WHEREAS, the State Division of highways has recently com-
pleted a new bridge of spectacular height and design on State
Highway 49 over the East Chowchilla River, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Mariposa to offer a name of a historical and well-known
citizen of Mariposa County and Madera County for whom this bridge
should be named, and

WHEREAS, after due consideration of the many prominent and
eminent citizens who have served both counties in many capacities,
the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County do request our legis-
lators to introduce legislation to have this bridge named the
WILLIAM SELL BRIDGE.

WHEREAS, William Sell, during his lifetime, not only gave of
himself to public service in the operation of successful hotels in
Mariposa County, but also to the citizens of Madera County as a
County Supervisor for seven years, and to countless service clubs
and organizations throughout the Mother Lode Counties and Madera
County, as evidenced and more fully set forth in the attached
Exhibit "A", (article printed in the Sierra Star, Oakhurst, in
April of 1971.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors
hereby urges Senator Howard Way and Assemblyman Gene Chappie to
take the necessary legislative steps to have this bridge named
the WILLIAM SELL BRIDGE.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25 day of January 1972, by the
following vote:

AYES: Davis, Hurlbert, Long, Moffitt, Richardson.
NOES: None
NOT VOTING: None
ABSENT: None

[Signature]
Chairman of the Board
Mountain Area Loses Pioneer William Sell

The mountain area has lost one of its first pioneers and foremost citizens with the death of William Martin Sell, Jr., 88.

Mr. Sell died April 12 in Dearborn Community Hospital, Madera, following a short illness. Funeral services were held April 15 in Madera.

He is survived by his wife, Teresa and sister, Mrs. George Crooks of Ahwahnee.

Although born in Merced in 1882, Mr. Sell lived most of his life in the mountain area.

He was a resident of Ahwahnee from 1890 until 1961. In that year, he moved to Redwood Creek because the Harlow fire had burned his home. Later, the Sells moved to Madera, where they had lived for the past year and a half.

Mr. Sell and his wife were named Grand Marshalls for the Oakhurst Sierra Mountainer Days in 1966. He also received the Golden Apple award of the California Elementary School Administrators Association, Central Section, for his many services to education.

He was the director of the Oakhurst and Madera County Chamber of Commercials. He was a founder and member of the Sierra Historic Sites Association.

Mr. Sell's father bought the Dennis Ranch in 1890. It was named Ahwahnee, which is Indian for "deep valley" by Sell's mother, a native of Hornitos.

The Indians worked for the Sells on the ranch and Mr. Sell began to know them and share in their powwows, rodeos and other activities. Mr. Sell started driving the stage daily from Raymond to Wawona in 1900. It would leave Raymond at 7 a.m. change horses at Footman Ranch, Grub Gulch and Ahwahnee, and arrive in Wawona after a ten hour trip. The passengers would stay overnight there and finish the trip to the Yosemite Valley, which took five to six more hours. The downhill trip from Wawona until 1956. It was named Halende Apah, which is Indian for "belongs to me." With regret, Mr. Sell sold that ranch in 1956.

He attended a military academy at Irvington, 15 miles north of San Jose. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1907. He played football and ever since was an avid fan of the team. Mr. Sell, with one exception, attended all of the big games of the university.

Upon completion of school, Mr. Sell worked for the Washburn-Crosby Flour Mills, Minneapolis, Minnesota. He then worked in the Fraser River Lumber Mills, British Columbia. It was here that he met his wife Teresa Fowles of Salem, whose father was superintendent of the mill.

Returning to California in 1907, Mr. Sell and his father operated the first camp in El Portal. He operated Camp Ahwahnee in Yosemite Valley, which his father built, until 1910. He then took over the concession and lease of the old Sentinel Hotel, Camp Lost Arrow and Hotel and a camp at Glacier Point. He later operated the Yosemite Lodge for the Yosemite National Park Company. In 1921 he operated the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railroad. He was again operating hotels with T. E. Parrow in 1926. He returned to ranching, raising Angus cattle, in 1938.

He was appointed by Governor Earl Warren as supervisor of District Four, Madera County and served until 1952. He was the first vice president of the California Supervisors Association. He was president of the Madera County Board of Education, director of Agricultural Adjustment Association, president and director of Madera County Farm Bureau, director of Madera County Action Committee of the Office of Economic Opportunity and Madera County Juvenile Commission member.

(Continued to page 4)