This and the following 13 pages are copied from Dr. Stephens scrapbook kindly shared by his family.

in the Social World

PAGE 4 Thursday, July 19, 1951

THE Mary-Go-Round

Vacation Chatter

Courtland, California, seems to be quite a gathering-place for the yachting crowd from Alameda, with boats from all the clubs providing summer vacations for their owners there. . . **Mr. and Mrs John Friedrich** and their children will be going up for the first two weeks in August—maybe longer—on the "Frisky"—and there are many other Alamedans visiting back and forth in their dinghys—**Dorr and Audrey Mott, Larry and Helen Knight, Emery and Margaret Wehn, Norman and Evelyn Elerman, Russ and Betty Federspiel, Pat and Ray Waterlow** and their daughters, and **Bev** and **Marge Randall**. . . The **Dick Blundens** were there for a week-end, staying at the "Mansion", popular hotel with its restaurant and barbecue facilities. . . Also, **Dick and Sally Miller** will be going up on the "Cubuf" to join other Alamedans. . . Understand that 50 to 60 boats are at anchor, their owners cruising about the area, having a wonderful time!

* * *

Harry Pennell was at Bohemian Grove for a few days last week, and his wife, **Roberta** has gone ahead with son **Duncan**, for a vacation at Bass Lake. Harry will join them there later. . . **Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brasscheid** are vacationing at their cabin near Santa Cruz. . . And **Mr. and Mrs. Ben Jost** returned last Saturday from a flying trip to Seattle. They went up with their daughter, **Carmella (Mrs. Eldon Cooley)**, who has been living in Mill Valley, to see their son-in-law off—he is in the army, at present being shipped to some unknown destination. . . Carmella is here now with her parents, may stay indefinitely if she can not be with her husband. She is a nurse, and is planning to take a refresher course anyway, may go "back to work," depending on what the future holds. . .

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Seacord, who recently arrived here from Honolulu, are getting a big bang out of the Bay Area, feeling like tourists as they take in the sights after an absence of several years. . . They are currently staying with **Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Walsten**, are going up to Lake Tahoe for the week-end, then to Russian River to rest for a couple of weeks before they start serious househunting. . . Her parents are **Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Jones** who are now at Guerneville.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. K. B. Key are back from a week spent "roughing it" and fishing at Lost Creek Dam above Marysville in Butte County. . . **Mayor and Mrs. Frank P. Osborn** also spent last week-end at Lake Tahoe. . . Depending on how the city's business

Antique Lamps To



Dr. William Barclay Stephens, prominent Alameda physician, is serving as a kind of curator-pro-tem for a large collection of antique lamps which, it is expected, will go on exhibit this fall at the Academy o Sciences in San Francisco. (Times-Star Photo)

EARLY LIGHTING FIXTURES SENT HERE FOR SHOWING

Dr. William Barclay Stephens, whose collection of watches and clocks has been a valuable and noteworthy addition to the California Academy of Sciences exhibits, has been instrumental in obtaining another collection for the academy—this time an accumulation of antique lamps.

A friend, Mrs. Maude Rex Allen of New York City, has been gathering lamps for many years. put in the lamps, Mrs. Allen will come from New York for the purpose of cataloguing the exhibit which is to be sponsored some time in September. The P G and E also is helping to promote the exhibit.

Dr. Stephens, who has a penchant for locating interesting things, persuaded Mrs. Allen to offer the collection to the Academy. There are still several cases

date back several thous years. While many of them quite primitive in form and pearance, a number of b forms such as wall brack chandliers, and candelbra wh are used widely today, are to found.

Most of the lamps receive date are Eastern ones—from rea, Java, India, Nepal, I Ceylon. Some are very or

RIPTIDES

The Clock on the Waterfront 10/29/20

By ROBERT O'BRIEN

"Yes," Mr. Liebert said, "the Ferry Building clock and the old siren are very important things in the lives of thousands of San Franciscans. In the morning, the siren tells them when it's time to start the day's work, and at noon it tells them when it's time for lunch. In the afternoon, its sound means that their working day is about over. And on their way to the streetcar or the train, the clock tells them to hurry up, or they'll be late for dinner . . ."

Mr. Liebert, an old Tar Flat boy, and Superintendent of Harbor Maintenance for the Board of State Harbor Commissioners, has an office on the Ferry Building's second floor. As he spoke, the noise and bustle of Embarcadero traffic drifted through his open window.

"They worry about both of them," he continued. "If for some mechanical reason the siren does not blow, the phone calls flood the switchboard. Not long ago, we finished cleaning and painting the tower from top to bottom, and while we were painting the clock dials, naturally we had to stop the hands of each dial. Fellow called up and said 'What's the matter with the clock? It's been ten minutes after six for five days.' I told him it'd be back in shape again as soon as the men got through painting, and he hung up happy."

I asked Mr. Liebert how long the clock had been in the tower.

"That's the original clock," he said, with a shade of admiration in his voice. "Put there in 1898, and it's been there ever since."

For more than 20 years, it was a pendulum clock, powered by weights, like a grandfather clock, and these weights had to be cranked up every seven days or the clock would run down. Then, in about 1919, it was transformed into an electric clock, taking its power not from the public lines but from an independent battery system. The weights and pendulum are still there, in the tower below the clock, and can be used to keep the clock going in the event something happens to the batteries.

It was also in 1919 that the siren was installed. You may never have been able to see it with a casual glance, but if you look hard you can distinguish it about 200 feet above the street, or about 50 feet above the clock dial, on the north side of the tower. Mr. Liebert believes it may well be the oldest



siren in use any place, perhaps in the world.

"Mast sirens," he said, "blow themselves to pieces in a very short time. The air raid warning sirens, for instance, they all tore themselves apart. But we have a brake on this one that lets it blow for exactly 20 seconds. Then" . . . his hand made a slow, descending motion above his desk . . . "it floats gently off and fades away."

He couldn't remember the name of the maker. "Some fellow over in Oakland, a German fellow. He was in here the other day, come to think of it, to see how she was getting along."

It is a fact that when a siren takes off on a blast, a charge of 160 horsepower is making it go.

We left Mr. Liebert's office for the office of Norman Kuhlmeyer, the head electrician of the Ferry Building. This office is dominated by a long, high marble switchboard covered with rows of huge switches and meter dials. In this room dedicated to the distribution of living energy and light was one incongruous note—the framed and dusty photograph of the late President Harding.

The master clock stands in a corner of this room, getting its time from Western Union and governing not only the tower clock but every other clock in the Ferry Building, and regulating the program tape which sets off the siren every day at 8 a. m., 12 noon and 4:20 p. m. In a glass case near the master are six small clocks with white dials and black Roman numerals. Five of these are monitors, and one registers the time as it appears on the north face of the tower clock.

"Saves us the trouble of having to go out and look at it when we want to see what time it is by the tower," Mr. Kuhlmeyer said. Because of wind, and play in the 11-foot minute hands, the tower clock can at times appear to be a minute or two at variance with the master.

The actual works of the Ferry Building clock are high in the dim and drafty interior of the tower—at the height of the dials—in a little room about eight feet square. They are an arrangement of gears and wheels, like those of your alarm clock, only bigger and heavier, suspended in a framework of cast iron. Sprocket gears overhead transfer the movement of the works along the four rods to which are attached, at their far ends, the hands of the four clock dials. Every 60 seconds there is a metallic click as the impulse comes up from the master and is relayed magnetically to the polished cog wheels. On the frame is the builder's plate, reading, "E. Howard & Co., Boston, Mass."

While we were standing there, looking at the works, the siren blew for 4:20 that afternoon. Muted by the heavy tower walls, it sounded curiously far away. It rose, fell, and trailed off into silence.

"Time for everybody to go home," said Mr. Liebert with a smile.

RIPTIDES

San Francisco Chronicle Aug. 27, '48

The Clock That Ran by Air

By ROBERT O'BRIEN

While catalogguing the several truckloads of books and documents left to the California Academy of Sciences two years ago by the estate of Professor George Davidson, the academy's librarian, Veronica J. Sexton, came across a curious, eight-page brochure. Although it was undated, it pretty obviously had been printed before the earthquake and fire.

It was titled "Correct Time—Pneumatic Clock," and went on to inform readers that the inventor and patentee of the clock was Hermann J. Wenzel, whose "office and manufactory" were at 328 Kearny street. There followed a brief review of the history of timekeeping, from the sun dial to the pendulum clock. This resume concluded with a reference to some of the irritating features of the clocks of the 1860's and 1870's:

Because weights (for motive power) and a long pendulum were indispensable for accuracy, it was impossible to produce a clock that would keep good time and still be small enough to suit the average living room. "And so," the pamphlet said, "a substitute is found in handsome mantel and other varieties of fancy clocks, but all more or less unreliable as timekeepers, requiring a great deal of attention, and when several clocks are in the house, frequently the cause of a vast amount of inconvenience and dissatisfaction from its being impossible to determine which is right."

But, the pamphlet continued, all these troubles were over now—"It has been reserved for California to put into operation the most valuable invention connected with clocks since the time of Galileo, and the most remarkable and at the same time the most simple and unfailing means of obtaining uniformity in the registration of time ever suggested."

This amazing discovery was the air clock, and the Californian, of course, Wenzel.

There followed a description of how the clock worked, and of this I can give only a crude abbreviation. There were a regulator and two mechanically operated air pumps which, the pamphlet said, could work "unceasingly and infallibly, perhaps far away in some dark closet." Attached to the pumps was a pipe, like a gas pipe, which by means of branches could carry air impulses from the pump to any or all rooms of a house or office building. These impulses, spaced by the regulator, would operate the hands of the clock faces at the ends of the pipes.

The advantages of this system were that time could thus, like gas or water, be piped all over a house or, for that matter, a city; every clock face would show the same time; the air clocks made no distracting ticking noise; the only attention they required was the winding of the regulator once a week. You didn't even have to think about this, for when your



regulator began to run down it struck a small bell that reminded you it needed attention.

Furthermore, according to the pamphlet, the air clock opened up a whole new field of interior decoration. The clock faces could be installed "in a mirror, in a picture frame, on the wall, on the mantel of a room, or over a door, or suspended like a chandelier ..."

At the end of the little sales chat was a list of satisfied customers, including the Nevada block, which had 22 installed when the building was built and was so pleased it ordered 20 more; the London and San Francisco Bank, the Baldwin Hotel (it had 60 air clocks in use) and one H. H. Noble, who had had Wenzel clocks in his house for 18 months.

After reading the pamphlet, Miss Sexton passed it along to Dr. William Barclay Stephens of Alameda, a retired physician, noted clock collector and the academy's honorary curator of horology. Dr. Stephens, it turned out, had known about Wenzel and his air clock all along. As far back as 1933, he had written a sketch of Wenzel and his invention. It served as the basis of an extended article on the air clock in the last March issue of the California Historical Society Quarterly.

Wenzel had been born in Saxony in 1830, and apprenticed to Adolphe Lange, master watchmaker of Dresden. In the early '50's, he deserted the German artillery corps and fled to America. He went almost directly to San Francisco, where, except for four years in Hawaii, he lived until his death in 1884.

Patented in the late '70's, his unique clocks were (Dr. Stephens learned) installed in schools in Sacramento and Benicia and in numerous San Francisco office buildings and homes, including the Palmer residence recently wrecked at Van Ness avenue and Washington street. As it did to so many other things, the fire and earthquake brought an end to the Wenzel air clock. All the company's patterns, tools and stock were destroyed; the air pipes, installed within walls, were seriously displaced or snapped. The development of the electric clock discouraged any thought of placing the air clock again on the market.

When the academy builds its planetarium, it plans to install in it the air clock salvaged from the old Palmer house. Dr. Stephens has managed to locate and buy three of the Wenzel clocks, and they have taken their place as not the least curious or ingenious of the 700 or 800 clocks and watches in his noted collection. He has repaired and set up one of the air clocks in his house, and when I asked him if it kept good time he replied, "Well, I'd call it a lady clock." What is a lady clock? I asked. He smiled and said, "It's temperamental. Sometimes it goes, and sometimes it doesn't, and so I call it a lady clock."

With all these clocks and watches in the house, Dr. Stephens has about 8 or 10 in every day use, several grandfather clocks, a couple of banjo clocks and some others. There are 14 clocks in his bedroom, which struck me as an appalling idea. "All going at once?" I asked.

"Oh, no," he replied hastily, "only two."

COMMUNITY DINNER

honoring

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens

Sponsored by

Alameda Rotary Club

Alameda Hotel
Alameda, California
October 21, 1954
6:30 p.m.

Program

Flag Ceremony — Pack No. 5
Troop No. 5, Alameda Boy Scouts

Invocation — Reverend Richard Millard

Greetings — Dr. Gerald Cheadle

Remarks — A. H. Moffitt, Jr.

Introduction of Friends — Dr. Stuart B. Stephens

Musical Selections — Russell Franck

Presentation of Boy Scouts Gift
Dr. Paul Cronenwett

Introduction of Justice A. F. Bray
Representing Region No. 12
Boy Scouts of America

Presentation of Gift by Alameda Rotary Club

Speaker — Justice Homer R. Spence

Everett E. Farwell
Chairman

Dr. Gerald Cheadle
President, Alameda Rotary Club

C. Merritt Cowell
Secretary-Treasurer, Alameda Rotary Club

Lee Avera
Ed Ashuckian
Ralph Gabelman
Marvin Hockabout
Reginald Oldershaw
Paul Pederson
Directors, Alameda Rotary Club

Dr. Paul Cronenwett
Marion Miller
A. Hubbard Moffitt, Jr.
Andrew Hass
Chester Wilson
Clyde Connell
Fred Zecher

Menu

Relishes and Salami

Crab Louie Salad

Italian Paste

Roast Prime Ribs of Beef

Potatoes au Gratin

Green Peas

Nut Roll Ice Cream

Coffee

12 E Oakland Tribune, Friday, Sept. 3, 1954

Alameda Dinner to Honor Dr. W. Barclay Stephens

ALAMEDA, Sept. 3.—Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, one of Alameda's most prominent citizens, will be honored at a testimonial dinner given by associates and friends late in October.

At a committee meeting last night presided over by Everett E. Farwell, long-time friend of the doctor, it was decided to hold the affair at the Alameda Hotel about Oct. 28.

"It will be a modest occasion with a minimum of speech-making," said Farwell, "for a man who has done more for his community — professionally and civically—than anyone else in the past half century."

For virtually all those 50 years he has remained keenly interested in youth movements, Farwell pointed out.

TIRELESS PATRON

Homer J. Bemiss, Scout executive for the Oakland Area Boy Scout Council, remembers Dr. Stephens as a tireless patron and organizer of boys' club affairs.

In 1913, he said, Dr. Stephens erganized a Bay Area boys club and provided his motor boat and other facilities at Clear Lake for their summer outings.

Later he organized and became first president of the Alameda Boy Scout Council in 1915, one of the first five councils established in California.

In 1949 he gave the local council $20,000 for purchase of the old Floyd Larkin estate at 1724 Santa Clara Ave. for conversion into a permanent Boy and Girl Scout headquarters.

It was named Stephens Center in his honor, as is Camp Stephens at Pinecrest and the Sea Explorer Ship, W. Barclay Stephens, berthed in the estuary.

Besides his youth work and busy professional life—he's a well-known eye doctor—he has gathered one of the largest collections of vintage clocks and watches in the West.



Tribune photo

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, leading Alameda philanthropist, will be honored at a testimonial dinner next month.

An expert horologist, his time pieces total about 140 and are on public exhibit in the Morrison Planetarium in the California Academy of Sciences Building at Golden Gate Park. He is curator of the exhibit which includes a Bavarian clock dating back to 1540.

AMAZES FRIENDS

In 1942 Dr. Stephens amazed his friends and family when at 73 he came out of retirement to take over the practice of his sons, both doctors, who went into Naval service.

"After all," he told his friends, "there is a shortage of doctors and so many people need help."

A native of Paris, Ky., Dr. Stephens took his doctorate at Columbia University in 1893. He began practicing medicine at San Francisco the following year.

He soon moved to Alameda and began studying diseases of the eye, a field in which he has specialized ever since. Dr. Stephens went into retirement again in 1945 when his sons, Bruce and Stuart, returned from service.

A widower, Dr. Stephens lives at 1250 Bay St.

Members of the dinner committee are Dr. Gerald Cheadle, Dr. Paul Cronenwett, Andrew Haas, A. Hubbard Moffitt, Reginald Overshaw, Mamie Miller and Lee Avera.

An Alameda doctor has one of the country's best clock collections

By AL MARTINEZ
Tribune staff writer

Time is an electric clock, a sundial, the arch of stars across the sky. It's the swing of a pendulum, marking history with unbroken monotony; grains of sand building into a small pile framed by glass.

Dr. William Barclay Stephens is a student of time and the methods used by man through the ages to tell time. For 43 years the distinguished Alamedan has read about, written of and worked with the physical implements used to record the seconds, the minutes and the hours.

Through these years, he has collected some 150 clocks and 800 watches—most of which he has donated to the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. In turn, Dr. Stephens was made honorary curator of horology at the academy.

It started when he was a boy in Kentucky with two old clocks tucked away in an attic. One he got working again, the other he used as a cabinet. Then the clocks were forgotten.

In 1893, Dr. Stephens began a practice of medicine that lasted until 1946. He started delving deeper into the study of time and the collection of time pieces.

The collection spans the centuries from the first man-made timekeeper, a sundial, to the present clocks. Before that, men looked to the sun, the moon and the stars to tell the general passage of time.

Some of Dr. Stephens' timepieces are strange relics from the past, like the noon gun sundial where a small cannon is fired at noon by the sun's rays focusing through a magnifying glass.

His clocks record time with the burning of a marked candle, with sand slipping through the chambers of an hour glass. One clock swings as its own pendulum, another runs down a small ramp in 12 hours.

Dr. Stephens has three rare clocks that operate on air. Two similar air clocks were destroyed in the 1906 earthquake which wrecked the San Francisco City Hall.

There are ornate clocks and watches in his collection and plain ones, each telling something by design of the era in which it was manufactured. A one-pound pocket watch owned by a stage coach driver reveals a little of the wide-open prairies and gun smoke.

Dr. Stephens has built some of the clocks and restored others. He has gathered them from everywhere. But the clock that still occupies a place of honor in his home at 1250 Bay St., Alameda, is the one he found many years ago in an attic and turned into a cabinet.

The retired physician restored this timepiece belonging to his maternal grandparents and it now ticks away the minutes of the years as it did before he was born.

The study of time covers history, biography, geography, mythology, science, mechanics—it reaches all nations, all ages.

And it does more than that, as Dr. Stephens wrote:

"In a properly chosen hobby or hobbies and faithfully practiced may be found one of the best assurances of keeping mentally and physically fit to the end of life—the brain and body giving out together and like the Deacon's one-hoss shay going up in a puff of dust."

Georgetown College Alumni Bulletin May 1958



W. BARCLAY STEPHENS
Philanthropist

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, of Alameda, Calif., was recently honored at a community dinner in his city. The function was in recognition of the fine service of Dr. Stephens to the city of Alameda and to humanity.

Dr. Stephens, now 86 years old, was one of last year's recipients of the honor medallions presented by Georgetown College to its early graduates. He was awarded an honorary degree by the College some years ago. The retired physician, a native of Paris, Ky., is a graduate of the class of 1899, and celebrates the 65th anniversary of his graduation this spring. In the days when W. Barclay Stephens was a student here, it was not unusual for him to make the trip from his home in Paris to Georgetown on foot.

After graduation from Georgetown, Stephens earned the M.D. degree from Columbia University, and set up practice in California, specializing in treatment of diseases of the eye. He retired from a remarkably successful career some years ago, but amazed his friends by coming out of retirement in 1942 to continue the practice of his two ophthalmologist sons called into service in the U.S. Navy.

Far from idle, Dr. Stephens enters into the civic life of Alameda with zestful interest. Known as "The Grand Old Man of Alameda" and "Alameda's leading philanthropist," he has used his money in furthering the work of the Boy Scout movement, and has given large sums of money to the city of Alameda for youth amenities. Himself an expert horologist, the physician has one of the nation's most valuable collections of clocks and watches. His collection, housed in the Morrison Planetarium in the California Academy of Sciences Building at Golden Gate Park, includes a Bavarian clock dating back to 1540. Dr. Stephens himself is curator of the priceless exhibit.

Dr. Stephens has extended his philanthropy to his loved alma mater, and within recent months has made gifts totaling some thousands of dollars to Georgetown College, for specified purposes. He has also given to the College a number of valuable books from his personal collection. The W. Barclay Stephens Loan Fund for students is also sponsored by our graduate.

Times ALAMEDA Star

The Hired Man

CHARACTER SKETCH

Yes, a sketch of a man whom the City of Alameda may justly be proud. He was born in "Old Kentucky" and came to Alameda 58 years ago, soon after he graduated from Columbia University and received his M. D. degree as an ear, eye and nose specialist.

His hobby has always been old watches and clocks and during these many years he collected about 100 clocks and 300 watches which were the time tellers through many ages. When he had perfected this very interesting and historical collection of time pieces which dates back to the 17th Century he presented them to the California Academy of Sciences, which was established in 1853 and is the oldest in the west. This interesting collection is now on exhibition in Golden Gate Park. During his long stay in Alameda Dr. William Barclay has had many other interests along with his ancient watches and clocks. He was always much interested in people — his life work was to make them see and hear better. Also, young people received his attention. He promoted and assisted in founding the first Boy Scout headquarters in Alameda and has been one of the mainstays of that great organization for many years, and a short time ago he presented them with the property located at 1724 Santa Clara Avenue for a clubhouse and is also used by the Girl Scouts and other young people.



Dr. Stephens has two sons, Bruce and Stuart, who are following in their father's footsteps. They are both M. D.'s — ear, eye, nose and throat. Stuart has just been elected president of the Rotary Club, of which his father was a member for many, many years and now is an honorary member.

The City of Alameda, the State of California and the whole world is a better place to live in because Barclay Stephens was with us. May he be with us for many, many more years.

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. All Rts. Reg. The Hired Man

The Hired Man

A FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE

The citizens of Alameda are well proud to have as one of their outstanding residents a man who has dedicated his many years to public benefactions and community welfare.

Being internationally heralded as one of the great ear, eye and nose specialists, he has gained an enviable reputation in the medical profession practicing as an M. D. in Alameda for more than a half century.



He can well be proud of his two sons, Bruce and Stuart, who have chosen this same specialty as their life work and are carrying on with the same high standards.

To our most beloved citizen, Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, there is a great feeling of appreciation by the people of his home community for the important part played by him in bringing Boy Scouting to Alameda and his effort in creating Camp Stephens in the High Sierras where Boy Scouts may enjoy vacationing under ideal conditions with proper supervision.

It was Dr. Stephens who gave to the Boy Scouts, Stephens Center at 1724 Santa Clara Avenue where not only the Scouts but many other groups have an ideal meeting place and headquarters.

To him we are most grateful.

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. All Rts. Res. The Hired Man

Ticking off the Sardines

A CITATION for close cooperation goes to Dr. W. Barclay Stephens, Honorary Curator of Horology, and Thomas Groody, marine biologist who is making a study of sardines. The casual observer might find scant relationship here. In his observations of sardine behavior (in a tank which is a story in itself), Mr. Groody needed to measure five-second intervals. "I can't watch my watch and watch the sardines at the same time," he lamented. A metronome wouldn't do. What he really needed was an alarm clock that would ring every five seconds. Dr. Stephens hand-machined some gears, hooked up a small electric motor, and devised a timer that gently bongs at the proper and required interval. As long as the contrivance is plugged in, it keeps tapping out the time. The science of sardines swims on!



ENJOYING IDEA EXCHANGE at the society's reception were Dr. George P. Hammond (at left), who is director of the Bancroft Library at the University of California; Mrs. Irene D. Paden of Alameda, author of "The Wake of the Prairie Schooner," and Dr. W. Barclay Stephens of Alameda, who is keenly interested in the work of the California Historical Society. Mrs. Paden, who holds a Guggenheim Foundation fellowship, is now doing research on manuscripts of California colonization.

S.F. Examiner—Sec. III
Sunday, May 3, 1959

By Anita Day Hubbard

MATURE LIVING

Veteran Curator Says Hobbies Needed by Aged

Dr. W. Barclay Stephens is honorary curator of horology at the California Academy of Sciences.

As a small boy he found two old clocks in the attic of his family home in Kentucky, where he was born in 1869. One of them he tinkered into running. The other defied his mechanical skill. He turned the case into a cabinet to hold his boyhood collections, and his hobby was born.



Anita Day Hubbard

It lay dormant during his college years at Columbia University, where he won his degree in medicine. In 1893 he set up his practice in San Francisco.

Fifty-five years later he "retired," turned his flourishing office over to his two doctor sons, and let his beloved hobby come into full bloom.

He celebrated his 90th birthday last January.

His collection of ancient and modern timepieces is world famous. His publications, of great scholarly value, are eagerly watched for.

As you read this, he is flying to the convention of the National Watch and Clock Collectors in Massachusetts, to deliver an important paper.

Slim, erect, straight as an arrow, humorous and enthusiastic as a lad, Doctor Stephens feels strongly about what he calls his "hobby philosophy."

"Every man should have a hobby, and learn to ride it before he has reached middle life.

"The provident man lays aside a portion of his earnings for his later life. It is just as important that he should make provision for spiritual and intellectual welfare. I regard it as a duty to prepare for an orderly, useful and enjoyable old age. Otherwise it may be dour and mere vegetation.

"The ideal hobby satisfies the physical, mental and spiritual cravings of one's nature. Properly chosen, it can be good assurance for keeping mentally and physically fit to the end of life, the brain and the body giving out together, like the 'Deacon's One-Hoss Shay,' going up in a puff of dust.

"My hobby has given me respite in the midst of a strenuous professional life. It has added zest and purpose to reading and traveling, often making an otherwise prosaic trip into an adventure.

"Most of all it has provided new friends to take the place of those whom time has taken away."

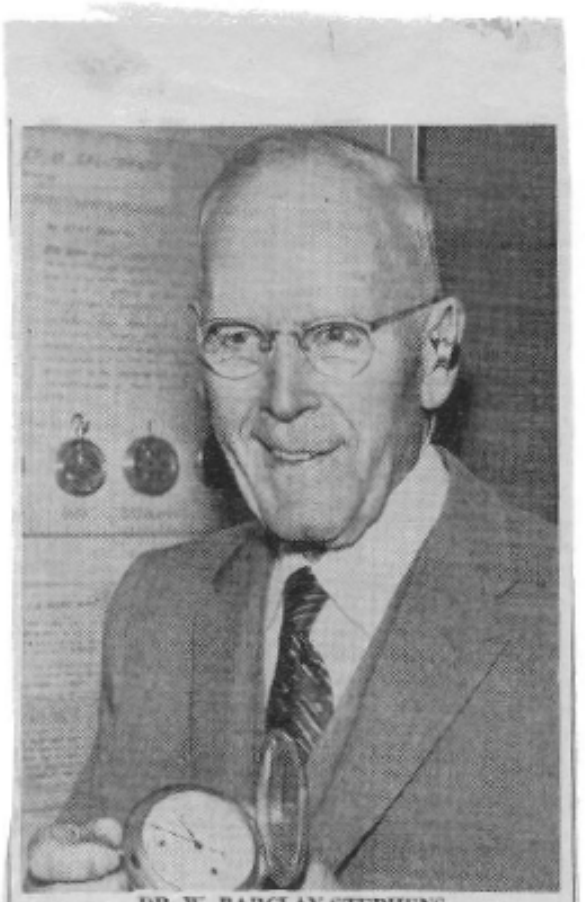
Doctor Stephens' quest into the science and romance of man's ingenuity in measuring time has made him the valued associate of astronomers, other scientists, clergymen, philosophers, engineers, statesmen and artisans. His collection, a part of which is displayed in the Academy of Science Building in Golden Gate Park, is a constant Mecca for serious students and casual visitors.

But he has not limited his interests. He is currently photographing translucent rocks for color slides.

He organized the Boy Scouts in Alameda, where he lives, and was president of their organization for 14 years. He is an active member of the California Historical Society and a steady contributor to their publications through his own research.

"Time is a precious commodity. One should spend it and invest it more carefully than any other capital. Wasting it is a destructive habit," he says.

It is pretty obvious that his own investment of his full quota of years has paid off handsomely.



DR. W. BARCLAY STEPHENS
. . . holds 1½ lb. stage driver's watch

SAC said. there. owned by Randall P. Dickey, of 3221 Thompson Ave.



FOUNDER OF ALAMEDA SCOUTING — The death of Dr. W. Barclay Stephens last week was an irreplaceable loss to Boy Scouting in Alemeda. Dr. Stephens, widely-known for his professional and philanthropic work, founded the Alemeda Boy Scouts Council in 1916. He was always willing to give of his time and means for the advancement of scouting. Many of the Alameda Council facilities are named in his honor. Dr. Stephens is shown above in a typical scene—discussing a project with two Boy Scouts, whom the Council today could not identify. The Doctor's contributions of time, interest, and material things will long exert an influence on the boys of Alameda.