

Golden Bear Home From Mercy Trip

A favorable tide speeded the Golden Bear home to the California Maritime Academy dock at Morrow Cove where nearly 1,000 Vallejoans yesterday afternoon welcomed the stately training ship at the conclusion of her 20,000-mile cruise as a mercy vessel for thousands of hungry Europeans.

IT'S RICH

FIRST TO BROACH the idea of having a replica of California's first state capitol here was the late Fred Birchmore, secretary of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce in the early 1930's. At that time the State was allotting funds for state parks and beaches and Fred got the ball rolling for state funds to rebuild the Vallejo capitol on the original site on York street near the head of the stairs that lead to Santa Clara street. The State ran out of funds, however, during the depression years so Vallejo didn't get the rebuilt Capitol. Things look good now, however, with centennial funds available.

YOU REMEMBER a few weeks back there was a plea for craft books and comic books to be taken to the clinic of the Shriner's Hospital in San Francisco. Quite a few of you responded and left your names and addresses. Well, womanlike, Mrs. P. has misplaced her purse in which among other things were your names and addresses. She is planning to take the books to the hospital Thursday and would like you to phone her again so she won't miss the books you have been saving. The telephone number is 2-3620.

FOR YOU nature lovers, the dogwood and white lilacs are now in bloom on Cobb Mountain in Lake County and should be at their best for the Memorial Day weekend. Later the dogwood will be blooming on Mt. St. Helena, in case you can't make it this coming weekend.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? One of the staff racing fans pointed out to me that a horse named Rising Prices paid the sum of \$93 to win at Hollywood Park last Thursday.

DARNDDEST THINGS I've seen in a long time are the new sun glasses that are a mirror for anyone looking at you but you can see through with comfort in bright sun. I guess the idea is

The ship, "like a thoroughbred returning to its stable," arrived here at 4:30 p. m., one-half hour ahead of schedule in the last leg of its long jaunt. The Golden Bear left Pier 7 in San Francisco at 2 p. m.

Hundreds of friends and relatives of the ship's 99 midshipmen and 19 officers were joined at the dock by parents and friends of more than 400 Boy Scouts and Scouters from the Vallejo area who were aboard the Golden Bear for its trip from San Francisco as guests of Commo. Russell M. Inrig, commandant of the Maritime Academy.

SCOUTS SEE SHIP

Aboard the mercy ship the Scouts were conducted on tours to points of interest such as the bridge, the engine room, the galley and recreation rooms. Several Senior Scouts were permitted to steer and thereby learned something of the feel of the ship on the short voyage.

For the crew and officer personnel of the Golden Bear, the conclusion of the long voyage means one-week leaves beginning today and ending May 31 and then the resumption of normal classroom training.

Last night crew members remained aboard ship. Today they will complete the job of unloading, securing quarters and squaring away their gear before departing for their homes at 2 p. m.

VOYAGE SUCCESSFUL

Capt. Ralph M. G. Swaney of the California Maritime Academy, commanding officer of the training ship, who was in charge of the mercy ship, said on arrival here that the voyage was "successful and significant."

"Besides delivering our precious cargo of foodstuffs," he said, "we were able to demonstrate Americanism to the people of foreign countries."

"And I brought back better Americans as a result of the experiences of our midshipmen on this cruise," he added.

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