invited guests: Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ, Jr. and two sons Joseph and Jack; John Russ; Bernard Campbell; Capt. and Mrs. M. Palmer; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Walker and son Lowell; A.L. Walker; Dr. and Mrs. J.M. Brown; and the hosts Mr. and Mrs. L.P. Branstetter and Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Branstetter and children Ann and Phillip.

FE (8 July 1938) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of the Ocean House ranch entertained with a buffet supper on Saturday evening before the dance at Mattole. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kausen, Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Branstetter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Herlocker of Honolulu, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr., Miriam Coombe, Frances Flowers and Bernard Campbell.

FE (5 Aug. 1938) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. are building a seven-room home on the Mayflower ranch to be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr.

FE (19 Aug. 1938) Father J. Hanrahan of Sutter Creek, his sister Miss Catherine Hanrahan and their friend Mrs. C. Chisholm are visiting; guests of Joseph Russ, Sr.

FE (16 Sept. 1938) A baby girl, weighing 7 pounds 1 ounce was born to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of Ocean House on Sept. 8th. The infant has been named Judith Louise.

FE (23 Sept. 1938) Mrs. Herbert Russ and infant daughter, Judith Louise, left the St. Joseph Hospital on Sunday and are staying with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr.

FE (21 Oct. 1938) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of Capetown were Petrolia visitors last week, getting both Mattole apples and fresh apple cider.
FE (28 Oct. 1938) Thomas-Russ Wedding—big affair in Ukiah; St. Mary's Church; four bridesmaids and maid of honor; bridal gown; Eloise Helaine Thomas, daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Alexander Thomas and granddaughter of late Governor and Mrs. Arthur Thomas of Salt Lake City, Utah. She attended Dominican College at San Rafael and Armstrong College in Berkeley. He is youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr.; attended St. Mary's College; now at University of California at Davis in agriculture; they will live in Davis.

FE (11 Nov. 1938) Memory of Humboldt Pioneer Honored in San Diego—long article about Joseph Russ I donating lumber for San Diego School (The Russ School); article from San Diego High School Homecoming Edition.

FE (25 Nov. 1938) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. had their three sons and their families with them for Thanksgiving dinner yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and sons Joseph IV and Jack of the Mayflower ranch; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughter, Jud, of Ocean House; and Mr. and Mrs. John Russ of Davis.

FE (25 Nov. 1938) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, all of this section, returned Saturday after a week's visit in the Bay region where they visited with friends and attended the Wool Growers Association.


FE (6 Jan. 1939) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. left for Sacramento to attend the Governor's barbecue and Inaugural Ball; will be joined by Mr. and Mrs. John Russ of Davis.

FE (10 March 1939) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughter, Judith, living at the Ocean House ranch will move within the near future to the Redwood ranch on Bald Mountain. Redwood Creek and Maple Creek both run through this ranch which is one of Humboldt's finest cattle ranches. Mr. and Mrs. John Russ will remain at the Ocean House to operate the sheep ranch there.

FE (17 March 1939) Mrs. Herbert Russ and young daughter, Judith, left on Tuesday evening's train for a visit with her parents in Alameda.

FE (31 March 1939) Z. Russ Company Makes Division of Holdings—Representing one of the largest and oldest property holders in Humboldt County, the Z. Russ Co. transferred property among the company members to an extent estimated at from $300,000 to $400,000 last week. The property was partitioned to Mrs. Margaret Russ Coombe of San Francisco and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. The remainder of the company's property is held by Mrs. Annie Harville, Mrs. Bertha Lytle, Mrs. Harris Connick and Mrs. Dorothy Russ McBride.

In the transfer, Mrs. Coombe and Mr. and Mrs. Russ receive stipulated shares of all livestock held by the company as well as valuable ranch properties. Mrs. Coombe was deeded the Rainbow ranch consisting of 1480 acres lying in the south of Bear River, the R.M. and Forest Home ranches on Bear River ridge and other properties in that section amounting to 62,00 acres and 118 acres at Centerville. Jointly with her brother, Joseph Russ, Sr., Mrs. Coombe also
received ownership of approximately 1000 acres in a ranch at Coquille, Oregon. A like amount of acreage in the original Oregon ranch remains the property of the Z. Russ Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. received the deeds to the Redwood ranch and Murphy Meadows east of Korbel consisting of 14,279 acres, the 550 acre Davis Creek ranch north of Petrolia and 215 acres at Centerville. Mr. and Mrs. Russ also own in southwestern Humboldt, the well-known 1400-acre Mayflower ranch, the 12—acre Woodland Echo ranch and the 2100 acres Ocean View ranch, operated by their sons Joseph, Jr., Herbert, and John.

The properties involved represented one-half the estate left by the pioneer Joseph Russ, father of Mrs. Coombe and Joseph Russ, Sr., who passed away in 1886. AT the time of his death, his widow Zipporah Russ received a half interest in the estate and the children each a 1/12 interest. A short time after the elder Mr. Russ’ death, the Z. Russ Co. was formed and included the holdings of the widow.

FE (21 April 1939) Mr. and Mrs. John Russ left yesterday for Ukiah to visit her parents. They will also attend social functions at St. Mary's College at Oakland, Dominican College at San Rafael and at Mr. Russ’ fraternity at Davis.

HT (5 May 1939) San Francisco. Harris Connick Resigns as Fair’s Chief Director; Will Devote his Time to Operating Ziegfield Follies; Golden Gate International Exposition.

FE (12 May 1939) Mr. Herbert Russ who underwent an appendectomy at St. Joseph hospital last week will leave the hospital tomorrow.

FE (19 May 1939) Humboldt Stockmen's Association annual field day at Russ Salmon Creek ranch; lunch at Fernbridge hotel; open to all cattlemen.

HT (4 June 1939) Mary Harriett Hine and Harris Russ Connick Wed at Berkeley Rites; photo and story.

HT (15 June 1939) Photo. Mrs. Harris Russ Connick; article about wedding.

FE (8 Sept. 1939) Mr. and Mrs. John Russ entertained on Saturday evening with a buffet supper before the Harvest Festival dance at Mattole, at their Ocean House home. The large living room was decked with autumn hued zinnias and the small tables were centered with small glass bowls of floating pansies. The guest list included Messrs. and Mesdames Chas. Larsen, Prescott Branstetter, Evan Holbrook, George Waldner, Orval Bartlett, Morris Krutchkoff, Walter Dolfini, Joe Russ, Sr., Herbert Russ, Donald Coombe, Curtis Walker, Kenneth Kausen, Chas. Buxton, Robert Morrison, C.B. Hansen, Lloyd Casacca, Joseph Russ, Jr., the Misses Barbara Collins, Miriam Coombe, Ruth Cain, Mary Morgan, Messrs. Gilbert Wademan, Bernard Campbell, James Coombe, Donald Petersen, Frank Berti and Carl Rimby.

FE (15 Sept. 1939) Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beck of Bear River, who are leaving to make their home near Beatrice, were honored by over 150 friends who gathered at the Bear River picnic grounds on Sunday.

William Lowry and Walter Ambrosini furnished and barbecued three lambs and with the many dishes of food brought by the guests, a bountiful luncheon was served at noon; long guest
list including Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russ, Jr. and children Jack and Joe; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughter, Judy; Mr. and Mrs. John Russ; Mr. and Mrs. Rex McBride and children Andy, Jon, William; lots of people.

HT (8 Oct. 1939) Ferndale fire department called to Centerville to extinguish a fire in the high barn belonging to the Z. Russ Company. HT (10 Oct. 1939) On Centerville beach.

FE (20 Oct. 1939) The Forest Home ranch property of Mrs. Margaret Coombe of Berkeley at the end of the Bunker Hill Ridge, was almost completely destroyed by fire; a cabin, lamb shed and three out buildings were swept by the flames as well as a small range barn full of hay. A larger feed barn was not destroyed.

FE (24 Nov. 1939) Mr. and Mrs. John Russ, baby girl born Tuesday Nov. 21st at St. Joseph hospital, Eloise Ann, born on birth date of her great grandmother, late Zipporah Russ; 4th grandchild for Joe Russ, Sr.

FE (1 Dec. 1939) Mrs. John Russ and baby will leave hospital and will stay at Joseph Russ, Sr. home.

FE (10 May 1940) Herbert Russ of the Redwood Ranch near Korbel spent several days in Ferndale while his wife and daughter were visiting with relatives in the Bay section.

FE (21 June 1940) Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and two sons, Jack and Joseph IV, who have been living on the Mayflower ranch will move this weekend to the Ocean House ranch. Mr. and Mrs. John Russ and daughter, Eloise Ann, who have been living at the Ocean House will operate the Mayflower ranch.

FE (26 July 1940) Mrs. John Russ will entertain this afternoon at her home on the Mayflower ranch for her nephew, Joseph Russ IV, on his 4th birthday. Children invited included Judith Russ, Jack, William and Jon McBride, Kay Morrison and many more, plus adults.

FE (2 Aug. 1940) Photo. Joseph Russ, Sr., Ferndale Resident, Passes Suddenly—Shocked by the sudden demise of their friend and neighbor, Joseph Russ, Sr., many friends gathered at the Russ home in this city Tuesday afternoon to pay their last respects to the sterling qualities of the deceased. Final rites were administered by Rev. J.M. Hanrahan of Sutter Creek, a close friend of the family and a graveside service was conducted at the St. Mary's cemetery by the officers of the Eureka Lodge of the Elks. [heart attack]

The youngest son of the late Humboldt pioneers, Joseph Russ and Zipporah Russ, he was born at Fern Cottage, west of Ferndale on the Centerville Road, 27 Nov. 1876. His life, with the exception of the years at school, was spent in this county, principally in the Ferndale district. He attended the Belmont school for boys and the Hopkins Military Academy. As a young man, he worked with his father and brothers in the supervision of the Russ properties in this county and continued his activities in the management of his own ranch buildings and investments to the day of his passing.

During recent weeks, he was busy superintending the annual shipment of sheep from three large ranchers, the Redwood Ranch east of Korbel and the Mayflower and Ocean House
ranches south of Ferndale, now operated by his three sons. Before a division of properties belonging to the Russ family was made over a year ago, the decease's interest included a major share in the supervision of some 70,000 acres of Humboldt ranch property, ranch land in Oregon, and other investments in the county, mainly connected with the farming, stock and dairy industry of the county. By his activity, he maintained a close contact with many persons throughout the county, and was respected for his honesty and ability.

In San Francisco, 20 Dec. 1902, he married Miss Sadie Flowers of this city. Mrs. Russ survives and three sons, Joseph, Jr. of the Ocean Ranch; Herbert at the Redwood Ranch; and John at the Mayflower Ranch; four grandchildren, Joseph IV, Jack, Judith, and Eloise Ann; four sisters Mrs. Margaret Coombe, Mrs. Annie Harville and Mrs. Edythe Connick, all of Berkeley; and Mrs. Bertha Lytle of Fern Cottage.

Charter member of the Eureka Lodge of Elks; member of Humboldt County Stockmen’s Association; Humboldt Wool Growers; director in the California Wool Growers Association. He acted on the Board of Directors of the Humboldt County Fair Association and was one of the prominent backers of the County Fair during its entire existence. Of late years, he has served as racing steward during the race meet of the Fair and was to have served in the same capacity this month.


FE (27 Dec. 1940) Mrs. Jos. Russ, Sr. entertained with Christmas dinner at her house for Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Russ, Jr. and sons, Joseph IV and Jack, Mr. and Mrs. John Russ and daughter Eloise, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughter Judy, Mr. Herbert Whitney of San Francisco, Mrs. A. Tamboury of Eureka, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones and daughter Ruth of Alameda, parents and sister of Mrs. Herbert Russ, and also her grandmother.

FE (28 Feb. 1941) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughter Judy of the Redwood Ranch were visiting in Ferndale Wednesday.

FE (23 May 1941) Obit Emma Russ Brown, 91, born Maine; sister of Joseph Russ; came to Eureka 45 years ago; daughters Clara Brown, Mrs. Myra Steward of Alameda, Mrs. Bertha Hess, Eureka, Miss Florence Brown, Ogden, Utah.; nieces Mrs. E.B. Lytle, Mrs. Anna Harville, Margaret Coombe, Mrs. Harris Connick.

FE (4 July 1941) A number of Ferndalers journeyed Sunday to the Redwood Ranch on Bald Mountain to join with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ for a picnic and outing in that section. Those present, in addition to the hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, were their daughter, Judy, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Kausen and daughters, Carol and Barbara, Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., Mrs. A.W. Blackburn, Mr. and Mrs. George Hartley and children, Joanne and Marilyn, Mr. and Mrs. John Russ and daughter, Eloise Ann, and John Blackburn of this section, and Mrs. Jennie Carbray of San Francisco.

FE (11 July 1941) Twelve carloads of lambs, 1600, were shipped to San Francisco or L.A. from Walter Ambrosini and L.P. Branstetter ranches on Bear River and the Joseph Russ ranch at Cape Mendocino. [several months ago Mattole area shipped 3000 sheep]
BLA (4 Oct. 1941) Eloise Russ has filed suit for divorce from John Russ on grounds of mental cruelty. She asks custody of a minor child, community property consisting of a car, bank account, accounts receivable, real and personal property, $150 monthly alimony, $100 monthly maintenance of minor child, $1250 attorney fee, $75 costs and a restraining order forbidding the disposal of the community property.

FE (17 Oct. 1941) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ have moved from the Redwood Ranch above Korbel to the Russ Mayflower ranch on the western slope of Bunker Hill.

FE (13 Feb. 1942) The finest abattoir in the state was opened by the Russ Markets, Inc. at Elk River Corners; capacity 10 cattle per hour, 45 sheep and 60 hogs; yards will hold 200 hogs, 300 cattle and 200 sheep...[more]

FE (5 June 1942) John Russ, son of Mrs. Joseph Russ and the late Joseph Russ, recently enlisted in the Army Air Corps and is in San Francisco awaiting a call to duty.

FE (3 July 1942) Marriage announcement, July 13, Miriam Coombe, daughter of Donald Coombe, and Robert Welch...party for announcement, present guests included Mesdames Donald Coombe, C.B. Hansen, Jos. Russ, Sr., Jos. Russ, Jr., Herbert Russ, Marvin Lyons, Miss Frances Flowers; hostesses Mrs. Prescott Branstetter and Mrs. L.P. Branstetter. FE (17 July 1942) Popular Young Couple Wedded at Anaheim.

FE (4 Sept. 1942) Mr. and Mrs. Harris R. Connick and daughter Virginia of the Bay region arrived in Ferndale on Wednesday evening and have taken the Chris Winkler home at 351 Shaw Avenue. Mr. Connick will assist in the operation of his mother’s ranch holdings. Mrs. Connick, nee Mary Harriet Hine, is a former Eureka girl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hine.


FE (4 Dec. 1942) A son, John Adams, was born to Mr. and Mrs. H.R. Connick of this city on Monday, Nov. 30 in Eureka. The child weighed 7 and ¼ pounds and is the second child in the Connick family, they have a daughter Virginia a year and a half old. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hine of Eureka are the maternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Harris Connick of Fern Cottage are the paternal grandparents.

FE (26 March 1943) In one of the largest real estate transactions in Humboldt County history, the Russ Investment Company sold its Blocksburg Ranch to William Smith of the Smith Lumber Co. of San Francisco. The 28,000 acre ranch has been used since 1900 for sheep and cattle and will be operated by the Russ Investment Co. under temporary lease. The extensive property runs from Fort Seward on Eel River to the Little Van Duzen near Bridgeville. Rex McBride, president of the ranch company, negotiated the sale.
FE, 3 May 1946) Barber Ranch Is Purchased By Herbert Russ—Changing hands for the first time in more than a half century, the Barber ranch, consisting of some 320 acres of dairy and pasture land, will become the property of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of this city as soon as title search is completed. The property is situated in the Grizzly Bluff section and has been held by the Barber family since pioneer days here. Its sale followed the recent death of Mrs. Emma Barber Rumrill who had been joint owner of the property with her sister, the late Miss Annie Barber. One-half ownership remained in the estate of Miss Barber until the Russ purchase.

Mr. and Mrs. Russ will make their home at the ranch late this summer. They plan to operate the ranch together with their Mayflower ranch on Oil Creek. The hill acreage will be used for sheep pasture while the dairy will continue to be operated by the present lease holder, Oscar Meister, Jr.


FE (30 Aug. 1946) Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ returned home today from a short trip to San Francisco and Alameda.

FE (6 Dec. 1946) Thanksgiving guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and family at their Ocean View ranch were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, Judy and Patricia Russ, Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. and Mrs. Adelaide Tamboury.

FE (27 Dec. 1946) Obit Robert H. Flowers, born in valley 19 Nov. 1867; progressive member of the county’s dairy and agricultural industry early in life; had dairy as young man at Port Kenyon; in 1914, he leased his property to become secretary-manager of Valley Flower Creamer; resigned and retired from creamery only three years ago; involved in 4-H leadership, California Dairy Council, Humboldt County Dairymen’s Association, Humboldt County Fair Association, member Democratic County Central Committee; mass at Church of the Assumption; son Darrel Flowers, Ferndale; brothers Thomas, Tillamook, Oregon; William, Ferndale; Charles, Seattle; sisters Mrs. Sadie Russ, Ferndale; Mrs. Jennie Carbray and Miss Bertha Flowers, San Francisco; two granddaughters; wife Elizabeth Donnelly died some years ago.

FE (7 March 1947) Obit Margaret Russ Coombe; born Mountain View Ranch in 1860; died at daughter’s Mrs. Archer Beale, Berkeley; moved to Fern Cottage at age 8; married 1883 to Rev. Phillip Coombe, then pastor of Ferndale Congregational Church; divided time between Ferndale and Mrs. Coombe’s Cape Mendocino ranch; later moved to San Francisco, where he died in 1912; spent her summers with her family at Camp Idlewild on upper Bear River; sisters Mrs. Bertha Lytle and Mrs. Edythe Connick of Ferndale; six children, Mrs. Winifred Peterson, Maxwell; Mrs. Edythe Griffith, Wichita, Kansas; Donald Coombe, Capetown; Mrs. Amy Field, Portland; Mrs. Ila Ritter, Santa Monica; Mrs. Miriam Beale, Berkley; 15 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren.

FE (14 March 1947) Herbert Russ is at his Grizzly Bluff ranch after being confined to the St. Joseph hospital last week. He will return to the hospital in the near future for further treatment.
FE (11 April 1947) The home of Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., in this city was the scene of a pleasant Easter dinner on Sunday with the following enjoying the hospitality of Mrs. Russ: Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughters Judy and Patsy; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and sons Joe and Jack; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Crockett; Mrs. Charles Moore; Mrs. L.P. Branstetter; Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Branstetter and children Mary Ann, Phil and Bill; Mrs. Winifred Peterson of Maxwell.


FE (6 June 1947) Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. returns home with friends from trip to Canada.

FE (25 July 1947) Idlewild, the summer camp of the Coombe family on upper Bear River has been opened for the summer. At present Mr. and Mrs. Archer Beale of Berkeley, their daughter Mrs. Robert Morrill with her baby and Mrs. Al Ritter of Santa Monica, her daughter Mrs. Ed Rose and two children are there. Other members of the family are expected shortly.

FE (30 Jan. 1948) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of Grizzly Bluff are parents of a son, James Terry Russ, born at St. Joseph Hospital Jan. 27. He weighed 6 pounds and 2 ounces. There are two other children in the Russ family, their daughters Judy and Patsy. Grandparents of the new baby are Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. and the late Joseph Russ and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones of Alameda.

FE (20 Feb. 1948) Ranch, Farm Leaders Seek University Aid on County’s 1948 Agricultural Program—Meeting in Eureka Friday, several hundred Humboldt county farmers and ranchers outlined a program of development for county agriculture for 1948. Their comprehensive program will be presented to the agriculture extension service for assistance….Five major phases
1) improvement of livestock, dairy cattle, beef and sheep, Joe Russ chair
2) improvement of general farming conditions, including poultry and bulb growing, F.L. Real, chair
3) dairying, Felix Zana chair
4) 4-H Club activities, Louie Pontoni, chair
5) home and rural life improvement, Mrs. Ruth Barnes, chair

FE (21 May 1948) Housewarming for the Pat Harvilles; new home in Hydesville; formerly at Port Kenyon; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ among the guests.

FE (25 June 1948) Surprise birthday party for Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., present Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr.; Joe and Jack Russ; Mrs. Adeline Tamboury, all of the Ocean House; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Powers, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Branstetter, Mrs. L.P. Branstetter; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bartlett, Elmo Reidy, Mrs. Mamie Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and children Judy, Patsy and James.

FE (4 March 1949) Fire completely destroyed the old ranch house on the What Cheer ranch at Bunker Hill; near the school property; owned by Russ-Connick Co.; had recently been remodeled; built 75 years ago; contents including new saddle belonging to Francis Bugenig, destroyed.
FE (1 1 March 1949) Obit Mrs. Mary Alice Brawley Russ, 76, died in Palo Alto where she had lived for 25 years; married late Ira Russ in April 1900 at St. Paul's Church in San Francisco; pallbearers Herbert, Joe, Jr., R.P. Harville, Richard Harville, Donald Coombe, Harris Connick.

FE (25 March 1949) New Fishing Cabin Reason for Party—A fish net filled with gifts for her cabin at Camp Weeott was presented to Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., when a group of her friends were invited to spend the evening at the Herbert Russ home at Grizzly Bluff on March 17. Judy and Patsy Russ, granddaughters of the honoree, placed the loaded net before her as the guests all sang, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Mrs. Russ opened the many packages containing useful articles for her cabin at the fishing resort at the mouth of the Eel.

Hand-made tally cards depicted a fisherman sitting in a small boat initialed S.A.R. and holding a small fish pole from which dangled a line with a bent pink hook. Various games were played and at the conclusion prizes were drawn. Among them were several crabs, neatly wrapped in cellophane and ribbon-tied.

Supper partners were secured by matching names of fishing equipment, and the fisherman theme was followed in table appointments and in the refreshments served. A fish net served as the centerpiece and held bits of driftwood, shells and coral. Glass floats and succulents completed the table arrangement. A tray of individual molded salads resembling a fleet of small fishing craft with tiny white sales on orange section "boats" [were served]. Hot rolls, cake and cookies were also served buffet style. Beverages were served from the tea wagon by the hostess, Mrs. Herbert Russ.

Those invited to the surprise party were:....Her son, Herbert, had a special gift for her, a basket filled with cut kindling for her cabin on the Eel.

FE (1 April 1949) Photo. Mrs. Rex McBride and sons Jon and Andrew on world cruise; William stayed home with father; Jon and Andrew are students at California Preparatory School in Ojai Valley.

FE (17 June 1949) Capetown School Closes after 71 Years Service; ceremonies include vocal solo by Joe Russ, IV; skit by Joe and Jack; piano and banjo duet Joe Russ and Roy Crockett; "What Freedom Means to Me" by Joe Russ, IV.

FE (1 July 1949) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and children Patsy and Jimmy returned this week from a week's vacation in the bay area and to Lake Tahoe. Miss Judy Russ also accompanied them south and returned today by plane from Alameda.

FE (29 July 1949) Mrs. R.P. Harville entertained her book club at her home in Hydesville last week. Mrs. Herbert Russ of this section read a selection of poetry to those present who included Mesdames Harris Connick, A.M. Ring, S.A. Fuller, John D. Robertson, Jr., and Robert Morrison.

FE (9 Sept. 1949) Large Water Well Proves Successful at Grizzly Bluff—Water seems to abound in the wrong places for most ranchers so it is with considerable celebrating that a new and abundant source is welcomed. Such was the case last week on the Herbert Russ ranch at Grizzly Bluff where the patience and expert ability of the Neal Barnes well-drilling crew brought
in a well for Mr. Russ, which will produce an estimated 1000 gallons per minute. The well went into action for irrigation immediately and is at present serving the parched pastures of the area....

W.E. Nelson was the head driller on the portable well-drilling rig and was assisted by his son, R.E. Nelson....Neal Barnes, owner of the Barnes Tractor and Equipment Co. at Fernbridge, was in charge of the operation....

Jacob Hawkins leases the Russ dairy ranch and his pleasure in locating the large source of water for the ranch may be seen in the photo included in the Barnes advertisement on page two. Photo, showing Hawkins, the two Nelsons and Barnes.

FE (9 Sept. 1949) Russ barn destroyed by fire; near ocean beach on Russ marsh for 35 years; known as the "high barn," 200 tons of chopped hay to be used for winter feed for Russ-Connick stock brought into their feed pastures in the delta; spontaneous combustion blamed; barn worth $10,000; hay $5000; barn 60x100 feet in size; shot high into the air.
FE (18 Nov. 1949) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of this section returned from San Francisco where they attended the Santa Clara-St. Mary's football game Sunday. Herb, a pal of Len Casanova, but a St. Mary's graduate, commented on the game, "Cas was lucky."

FE (25 Nov. 1949) Joseph Russ, Jr. Elected President State Wool Association [California Wool Growers Association] Russ is one of the most progressive sheep and cattle ranchers of this section; he operates the Russ Ocean House ranch at Cape Mendocino and with his brother, Herbert Russ, operates other Russ properties in the county.

FE (10 Feb. 1950) Russ Cattle Co. of Ferndale purchased six Hereford bulls at the recent Red Bluff bull sale at a total cost of $5,325. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. attended the sale.

FE (2 June 1950) Sunday afternoon of last week, Mr. and Mrs. Harris Connick entertained a number of their guests from all sections of the county at a tea at their home on Shaw Ave. [long list of guests]

FE (16 June 1950) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and children, Judy, Patsy, and James, left last weekend for a vacation trip north. They planned to be away about a week.


FE (1 Dec. 1950) The Joseph Russ, Jr. home was the gathering place for members of their family and other guests for Thanksgiving; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, Judy, Patsy and Jimmy, present and others.

FE (5 Jan. 1951) Mr. and Mrs. Harris Connick were hosts to a group of Ferndalers and several from out of town on Friday when they held an at home party. Callers were…. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ.

FE (16 Feb. 1951) Red Bluff Bulls Bring High Prices—10th annual Red Bluff Bull Sale record-smashing three days; 295 Hereford bulls selling for an all-time high total of $454,760. The sensational average of $1,316 per head is unprecedented for any consignment sale ever held anywhere in the world. Humboldt ranchers on the buyer’s for Saturday included the Russ-Connick Co., which purchased one Hereford bull from Herbert Chandler of Baker, Oregon for $3,250 [ long articles on bulls and prices paid]

FE (30 March 1951) The Herbert Russes and children spent Easter week with Mrs. Russ' parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Jones, in Alameda. Also guests at the Jones home were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Barnett. Mr. and Mrs. Russ visited several days in Bakersfield, making the trip from Alameda by plane.

FE (11 May 1951) Virginia Connick observed her 10th birthday recently with a party at the home of her parents the Harris Connicks; John and Tommy Connick there.
FE (17 Aug. 1951) Russ Family Holds Annual Gathering—Members of the Russ family gathered on Sunday for their customary yearly get-together and were guests of Mrs. E.B. Lytle at Fern Cottage. Luncheon was served out-of-doors; included were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ, Judy, Patsy and Jimmy.

FE (24 Aug. 1951) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and children are on a motor trip through the northwestern states. They plan also to visit Canada before returning to their home in Grizzly Bluff.

FE (31 Aug. 1951) County Cattle Plan Field Day at Rohner Tomorrow—The Field Day and Barbecue of the Humboldt County Cattlemen’s Association will be held tomorrow….Jack Rice of Scotia is the program chair with Prescott Branstetter of Singley Hill as his assistant. Wm. O. Perry will be in charge of barbecuing 600 pounds of steer beef. Other committeemen are Joseph Russ, Jr., Harris Connick, Knowles Clark, G.L. Speier and James Cook.

FE (7 Sept. 1951) Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ and daughters Judy and Patsy and son Jimmy returned the first of the week after a several weeks' motor trip north into Canada. They stopped in Banff and at Lake Louise and drove as far as Calgary. On their return trip, they traveled through several of the western states visiting interesting and scenic places, arriving at their home in time for the opening of school in Ferndale this week.

FE (7 Dec. 1951) One storm casualty during the week came with the high waves on Centerville beach which broke through the sand dunes and dikes at the Russ-Connick property near the mouth of Eel River. The break poured salt water over an estimated 200 acres of valuable reclaimed pasture land.

A fairly high tide along with the gale of Tuesday morning and the high breakers which continued long after the storm subsided broke through protecting sand and dikes for a distance of about 200 feet.

FE (11 Jan. 1952) Harris Connick of this city was elected president of the Area Council, Camp Fire Girls….Mr. Connick has been particularly active in administration of the youth organizations in the county, serving in other offices for the past several years.

FE (18 April 1952) Mr. and Mrs. Harris Connick and children, Virginia, John, and Tommy went by plane to Portland to visit Mr. and Mrs. Scott Smith. Mrs. Connick and Mrs. Smith are sisters.

FE (23 May 1952) Grizzly Bluff Home Scene of Gathering—Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr. was honored on Mother's Day with a tea at the home of her son Herbert Russ and family at Grizzly Bluff. Patsy and Jimmy, young children of the Herbert Russes, greeted guests at the door and another daughter, Miss Judy Russ, assisted in serving. Other girls aiding her were the Misses Dorene Renner and Barbara Kausen. White hawthorn, white tulips and white iris decorated the living room and the tea table was centered by an arrangement of pink rhododendrons and light blue
candles. Pouring were Miss Gertrude Graham, Mrs. William Flowers, Mrs. Joseph Russ, Jr. and Mrs. George Carbray. Guests were received from 3 until 5 o'clock. In the evening the Russ family joined for dinner at the Weymouth Inn. [long guest list]

FE (22 Aug. 1952) Photo. Judy Russ, great granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, I, connects with past with the present as she rests before the shuttered windows of the A. Berding home; [part of centennial celebration; dressing up in old fashions and photographing old houses]

FE (15 May 1953) Mass Tomorrow for Mrs. Joe Russ—Following an illness of several months duration, Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., the former Miss Sadie Flowers, died at a Eureka hospital early yesterday morning. Mass will be said for her tomorrow at 10 a.m. at the Assumption Church; Rosary tonight at Citizens Chapel.

A daughter of the pioneer couple, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Flowers, Sr., Miss Russ was born on the Flowers ranch on the Island, 20 June 1876. She attended schools here and taught in the Capetown school for six years. In 1902, she married Joseph Russ, also a member of one of southern Humboldt's pioneer families and the two made their home in Ferndale at the Ocean House Ranch at Cape Mendocino. As a young married couple, they joined in the activities of the community and continued this interest until the death of Mr. Russ in July 1940.

Mrs. Russ gave active and material support to her community, its people, and her church, and her leadership extended from civic participation as a member of the Ferndale Planning Commission to Village Club president. She also served years as a member of the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee and represented the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce in many of the meetings with legislators and highway officials on the Shoreline Highway proposals. As a member of the Humboldt County Wool Growers and of the Humboldt County Cattlemen’s Association, she gave of her time to the improvement of the livestock industry.

She was devoutly interested in the welfare of the Assumption Church in this city and of its people, giving generous support to both. Her generous and friendly nature also aided many youngsters and the organizations of the young people of the community.

She served as president of the Village Club in 1949-50 and was the club's treasurer at the time of her death. Another local group in which Mrs. Russ supported enthusiastically was the Ferndale Garden Club and she took part in its numerous beautification programs in the city and the county fair grounds.

Surviving her are three sons, Joseph Russ, Jr., Herbert Russ, both of this city, and John Russ of Nevada; nine grandchildren Joseph Russ IV, Jack Russ, Judy Russ, Patsy Russ, James Russ, Eloise Ann Russ, John Patrick Russ, Nicholas Dianne Russ, Joseph Michael Russ. Her surviving brothers and sisters: William J. Flowers, Mrs. Jennie Carbray, Ferndale; Charles Flowers, Seattle; Miss Bertha Flowers, San Francisco.

FE (24 July 1959) Obit Mrs. Harris Connick, former Mary Harriet Hine; funeral Christ Episcopal Church, Eureka; died in Eureka hospital following an extended illness; burial Ferndale; memorials to Cancer Society; born 3 Sept. 1913 in Eureka; graduated from Stanford University in 1934 with BA in economics. On 3 June 1939 married to Harris Russ Connick; worked in publicity department of S.F. exposition at Treasure Island in 1939 and resided in SF 3 years after her marriage; member PTA, Village Club, Board of Trustees of Ferndale Library; Camp Fire work and Cub and Boy Scouts; Republican Women; member Pioneer Hunter family. Survived by husband, daughter Virginia Russ Connick, sons John Adams and Thomas DeHaven Connick
of Ferndale; parents Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Hine, Palo Alto and sister Mrs. Scott L. Smith, Portland; nephews.

FE (1 Jan. 1960) Fire damages rear of building called “The Sanctum” part of Russ family home ranch at Fern Cottage. House occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bugenig and seven children. Damage to building is $6000. Reconstruction of the burned portion is to start at once.

FE (2 Feb. 1962) Herb Russ Heads Co. Fair—Humboldt County Fair Directors at their annual meeting Monday night expressed confidence in their present leadership to re-elect Herbert Russ to another term as president....

FE (3 Aug. 1962) Judith Russ Weds Stanley Dixon, Jr.—Wedding vows were exchanged Sunday at the Church of the Assumption in Ferndale uniting Miss Judith Russ and Stanley Dixon, Jr. The Rev. Father Daniel McCarthy officiated at the ceremony which was attended by over 600 relatives and friends of the Ferndale couple. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Russ of Grizzly Bluff and a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Jones of Alameda and the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Russ, Sr., pioneer Ferndale ranch owners. The bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Dale Horn who have resided in this area for a number of years. Mr. Dixon is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Welker and the late Mr. and Mrs. John Dixon of Provo, Utah.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a formal gown of nylon organza trimmed with French imported Ale neon lace appliqué. It was made with fitted bodice and three-quarter length sleeves, sweetheart neckline and chapel train, designed for the bride and fashioned for her in New York. Her short French Illusion veil was held to a tailored bow headpiece and she carried a bridal bouquet of red roses and lily of the valley.

Miss Patricia Russ, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and bridesmaids were Miss Linda Dixon, sister of the groom, and Mrs. Robsen Allen, Burbank, former college roommate of the bride. All wore dresses of white organdy, specially designed and made in New York for the bridal attendants. Wide tiers of tucks formed the full skirts and the dresses were complete with jackets. Each carried a French bouquet, the main of honor's formed of pink, red, and white roses and pin bouvardia. Miss Dixon and Mrs. Allen had bouquets of pink and red roses with pink bouvardia.

Altars at the church, before which the marriage rites were spoken, had large bouquets of white chrysanthemums, tall spikes of white gladioli and white stock. Pew markers were clusters of the same flowers, tied with white satin bows ad linked together with double streamers of white satin ribbon. James Russ, brother of the bride, and Bobby Biondini were acolytes.

Robert Witters of Loleta served as best man at the ceremony and ushers were Richard Lourenzo, Larry Horn, a brother of the groom, and James Russ. Mrs. Joseph Alexandre of Ferndale was organist and accompanied the soloist, Miss Dorene Renner. As the bride's mother was seated in the church, Miss Renner sang "O Beautiful Mother."

For the wedding the bride's mother was attired in a dress of champagne toast chiffon with matching picture hat of chiffon and matching shoes. The groom's mother wore a dress of apply green shade with matching shoes and a close-fitting hat of apple green velvet.
A reception was held at the Herbert Russ home following the wedding rites. Massive arrangements of white chrysanthemums, gladioli and stock with candle light enhanced the home white gardenia trees also added beauty and charm to the reception decor.

[list of those greeting guests, displaying gifts, serving refreshments, dining room attendants, those passing out wedding cake and handing out packets of rice, and those in charge of parking]

The tiered wedding cake, decorated all in white and trimmed with wedding bells, was encircled by white flowers and centered the refreshment table which was covered in French Ale neon lace. Guests visited and were served indoors and on the terraces of the Russ home. Summer flowers, blooming abundantly in the garden areas, were additional touches of charm to the beautifully decorated ranch home. Gifts for the wedding couple were displayed in rooms of the guest house.

At the close of the day, the newlyweds left on their honeymoon, traveling south. Later they will be at home in Arcata. Mr. Dixon is a pre-law student at Humboldt State College. He formerly graduated from Ferndale Elementary and High School and served in the armed forces.

His bride is also a graduate of local schools and from Dominican College. She is a teacher and employed at an elementary school in Cuten.

For going away, the bride wore a red and white checked casual dress, white coat and red accessories and a red carnation corsage. [long list of out-of-town guests.]

FE (6 Jan. 1966) Obit Harris D. Connick, died 28 Dec. 1965; services in S.F.; burial in Oakland; native of Eureka; survived by wife Edythe of 1408 Hawthorne Terrace, Berkeley; brother Walter of Oakland; son Harris R. Connick of Ferndaler, grandchildren Mrs. Phil Dwight (Virginia), John and Tom Connick; two great grandchildren.

Chief director of the 1939 World’s Fair; graduate engineer of Stanford class of 1897; served as Chief Designer of the S.F. sewer system and as chief assistant city engineer of S.F. shortly after turn-of-century.

He was in charge of the construction and operation of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915, when acres of swamp and marsh lands were filled in what is now the Marina District for the exposition site.

He was appointed chief director of the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, a post he held for more than a year. He was president of Associated Music Publishers, finance chairman for Famos-Players-Lasky and a director of several national public utilities companies. A member of American Association of Civil Engineers and the Bohemian Club in S.F. Married former Edythe Russ and was a frequent visitor in the area. He was also active in the management of Russ-Connick properties here.

FE (3 March 1966) Final Rites Held for Mrs. H. Connick—Edythe Connick died in Berkeley Feb. 25. Native of Ferndale; aged 92; wife of late Harris DeHaven Connick; burial Ferndale cemetery; services at Citizens Mortuary.

Following her marriage, the couple made their home in the Bay area for most of their lives and were prominent in the economic and social development of that district. Both were frequent visitors to this county and in recent years had spent much time at Fern Cottage, the Russ family home. Preceded in death by husband who died early January of this year. Surviving are Harris Russ Connick of Ferndale, grandchildren Mrs. Phillip Dwight of Montague and a sister Mrs. Bertha Lytel [family history of Russ children given in obit]
T-S (2 July 1973) Obit Herbert E. Russ; died in San Francisco as result of a lengthy illness on 30 June 1973; resident of Grizzly Bluff, Ferndale; husband of Terry Russ; father of Mrs. Stan (Judy) Dixon, Ferndale; Mrs. Michael (Pat) Davis, Eureka; and Jim Russ, Ferndale; brother of Joseph Russ, Ferndale and John Ross of Reno; six grandchildren; four nephews; native and lifelong resident of Ferndale; grandson of pioneers Joseph and Zipporah Russ who settled in county in early 1850s; long-time member of the Assumption Catholic Church, Ferndale; age 59.

FE (5 July 1973) Last Rites Today For Herbert Russ—Herbert E. Russ, 59, a native and lifelong resident of Ferndale, died June 30 in a San Francisco hospital following a lengthy illness. He was the son of the late Joseph and Sadie Flowers Russ, a grandson of Joseph and Zipporah Russ, and also a grandson of early day Ferndale residents, Mr. and Mrs. William J. and Sarah Flowers.

Mr. Russ was born in Ferndale on 9 Nov. 1913 and had made his home in the area where he was self-employed for over 40 years as a livestock rancher. He attended Assumption Catholic school in Ferndale, graduated from St. Mary's High school in Oakland, and St. Mary's College in Moranga. He was an active, long-time member of Assumption Church; director for over 22 years and president for eight years of Humboldt County Fair Association; a life member of Western Fairs Association; past president of the Humboldt County Cattlemen's Association; a member of the California State Cattlemen's Association; member of the Humboldt County Wool Growers Association; member of the Redwood Golf and Country Club, Ferndale; member of the Chamber of Commerce, Council of California Growers, the Humboldt County Farm Bureau; a charter member of the Ingomar Club; and a director of the Humboldt National Bank. While attending St. Mary's College, he served as manager of one of the top-rated St. Mary's football teams.

Mr. Russ is survived by his wife, Terry E. Russ, of the family home in Grizzly Bluff; also by his children, Mrs. Stan (Judy) Dixon, Ferndale; Mrs. Michael (Pat) Davis, Eureka; Jim Russ of Ferndale. He was the brother of Joseph Russ, Jr., Ferndale; and John Russ, Reno. He also leaves grandchildren, Rogan and Michelle Rice, Eureka; Shannon, Megan, Ryan, and Brennan Dixon, Ferndale; and nephews Joseph Russ, IV and Jack Russ of Ferndale; John Patrick Russ and Michael Russ. Rosary and Mass of Resurrection at Assumption Church. Concluding services at St. Bernard's Mausoleum, Eureka. Contributions can be made to Friends of Cancer Immunology, San Francisco.

FE (9 Feb. 1984) Obit Annette C. Russ, 72; died 6 Feb. in San Francisco; wife of Joseph Russ, III; born at Blue Lake; attended Arcata High School and Craddock Business School; long and active member of Humboldt County and California Bo-Peeps and Cow Belles and life member of California Scholastic Federation; sons Joseph Russ IV and Jack Russ and their wives Karen and Linda; grandchildren Renee, Len, Kathy, Jay and Sarah Russ; mass at Assumption Church; donations may be made to Livestock Memorial Research Fund or American Cancer Society.

FE (7 March 1991) Photo. Joseph Russ III Dies—Prominent Humboldt County and California rancher Joseph Russ II, 81, died Feb. 27. Services were at 10 a.m. March 2 at the Church of Assumption and his saddle and bridle were placed at the entrance of the Nave.

According to the family, an electrical outlet malfunctioned at the historic Ocean House on the road to Petrolia, overlooking the Pacific. Fire broke out. A helicopter lifted Mr. Russ to St. Joseph Hospital where he was pronounced dead of smoke inhalation. Two rooms of the ranch home were damaged by the fire.
Russ was a grandson of Joseph Russ I from New England, the pioneer Russ who arrived in what was to become Ferndale in 1852. He began to buy land here, in the Ferndale bottom and Bear River and eventually the Russ holdings included 50,000 acres leased and owned.

Russ and his two sons, Joseph IV and Jack, and his favorite dog Sam were featured in the June 1988 issue of Fortune magazine.

In 1964 he was named California Livestock Man of the Year; he also was a founder of the Forest/Landowners Association and a past president of the California Wool Growers. His home, Ocean House, he once said, had been a stopover for cattle drivers and mail and freight in the old days.

Obit. Native of Ferndale; raised on family ranches of Eel River valley; after his secondary education, he attended St. Mary's College at Moranga and the University of California at Davis. He was a grandson of the pioneer Joseph and Zipporah Russ family, early settlers of the Eel River valley. Operated family livestock ranches throughout his life. One of founding directors of Forest/Landowners; longtime member of Humboldt and the California Cattlemen's Associations; Humboldt County Wool Growers Association; and was past president of the California Wool Growers Association. In 1964, he received the "California Livestock Man of the Year" award. He was a former member of the California Fish and Game Commission.


Mass at Assumption Church; interment St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Ferndale; Memorial contributions can be made to Livestock Research Memorial Fund, c/o California Cattlemen's Association, Sacramento.

FE (20 Oct. 1994) Obit John A. Connick, 51, native of Eureka; resident of Ferndale all his life; graduate of Ferndale High School. He was self-employed as a cattle and sheep rancher his entire working life. Descendant of the Hunter, Hine and Russ families. Member state and local Cattlemen’s and Wool Growers Associations and Farm Bureau.

John will be fondly remembered as a self-educated historian by any who visited with him; survived by father, brother tom (Patty) of Santa Rosa; sister Virginia (Phil) Dwight. He was uncle of Lawrence and Marcell Dwight, Mariette and Wally Coppini, Tom Connick; special family friends Jack and Linda Russ; his special companion, dog Shorty; memorial services at Fern Cottage; burial Ferndale cemetery.

FE (1 Nov. 1994) Obit Harris Russ Connick; died 28 Oct. 1994 in Ferndale; age 82; descendent of Russ and Connick families who were among the early settlers of Humboldt county.

Born in San Francisco; graduate of Princeton and held a graduate degree from Harvard. Lived and worked in San Francisco before moving to Ferndale in early 1940s, where he worked as a rancher for over forty years. He was the owner of Connick Livestock Company.

Actively involved in the livestock industry, he was a member of the Cattlemen’s Association, Wool Growers Association, and the Farm Bureau. He was also interested in community activities, including the Lytel Foundation, Repertory Theatre and had been a member of the construction advisory committee for the Humboldt County Library. Long time member of Ingomar Club. Survived by daughter Virginia and Phil Dwight of Ferndale; his son Tom and
Patty Connick of Santa Rosa; grandchildren Lawrence and Marcell Dwight, Arcata; Mariette and Wally Coppini, Ferndale; Tom Connick, Mesa, Arizona; stepson Denton Foster and family of Cottonwood; step-daughter Becky Rodriguez and her family of Austin, Texas. Preceded in death by son John Connick, Ferndale; his wife of 20 years Mary Hine Connick; and his second wife M. Odell Connick. Private family memorial services have been held; Contributions to Hospice, Humboldt Home Health Service or Humboldt County Library building fund.

T-S (16 June 2002) Obit Terry Russ, longtime Humboldt County resident, passed peacefully as the sun set on June 14, 2002. Born 1 Oct. 1916 as Eleanor Terry Helm, Santa Clara, California. Attended University of California at Berkeley as a theater arts major before moving to Humboldt County in 1937 to marry Herbert Edward Russ. Since 1980, Terry has lived part time in Ferndale and part time in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. She loved the beauty, the history, and the people of the Hawaiian Islands and spent many years there surrounded by friends and family. In addition to spending time with her loved ones, Terry enjoyed traveling, the arts, lunching with her book club friends and being a part of the local Humboldt ranching community.

Terry was preceded in death by her husband Herbert Russ. She is survived by her sister Ruth Barnett and husband Jim of Colona, California; three children and their spouses, Judy and Stan Dixon, Ferndale; Pat and Michael Davis, Kealakekua, Hawaii; and Jim and Katie Russ, Ferndale. She will be greatly missed by her grandchildren who called her "Grandma T" Shannon Dixon and wife Sage; Megan Dixon; Ryan Dixon; Brennan Dixon and wife Sara; Rogan Rice and wife Vicki; Michele McKenzie Rice; Heather (Davis) Silacci and her husband Rich; Nicole (Davis) O'Connor and her husband Jeremy; Quincy Russ and Brenna Russ; eleven great grandchildren, Jake and Cade Dixon; Brandon, Ethan, Michaela and Jasmine Rice; Carson Silacci and No clani, Aaron and Benjamin O'Connor. She was also close to her nieces and nephews, Jimmy Barnett and wife Kathi; Carolyn Barnett; Nancy Blakesley and husband Stuart; David Barnett and wife Laura; Joe Russ III and wife Karen; Jack Russ and wife Linda.

Terry's wishes were to have her ashes scattered at sea in a traditional Hawaiian ceremony surrounded by her immediate family. At Terry's request, no local memorial service will be held. In lieu of flowers, donations to St. Joseph Hospital Foundation Surgical Imaging Fund. Terry was a lifetime benefactor of St. Joseph Hospital. She died of a neurological factor known as Lewy Body Disease. The surgical imaging fund will be used to provide equipment used to diagnose and treat many neurological disorders.

The family gratefully acknowledges the skillful and loving care provided by Doctors Irvine and Iverson, all of the staff at St. Joe's, especially the Fourth Floor Med-Surg Unit and Terry's many loving caregivers and citizens.