



COVINA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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were held there.

When the congregation had increased the first Episcopal church was built. That first building is now used as the parish hall of the Holy Trinity church.

Mrs. Cook was church organist and for 17 years never missed a service nor a choir practice. One of her most treasured possessions was an inscribed gold cross presented to her when she retired. She was one of the first members of the Bishop's Guild in Los Angeles and for many years attended almost every weekly meeting.

A devoted wife and excellent mother to her three daughters, Mrs. Cook's amazing energy made it possible for her to serve on committees and spend a considerable amount of time engaged in philanthropic activities. She was well liked by everyone, particularly the children of the town who affectionately called her Mother Cook.

A clever business woman, she handled her own real estate interests. Her sound advise was often sought on problems on civic interest and she always had something constructive to suggest.

After selling her father's house Mrs. Cook and her husband built at Second and College streets and their home was one of the centers of the town's social life.

In her leisurely moments and as she grew older she did exquisite needle work. The elaborate and beautiful alter frontal she made for Episcopal church of Minneapolis many years ago is still in use. Among her many friends were General and Mrs. Fremont.

Leading an active and vigorous life until shortly before her death in 1923 at the age of 80, Mrs. Cook's influence on the community will be felt for many years to come.

Mr. Cook, who passed away in 1904, was trained as a pharmacist and was an assistant surgeon in the Union Army. An extremely intelligent man, he helped organize the G.A.R. and is credited with inventing the modern fire extinguisher.

Like so many inventions, the idea of putting out a blaze by the use of chemicals was pure chance. In his younger years, Mr. Cook was employed by a wholesale drug house and when a fire broke out in his laboratory he threw some handy chemicals on the flames which extinguished them immediately. After several experiments he finally perfected an extinguisher which was successfully marketed.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook are survived by two daughters living in Covina, Mrs. Alice Clapp and Mrs. Ed Prather.