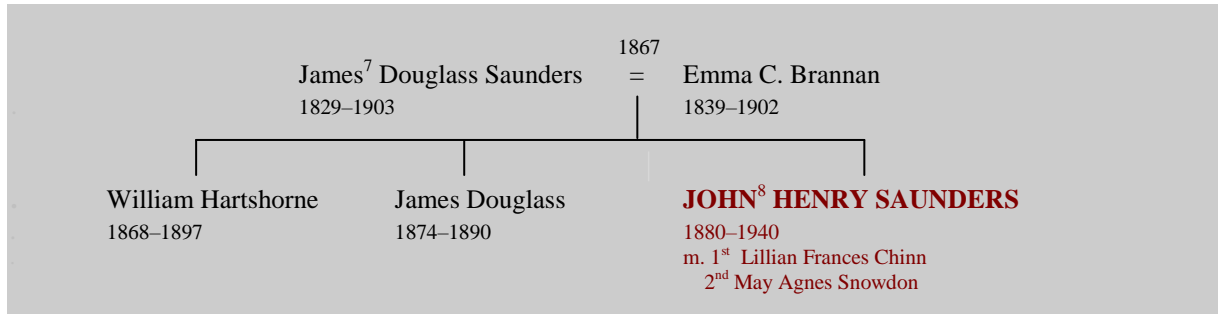
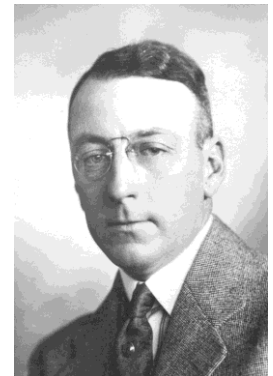


Chapter Ten

Revised
January 2021**JOHN⁸ HENRY SAUNDERS**
1880–1940*San Francisco, California to Sydney, Australia*

JOHN⁸ HENRY SAUNDERS was born in San Francisco at his parents' home on 4 August 1880 when Rutherford B. Hayes, a Republican, was President of the United States and Queen Victoria reigned over the enormous British Empire. Like his father before him he was the youngest child in the family, having two elder brothers, William⁸ Hartshorne, born 1868, and James⁸ Douglass, born 1874. Given the six-year span between each birth, the chances are there were other siblings who did not survive infancy. However, this is speculation as there is no evidence of any other children born to James⁷ Douglass and Emily Saunders.



*John Henry Saunders
1880–1940*

Young John Henry or 'Jack' as he was to be called throughout his life was born into a fairly affluent family. His uncle, after whom he was named, was at the time a very influential attorney and landholder in San Rafael, and to a large extent the family's benefactor. What little is known of his early life is mostly provided in some cursory notes John wrote in 1923 outlining events in his life up to then. Though essentially one-line entries, they allow us to flesh out a picture of his life to that point in time.

- 1880 Born Aug. 4th at 123 Fell St. San Francisco
- 1881 Moved to Turk St. near Taylor
- 1884 Moved to 426 Powell St. near Geary, then surrounded by Doctors residences and churches

In September 1885 Jack's uncle and namesake died at his home in San Rafael. While this would have been a traumatic event in his father's life, it meant that John's family inherited a substantial legacy. This enabled them to live very comfortably indeed on the income derived from the many property holdings and investments the late John⁷ Henry Saunders had acquired in San Rafael and San Francisco.



*Little 'Jack'
aged about 5*

- 1885 Started school at Clement Grammar School
- 1886 Continued at Clement school until 1892
- 1889 Will and Doug left for Eastern Schools
- 1890 Doug died (*James Douglass Saunders Jr*)
- 1892 Went to Bates Selbourne Boarding School at San Rafael,
Marin County, Calif.
- 1894 Brother Will graduated from U. Virginia
- 1896 Changed to Lowell High School
Football & Track 1st year and 2nd year
Class President, Football & Track Captain 3rd year

When the middle son, James⁸ Douglass (Doug) died of typhoid fever, aged 16, at the *Virginia Military Institute*, young Jack, then aged ten, accompanied his mother to Virginia, arriving only in time to be present at his brother's funeral. This was a time of great distress in his family and the grief and sorrow at his brother's death is well documented in the correspondence with the *Virginia Military Institute* by his father James⁷ Douglass Saunders.

➔ See Chapter 8



*Jack and his mother Emily Brannan Saunders
about the time they travelled to the Virginia Military Institute.
c.1890*



Jack rigged out for Dancing School Fancy Dress party, 1893

Mr Paul A. Lucey, Executive Director of the *Alumni Association* of Lowell High School, supplied the following information:

Your grandfather, John Henry Saunders Sr. entered Lowell on August 6, 1896. His guardian was identified as James D. (Saunders) who lived at 1037 Post Street in San Francisco. John attended the school for three years enrolled in Math, English, Latin, History, Chemistry and French. I have enclosed copies of pages from the 1899 Yearbook, which show him as captain of the track team and a player on the 1898 San Francisco football champions. What an athlete! Now we have a mystery. His name does not appear on the graduation list. His permanent record does not give the reason.

Later Passport Applications reveal that Jack was five foot, seven and three quarter inches tall.



Lowell High School 1899 Year Book – Track Team

oOo

15 February 1898 to August 1898

The Spanish-American War marked the emergence of the United States as a world power when it became involved in the liberation of Cuba. The war started when an explosion blew up the U.S. battleship Maine stationed in Havana harbor. An outraged American public blamed Spain. Future President **Teddy Roosevelt**, won fame as the commander of the First Volunteer Cavalry Regiment known as the Rough Riders.



Jack's brief notes continue: -

- 1897 Brother Will died. (*William Hartshorne Saunders*)
- 1899 Left High School and started study of Law in office of Leonard B. Stone, Parrott (?) Build. S. F.
- 1900 Changed to office of Reuben W. Hent, 214 Pine Street, Daniel ... Build.



		Drucker, '99, sub-end		Stien, '00 sub-tackle	
Olwell, '01 right end	Symmes, '99 right tackle	Hooper, '99 full-back	Ellinwood, '01 left end	Middleton, '00 left tackle	Lewitt, '01 left end
Robinson, '99 right half	Saunders, '99 quarter-back	Cook, '99 (captain) right guard	Van Duzer, manager	Irving, '00 left guard	Rooney, '99 left half
		Kidd, '00 center		Milton, '00 sub-quarter	

CHAMPIONS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CALIFORNIA
Lowell High School 1899 Year Book

Continuing Jack's notes: -

- 1901 June passed examinations before Supreme Court in Law
- 1901 September started practice of Law in Room adjoining
Kent at 44 Pine St.
- 1902 May. Mother died suddenly

The *San Francisco Chronicle*, 4 June 1902:

SON PETITIONS.—John H. Saunders petitioned yesterday for appointment as administrator of the estate of his mother, Emily C. Saunders. It consists mainly of realty in this city and San Rafael, and is valued at over \$50,000.

Continuing Jack's notes: -

1903 May. Father died

On the death of his father young Jack at the age of twenty-three found himself alone. Now, not only his two older brothers had died, but also both his parents were gone. While there were some Douglass and Brannan relations about, he was the only Saunders left in the west. However, he would have been reasonably secure financially being the sole beneficiary of his father's estate. It would appear to be about this time that he quit practicing law and became involved in the first of his many, mostly unsuccessful, business ventures.

1903 Trip East alone.

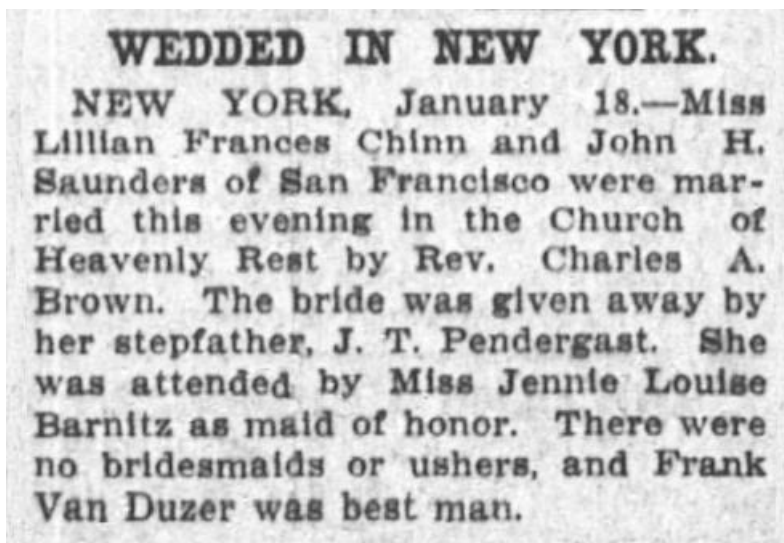
In business with Ramme

1904 Met Frances Chinn

1905 Jan 18th. Married Frances Chinn in New York

at Church of the Good Samaritan (Should be *The Church of Heavenly Rest* - see below)

John⁸ Henry Saunders married Lillian⁹ Frances Chinn on 18 January 1905 in New York City. Fran, as she was always called, was born 18 November 1885 in San Francisco and was the only child of Thomas⁸ Withers Chinn (1853–1913) and his wife Lillie⁹ Belle Smoot (c.1866–1920). → See Chapter 12: Lillian⁹ Frances Chinn. Their marriage was announced in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on 19 January:



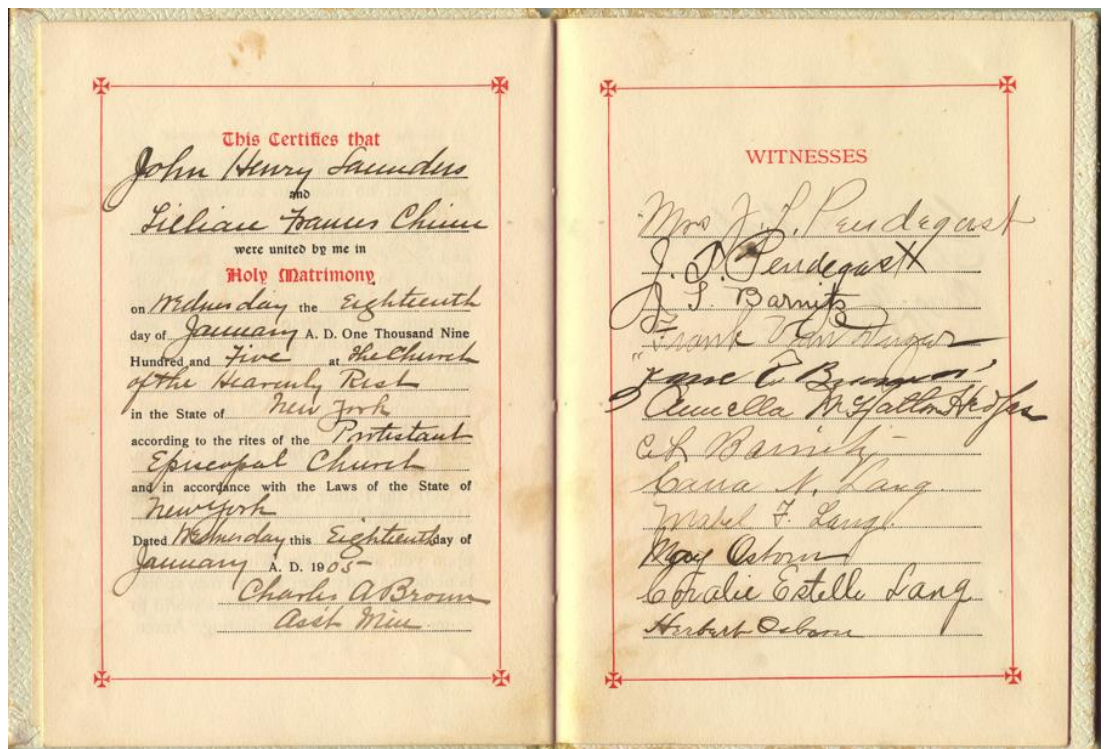
← Should read
J. T Pendegast

Note: Jennie⁴ Louise Barnitz (1885–1970) was the granddaughter of Daniel² Brannan, the father of Jack's mother, Emily³ Brannan.

Jack's notes above have the name of the church incorrect as evidenced by the wedding booklet below

The *Wedding Service Booklet* details Jack's marriage to Lillian Frances Chinn. Witnesses include Fran's mother and her stepfather Jackson P. Pendegast. Some of the other names are members of Jack's mother's family – notably, his grandmother Jane E. Brannan then aged 87. The names Barnitz and Osborne are connected to the children of Jack's aunt Abigail³ Louise Brannan. → See Chapter 9: The Brannan Family. The other names are unfamiliar.

At the time of their marriage Jack was 24 and his new wife just 19. The bride's mother was now divorced from her father, Thomas⁸ Withers Chinn, and had married Jackson T. Pendegast.



- 1905 Girl baby born. (died at birth)
Xmas in New York with Mother Pendy

Their first born child was still-born on 18 November 2005 – which just happened to be Fran’s birthday. At the time Jack and Fran were in Los Angeles, perhaps visiting with friends or Jack’s relations. The infant’s death was reported in the *San Francisco Call* the next day:

SAUNDERS—In this city, November 18, 1905,
infant daughter of John H. and Lillian F.
Saunders, a native of San Francisco, Cal.

Jack’s notes record that they spent Christmas in New York in 1905. This long trip in winter was perhaps prompted by the loss of their first-born child and Fran, only twenty years old, may have felt a need to be with her mother at Christmas time. There’s no mention of her father. Jack had no immediate family left in San Francisco but did have cousins in Los Angeles and numerous close relations in the New York area, including his grandmother Jane Brannan who was then 87 years old.

* * *

Jack and Fran Saunders started disposing of the property he had inherited in San Rafael within a month of their marriage. This is recorded at the Office of the Assessor-Recorder in Marin County, San Rafael, Deeds, vol. 91, pp. 184 and 381. The property sold was the remaining portions of Block 33 which originally incorporated the *Saunders Homestead* and which presumably included *The Cottage*.

John H. & Lillian Frances to Antoinette Cheda
John H. & Lillian Frances to M. T. Freitas

Jan 1905
Mar 1905

The balance of Block 33 had already been disposed of by John's father, James Douglass Saunders and his now deceased elder brother, William Hartshorne:

James Douglass to Hepburn Wilkins	Apr 1888
James Douglass to Frank Angellotti	Apr 1888
James Douglass to Cora B. Smith	Jun 1888
James Douglass to Mary C. Crowley	Jul 1888
James Douglass to Patrick Lunny	Nov 1891
James Douglass to Mary C. Crowley	Dec 1892
William Hartshorne to Maxmilian Herzog	Oct 1894

From the many photographs taken in those early years Jack and Fran led a busy social life and travelled about America, living for a while in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Money seemed to be no object and their affluent lifestyle did not seem to be adversely affected by Jack moving from one failed business venture to another. Certainly their income was not derived from the sale of the two parcels of land in San Rafael. According to the Deed of Sale each lot only fetched Ten (\$10.00) Dollars gold coin of the United States of America. One can only guess that Jack's inheritance was substantial enough to accommodate his unsuccessful business activities along with a comfortable living amongst the San Francisco and, later on, the Los Angeles social set.



*John Henry Saunders
aged about 25*

- 1906 Rheumatism Jan to April
- 1906 April 18 Earthquake – fire. Then living 1607 Broderick St.
- 1906 May 1st. Moved to Los Angeles. Went into Real Estate business

Jack and Fran were only married five months when their lives along with thousands of others were shattered by the great San Francisco earthquake and fire of April 1906. *The World Book Encyclopedia*, Vol. 17, S–Sn, p. 88 provides an interesting account:

San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

San Francisco suffered one of the worst disasters in United States history when a severe earthquake shook the city at 5.13 a.m. on April 18, 1906. Fires broke out in various sections as stoves and gas lamps exploded. Fire fighters could not battle the flames effectively because the city's water mains had also been damaged. As a result, fires raged unchecked for three days. The fire fighters then began to dynamite entire blocks of buildings to stop the spreading flames.

About 700 persons died in the disaster, and about 300,000 lost their homes. Most of the city, including more than 28,000 buildings, lay in ruins. Property damage exceeded \$500 million.



It is not known whether Jack and Fran Saunders suffered any substantial losses. Several large pieces of cut crystal glassware including a huge monogrammed punch bowl still in the family sustained severe cracks as a result of the earthquake. It is probable that there were other possessions damaged beyond repair.

Two weeks after the disaster Jack and Fran moved to Los Angeles. There they made their home for the next year or so amongst an assortment of socialite friends and some distant relations on the Douglass side of the family. The following year—in August 1907—Fran gave birth to their son John⁹ Henry Jr.

In Los Angeles they maintained close contact with the family of Sheldon⁷ Borden, which included his daughter Juliet and son Harry⁸ Innes Borden, who later was to become Fran's second husband. The Bordens were related to Jack through the marriage of Sarah⁵ Douglass to George² Burnett in 1794. Sarah was the oldest sister of Hannah⁵ Travilla Douglass who married David Saunders, Jack's grandfather.

→ See Chapter 7: The Douglass Family and Chapter 12: Lillian Frances Chinn



*Fran & Sheldon Borden
Los Angeles, 1906*

John⁸ Henry and Lillian Frances Saunders had only one child that survived, a son, born in Los Angeles:

I Son Born 29 August 1907
Died 6 December 1993

When Jack was making his brief notes on his life he obviously overlooked the birth of his son John in August 1907, as he made no mention of it.

- 1907 Financial Panic
- 1908 Feb. Left Los Angeles for S.F. broke
Went to work for L. C. Babin & Co at 123 Kearny St. Real Estate
- 1909 Land Business in Los Angeles with J. A. Roberts
- 1910 Back with Babin & Co again.
- 1911 Went to British Columbia and sold shares in Insurance Co with **Taylor Harrison** and J. A. Roberts.
- 1912 November. Back to S.F.
- 1913 Jan. Started W. V. Home Builders—Sold \$80,000 shares @ 20c each



*Jack and Fran's house in Los Angeles in 1906.
Their son John Henry Jr was born while they lived here*



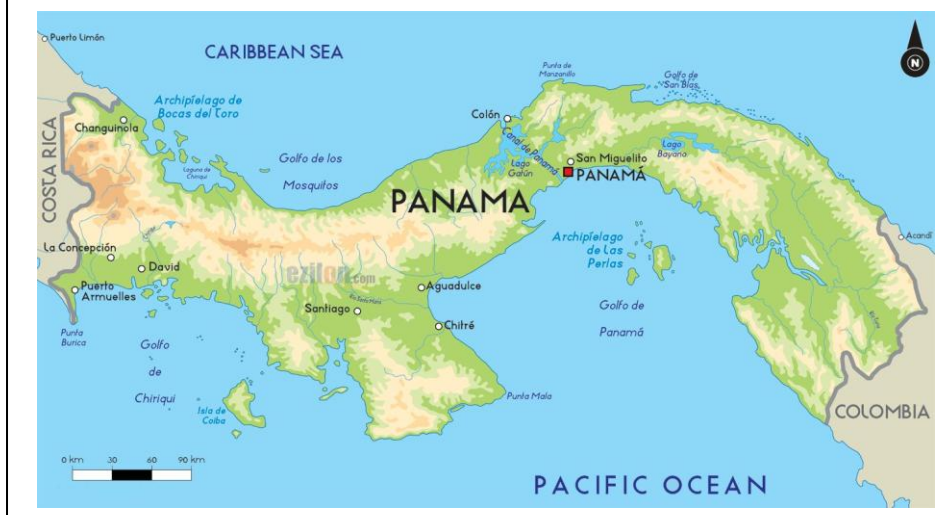
Above
Jack with son at Cliff House, San Francisco, 1910



At right
Fran with son, Victoria, B.C. Canada, 1912

15 August 1914

The Panama Canal was formally opened. The canal is a man-made 48-mile waterway that connects the Atlantic Ocean (via the Caribbean Sea) to the Pacific Ocean. It cuts across the Isthmus of Panama enabling ships to avoid the lengthy and hazardous Cape Horn route around the southernmost tip of South America.





Jack and Fran, c.1910

Jack and Fran Saunders's early married life can only be interpreted from the old photographs and scrapbooks kept mainly by Fran who even in those early years retained all sorts of trivial information about family friends and their social activities. They appeared to be very comfortable financially and led a life of parties, balls and society weddings. Both seem to have been high-spirited and outgoing people and had a large circle of friends. While Jack kept busy with his wheeling and dealing, Fran occupied herself by being the gracious hostess at receptions and coming-out parties for her friends' daughters.

Comprehensive information concerning Jack and Fran's early years—how they met, their relatives and friends, their parents and grandparents, details about their subsequent divorce and remarriage, their lifestyles and source of income—could all have been provided by Fran during the last ten years of her life which was spent in Australia with her son and grandchildren. Unfortunately, nobody in the family had the interest at that time to discuss any of this with her before she died in 1968. So we are left with many unidentified photographs, newspaper cuttings and other keepsakes and memorabilia around which we can create a picture of their lives.



*John Henry Saunders
Aged about 30*

While Jack had no immediate family left in San Francisco, Fran certainly did. Her parents had divorced and both were remarried. Her father who died in 1913 gets no mention in any of her memorabilia during the early years of her marriage. This is out-of-character for Fran as she kept everything about the Chinn family. After all, she was a Chinn herself. While her mother's presence is apparent up until she died in 1920, there is nowhere amongst Fran's mementos and keepsakes any record of this. Her uncle, Frederick⁸ Conrad Chinn, the optician, lived in Sacramento. She also kept in touch with several maiden aunts in Louisiana. From her mother's side there were numerous aunts, uncles and cousins of the Smoot and Robertson families.

➔ See Chapter 12: Lillian Frances Chinn.

For reasons that remain a mystery Jack decided to go to New Zealand via Australia in 1914 leaving his wife and seven year old son in San Francisco. The First World War had already started but America would not be involved until 1917. However, Australia and New Zealand were engaged in the conflict from the outset. Ever the entrepreneur, maybe Jack perceived opportunities in New Zealand. A more likely explanation is that Jack and Fran had close friends there who provided encouragement. It was not long before Jack set up shop in the Home Builders business again. His notes read on:

- 1914 December 23rd Sailed for New Zealand via Australia
- 1915 Jan 11. Arrived Sydney stayed at Metropole
- " 15. Sailed for Wellington per *Manuka*
- " 19. Arrived Wellington
- " 21. Hawera
- " 23. New Plymouth
- " 25. Auckland
- 1915 Went to Christchurch NZ alone
- Started Dominion Home Builders

Some ten months later Jack was joined by his family, including Fran's mother, Lillie, whom Jack refers to as *Mother Pendy*. She was divorced from Thomas⁸ Chinn, Fran's father, and had married Jackson T. Pendegast. For her to leave her husband to go and live in New Zealand for several years with her daughter, son-in-law and grandson, is strange. Perhaps their relationship had deteriorated, although her death notice in the *San Francisco Examiner* does not give this impression. Lillie's death certificate four years later describes her as married, so Jackson Pendegast was still living when she took off to New Zealand. They travelled on the Oceanic Steamship Company's *S.S. Sonoma*.

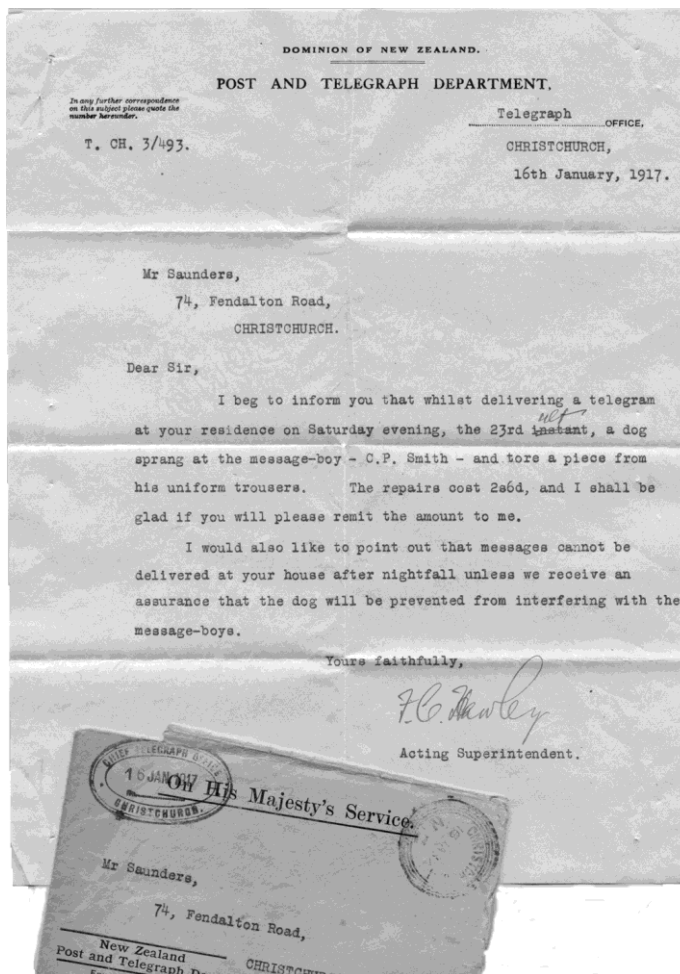
1915 October Family arrived
1916 3 years at Ch Ch (Christchurch)

While in New Zealand Fran became involved in the War effort, working for the Red Cross and other various volunteer and fund-raising activities. Jack, apart from arranging his business activities, joined the Canterbury Jockey Club and attended race meetings.



*Jack at the races, c.1916
Newspaper clipping*

They lived at 74 Fendalton Road, Christchurch and obviously owned a dog, as evidenced by a letter written to them by the local post office. Petty as it sounds, it appears to have been written in all seriousness:



71426

(FORM No. 210—CONSULAR.)
(Corrected April 29, 1916.)

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF AMERICAN CITIZEN.

I, Alfred A. Winslow (Name of consul), Consul-General (Title) of the United States of America at Auckland, New Zealand (Name of place) hereby certify that Lillie B. Pendegast (Name of person registered) is registered as an American citizen in this consulate. She was born July 16, 1867 (Date of birth) at Alexandria, Virginia (Place of birth), and is a citizen of the United States by birth (~~or naturalization~~). She left ~~her~~ residence in the United States on September 15, 1915 (Date) and arrived in New Zealand (Place of foreign residence) on October 7, 1915 (Date), where she is now residing for the purpose of visiting daughter (Reason why residing in foreign place). She is married to J. T. Pendegast (Name of wife), who was born in Naha, California (Place of birth of wife) and resides at 605 Humboldt Bank Building, San Francisco, California (Place of wife's residence).

She has the following children:

Lillian Francis (Mrs. J. H. Saunders) born in San Francisco, California (Place of birth) on November 18, 1885 (Date of birth) and residing at Christchurch, New Zealand (Place of residence) and --- (Name of child) born in --- (Place of birth) on --- (Date of birth) and residing at --- (Place of residence) and --- (Name of child) born in --- (Place of birth) on --- (Date of birth) and residing at --- (Place of residence)

Ack'd UCT 6 1916 File

Her local address is 74 Pandalton Road, Christchurch, New Zealand. The person to be informed in case of death or accident is Mr. K. F. Ramacciotti 253 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California.

His citizenship of the United States is established by birth and statement of Mr. Taylor T. Harrison, registered as an American citizen at this Consulate-General. (Nature of proof of citizenship produced.) This certificate is not a passport and its validity expires on June 14, 1917 (Date of expiration).

The following is the signature of Lillie B. Pendegast (Signature of person registered).

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed
[L. s.] my seal of office.

Certificate issued. Alfred A. Winslow
American Consul General.

(NO FEE.)

¹ See circular instructions concerning expatriation.
² See paragraphs 151 and 172, Consular Regulations.

On arrival in New Zealand in October 1915 Lillie Pendegast was required to Register as an American Citizen at the U.S. Consulate in Auckland.
Note: she states her date of birth as 16 July 1867

Fran kept a photograph album and scrapbook recording the family's life in New Zealand, the latter filled with all sorts of mementos—newspaper clippings, various membership cards, Red Cross paraphernalia, and World War news items. They appeared to live very comfortably and had a wide circle of friends. ‘Mother Pendy’ may have been useful as a companion to her seven-year-old grandson allowing Jack and Fran to enjoy a healthy social life and for Fran to carry out her volunteer duties with the Red Cross.



*Above left:
Fran collecting flowers in her garden at her
home in Christchurch NZ.*

*Above right:
Jack in garden of Christchurch home.*

*At right:
Jack astride a motorcycle with sidecar.
c.1916*





Jack in Christchurch, NZ looking very prosperous, c.1916



Lillie Belle (Smoot-Chinn) Pendegast ('Mother Pandy'), Christchurch, New Zealand, c.1916



Fran at her home in Christchurch, New Zealand with her pets, c.1916

Lillie Frances Saunders

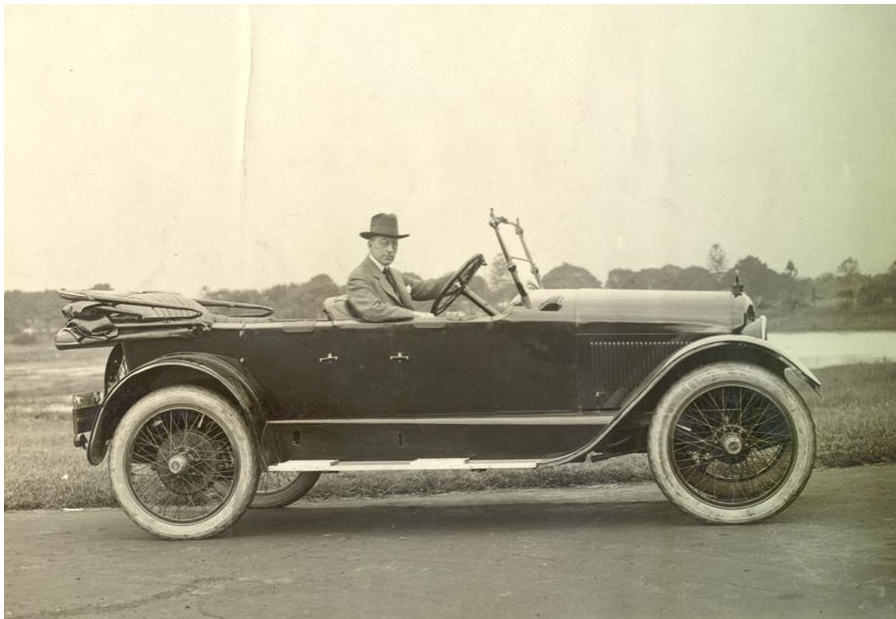
Fran's signature 1914

24 May 1917

James Leslie 'Les' Darcy died in Memphis, Tennessee, USA aged 22 from *septicaemia* following dental surgery in Australia. Born in Maitland, NSW on 31 October 1895, he was a middleweight, but held the Australian Heavyweight Championship title at the same time. He lost only four professional fights and was never knocked out. Darcy became embroiled in the politics of conscription during the First World War and left Australia for the United States to avoid being called up for service.



*Les Darcy
1895-1917*



*Jack had a penchant for the latest automobiles
c.1916*



6 April 1917



The United States entered WWI when it declared war on Germany in April 1917. Although the reasons were varied and complex, the one having the greatest emotional impact was Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare following the sinking of the *RMS Lusitania* in 1915. The interception of the Zimmerman telegram, promising Mexico it would regain part of the United States if it entered the war on the German side precipitated the final American decision to go to war. This picture of *Uncle Sam* is thought to be illustrated on the most famous poster in the world.

EMERGENCY PASSPORT

*Good only for Three
months from date*

*The person to whom this passport is issued
has declared under oath that he desires it for
use in visiting the countries hereinafter named
for the following objects:*

Reunited Company resident

*This passport is not valid for use in other countries
except for necessary transit from the countries
named, unless accompanied by an American
diplomatic or principal consular officer.*

Consulate
of the
United States of America,
Auckland, New Zealand

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Alfred A. Hinselwood The undersigned, *Consul General*
of the United States of America,
hereby request all to whom it may concern to permit
Frances Saunders
a Citizen of the United States accompanied
by her mother, *John H. Saunders Jr.* safely
and freely to pass and in case of need to give
her all lawful Aid and Protection.

*Given under my hand and the
Seal of the Consulate General
of the United States
at Auckland New Zealand
the 17th day of January
in the year 1918, and of the
Independence of the United States
the one hundred and fortysecond.*
Alfred A. Hinselwood,

Alfred A. Hinselwood

Seal of the Consulate General of the United States at Auckland, New Zealand

No. 30

DESCRIPTION

Age 32 Years
Height 5 Feet 7 Inches 5/8
Forehead high
Eyes Deep
Nose Large
Mouth Medium
Chin Round
Hair Light Brown
Complexion Medium
Face Oval

Signature of the Bearer:
Frances Saunders

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND
JAN 17 1918
\$1
FEE RECEIPT

Fee \$ 1.00 United States Gold
equal to 47 Centimes
Feb No. 23

Fran's emergency passport issued to her in 1918 when her mother fell seriously ill and she had to take her back to the United States

Below is Lillie Belle Pendegast's application for an emergency passport for her return to the United States when she was taken ill in New Zealand. The application, in two parts, was completed by her daughter Lillian Frances Saunders née Chinn for her mother to sign.

Part 1

DUPLICATE

NOTE.—This form is to be filled out in duplicate, one copy being retained in the files of the office by which the emergency passport is issued and the other forwarded to the Department.

(FORM No. 176b.—CONSULAR.)
(Corrected April, 1915.)

Fee for Passport..... \$1.00
Fee for administering oath and preparing passport application.. 1.00

EMERGENCY PASSPORT APPLICATION.

For three months

NATIVE.
Issued, January 4, 1917

I, Lillie Belle Pendegast, a NATIVE AND LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the American Consul General at Auckland New Zealand for an emergency passport for myself, accompanied by my daughter Lillian Frances Saunders and minor children, as follows: _____, born at _____, on the _____ day of _____, 1____; and _____, born at _____ on the _____ day of _____, 1____, and _____

I solemnly swear that I was born at Alexandria in the State of Virginia, on or about the 16 day of July, 1866 that my husband is a native citizen of the United States; that he is now residing at Seattle, Washington U.S.A. for the purpose of agent; that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at San Francisco, in the State of California, where I follow the occupation of Housewife; that I last left the United States on the 15 day of September, 1916, and am now temporarily sojourning at Christchurch N.Z.; that I am the bearer of Passport No. _____, issued by _____, on the _____ day of _____, 1____; that I intend to return to the United States within 3 months with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein; that I have not applied elsewhere for a United States passport or for consular registration and been refused.

I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereinafter named for the following purpose:

New Zealand visiting daughter
(Name of country.) (Object of visit.)

(Name of country.) (Object of visit.)

(Name of country.) (Object of visit.)

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

Lillie Belle Pendegast
(Signature of applicant.)

American Consul General at Christchurch New Zealand

Sworn to before me this 2nd day of January, 1917

United States Gold,
[SEAL] paid by affixing
to the original copy of
this document. No 2

[Signature]
(Name.)
American Consul General
(Title.)

* A person born in the United States in a place where births are recorded should submit a birth certificate with his application, if possible.
† See circular instruction of July 26, 1910, entitled "Protection of Native Americans Residing Abroad."

[OVER.]

Lillie Belle Pendegast's application for an emergency passport.
Part 2

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 51 years. Mouth: medium
 Stature: 5 feet, — inches, Eng. Chin: round
 Forehead: high Hair: white
 Eyes: grey Complexion: light
 Nose: large Face: oval

IDENTIFICATION.

I, _____, 19____, solemnly swear that I am a { native / naturalized } citizen of the United States; that I reside at _____; that I have known the above-named _____ personally for _____ years and know him / her } to be a native citizen of the United States; and that the facts stated in { his / her } affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.


(Address of witness.)

American _____ at _____
 Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____
 [SEAL.] _____ (Name.) _____ (Title.)

Identifying documents submitted as follows: Refer to American Consul General Auckland N.Z. Introduced there by Taylor T. Harrison an American Citizen

A duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto should be filed with the application retained in the office by which the emergency passport is issued.

One p
in this s
who tak
office m
partly to



Note that Taylor Harrison's name appears again.
He was a business associate of John H. Saunders.

16 July 1918

Tsar Nicholas II and his family murdered by the Bolshevik rulers in a cellar at the town of Ekaterinburg in the Urals where the Romanov family was being kept prisoner. Persistent Rumours that the Tsar's daughter, Grand Duchess Anastasia, 3rd from right on picture at right, survived proved to be unfounded



Tsar Nicholas II and his family

Jack's notes reveal that his mother-in-law, whom he affectionately called "Mother Pendency", was not to see the war out in New Zealand

- 1918 April Mother Pendency taken sick. Left for S.F.—Fran, Eva, Boy and Mother
- 1918 June 1 left for S.F.
- 1918 July Work—change of Housing Builder
- Nov 11 Armistice
- Tried to get S.F. Bureau of Exhibit & Information going.
- Manufacturers and merchants apathetic
- 1919 Connected up with Buck & Stoddard
- Feb. left for Sydney
- Mar 22 Arrived Sydney
- Opened office Lord Mayor Richards at Room 16, 3rd Floor Equitable Building.
- 14th November M O B A started

Fran's mother, Lillie Smoot Pendegast 'Mother Pendency' died in San Francisco 29 June 1920. She was first married to Thomas⁸ Withers Chinn (1853–1913).

➔ See Chapter 11: The Chinn Family and Chapter 12: Lillian Frances Chinn

At the time Jack was back in Australia on one of his many business ventures. Indeed from 1918 onwards he travelled frequently back and forth across the Pacific between San Francisco and Sydney, culminating in the breakdown of his marriage when he finally settled in Sydney in 1923.

Jack's notes continue as follows:

- 1920 June Prince of Wales visit
- September. Contemplated amalgamation M O B A and Combined Buyers of Queensland
- November 24. Left for S.F.
- December 13. Arrived S.F.
- 1921 Feb. 19. Left S.F. for Sydney
- March 22. Arrived Sydney - Heard M.O.B.A. Bust
- August. L. C. Ltd. started—sold shares in meantime
- 1922 Nov. Left for S.F.
- 1923 Feb. Change name to Primary Producers bank
- March started operations
- September. Compromised with directors and turned over organisation to bank

San Francisco Passenger Lists, 1893–1953, record Jack's trips across the Pacific:

Departed San Francisco	February, 1919
Arrived Sydney	March 22, 1919
Departed Sydney	November 19, 1920 on the <i>S. S. Ventura</i>
Arrived San Francisco	December 13, 1920
Departed San Francisco	February 19, 1921
Arrived Sydney	March 22, 1921
<i>January, 1922</i>	<i>Alleged to have Deserted wife</i>
Departed Sydney	November 15, 1922 on the <i>S. S. Sonoma</i>
Arrived San Francisco	December 6, 1922
Departed San Francisco	Date unknown
Arrived Sydney	Date unknown
Departed Sydney	November 28, 1923 on the <i>S. S. Sonoma</i>
Arrived San Francisco	December 18, 1923
February 21, 1924	Divorce proceedings commenced by Fran
March 9, 1925	Divorce granted
<i>March 21, 1925</i>	<i>Marries May Agnes Snowdon</i>

oOo

Between 1918 and 1920 Jack applied for a number of passports, some to the US consulate in New Zealand and Australia and others to the relevant office in the United States. The records of his applications were located on the genealogy website *Ancestry.com*. The fate of the original passports is unknown as they are not amongst any family memorabilia.

The applications provided some details of Jack's physical characteristics. He is stated to be five foot seven and three quarter inches tall, had blue eyes, a straight nose and brown hair. His complexion is said to be fair.

While in New Zealand he obviously had a business relationship with his friend Taylor T. Harrison who appeared to have close connections with the American Consul General in New Zealand. Both men were later to live in Australia.

When Jack's mother-in-law Lillie Belle Pendegast fell ill in New Zealand she returned to San Francisco in April 1918 with her daughter Fran Saunders and grandson, then 11 years old. Lillie Belle and Fran obtained Emergency Passports in Auckland. Jack stayed on another two months and obtained an Emergency Passport in May 1918, leaving for San Francisco on the 1st of June. Wartime regulations may have made it necessary to apply for a passport each time he travelled abroad.

In August 1918 Jack applied for an Official Passport in San Francisco and left for Australia in February 1919.

Then in September 1920 he applies for another Official Passport at the American Consulate in Sydney. On his application he requests that this passport, when issued, be held in Washington DC until he requests it as he intends to return to the United States on an Emergency Passport which he applied for on 28 October 1920. Jack left for San Francisco on 24 November 1920, arriving 13 December. The Official Passport was mailed to Jack on 29 January 1921. As his hand-written notes state he left for Sydney on 19 February 1921.

DUPLICATE

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: <u>37</u> years.	Mouth: <u>Medium</u>
Stature: <u>5</u> feet, <u>7 1/2</u> inches, Eng.	Chin: <u>Medium</u>
Forehead: <u>High</u>	Hair: <u>Dark Brown</u>
Eyes: <u>Blue</u>	Complexion: <u>Medium</u>
Nose: <u>Large</u>	Face: <u>Long</u>

IDENTIFICATION.

I, _____, 19____, solemnly swear that I am a { native / naturalized } citizen of the United States; that I reside at _____; that I have known the above-named _____ personally for _____ years and know him / her } to be a native citizen of the United States; and that the facts stated in { his / her } affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Address of witness.)


American _____ at _____
Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____

[SEAL] _____ (Name.)

(Title.)

Identifying documents submitted as follows:
Introduction to American Consul General by Taylor T. Harrison at Auckland N.Z in January 1915 also Affidavit of Sara J. Wilson and J.C. Burnett of San Francisco now on file with American Consul General at Auckland N.Z.

A duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto should be filed with the application retained in the office by which the emergency passport is issued.



1918–1919

The 'Spanish' influenza epidemic that swept the world in 1918 killed an estimated 50 million people. One fifth of the world's population was attacked by this deadly virus. Within months, it had killed more people than any other illness in recorded history. In contrast, World War I claimed an estimated 16 million lives. Young adults, usually unaffected by these types of infectious diseases, were among the hardest hit groups along with the elderly and young children. The flu afflicted over 25 percent of the U.S. population. In one year, the average life expectancy in the United States dropped by 12 years. More people died of influenza in a single year than in four-years of the Black Death Bubonic Plague from 1347 to 1351. It is thought that soldiers returning from the unsanitary conditions in the trenches during WWI brought the virus home.



During 1921 or 1922 Jack met May Agnes Snowdon in Sydney. Meanwhile back in San Francisco, Fran had taken up with Harry⁸ Innes Borden, an old family friend and distant cousin of Jack's. We don't know which liaison commenced first. However, the Court documents relating to the divorce between Jack and Fran point the finger at Jack.

The newspaper article below appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on 22 February 1924:

Woman Deserted Sues for Freedom

Mrs. Lillian F. Saunders yesterday filed suit against her husband, John Henry Saunders, San Francisco business man, for a divorce, charging him with having deserted her without provocation in January, 1922, after seventeen years of married life.

Mrs. Saunders, who is the mother of a 16-year-old boy, John Jr., asks \$500 a month alimony through her attorney, Fred L. Berry.

The initial two documents are both dated February 21, 1924. The first, the *Complaint and Summons* action taken out by Fran, was issued in the Superior Court of the State of California and designated Lillian Frances Saunders as the Plaintiff and John Henry Saunders as the Defendant:

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

LILLIAN FRANCES SAUNDERS)		
Plaintiff))	
)	<u>C O M P L A I N T</u>
VS))	NO. <u>144213</u>
)	DEPT. _____
JOHN HENRY SAUNDERS))	
<u>Defendant</u>))	

Plaintiff complains of Defendant and for a cause of action alleges:

... That the Plaintiff and Defendant herein intermarried in the City of New York, State of New York, on the 18th day of January 1905, and ever since said time have been and now are husband and wife.

That the only issue of said marriage is a minor son, named John Henry Saunders, Jr, whose age is sixteen years.

... The said action is brought to obtain a judgment and decree of this Court dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between plaintiff and defendant, on the grounds of the defendant's 'Willful desertion'. ...

... That on or about the month of January 1922 the said Defendant disregarded the solemnity of his marriage vow, willfully and without cause deserted and abandoned Plaintiff, and ever since has and still continues so to willfully and without cause desert and abandon said Plaintiff and to live separate and apart from her without any sufficient reason, and against her will and without her consent. The said Defendant at said time, to-wit January 1922, voluntarily separated himself from the Plaintiff with the intent then and there to desert Plaintiff and thereafter continuously persistently refused to have matrimonial intercourse with Plaintiff as husband and wife without reason or cause therefore, and during all of said time Defendant refused to dwell in the same house with Plaintiff without just cause, or any cause for such refusal.

The second document of the same date constitutes the *Agreement*, signed by both parties, outlining the terms of settlement should the Plaintiff obtain a decree of divorce against the Defendant. It indicates Jack's intention to remarry, which may have brought the divorce proceedings to a head.

The agreement outlines the payment of moneys for the support of the Plaintiff and their son and for the Plaintiff to be the beneficiary of the Defendant's Life Insurance policy. Some of the more salient points are worth detailing:

THIS AGREEMENT made this 21st day of February 1924, by and between Lillian Frances Saunders, of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, party of the first part. And John Henry Saunders, of the City of Sydney, Commonwealth of Australia, husband of the said party of the first part, as party of the second part, WITNESSETH:

... WHEREAS the first party has commenced action in the Superior court of the State of California in and for the City and County of San Francisco, against the second party for a divorce ...

IV The first party shall subject to the hereinafter provisions, have full custody and control of said minor son of the parties hereto during his minority, and for so long as the first party remains unmarried, provided that the second party may direct and control the business training and general education of said son without affecting the first party's custody of said son. If however, the first party remarries during the lifetime of the second party, then the second party shall have full custody and control of said son.

V The second party may visit the said son at all reasonable times, due regard being given to his education. Said son may visit said second party at any reasonable time not conflicting with the education of said son, and provided that no absence of said son from said party of the first part shall be for more than One hundred and fifty (150) days.

VI There is no community property of the parties hereto. The furniture, books, silverware and other property now in the possession of the first party and belonging to the second party shall continue in the possession of the first party, and she shall have the exclusive use and possession thereof during her lifetime, and upon her death the said property shall vest in said minor son ...

VII The second party agrees to forthwith execute a Will, if he has not already done so, devising and bequeathing one half of all property and estate to a Trustee to be named in said Will, to have and to hold, and receive said one half of all said property of second party in trust for the following uses and purposed, to-wit:

(a) To pay the income thereof to the first party during her lifetime, and while she remains unmarried...

(b) If the first party be again married at the time of the demise of the second party, ... she shall then receive for and during her lifetime one half of the income of said property devised and bequeathed in trust as aforesaid, and the said son shall receive the remaining one half of the said income while said first party lives, provided that if the said son survives the first party under such circumstances, he shall receive the whole of the income of the said property so devised and bequeathed in trust until he reaches his twenty-eighth (28th) birthday, when the entire property devised and bequeathed in trust as aforesaid shall immediately vest in him the said son absolutely. ...

A week later, on the 27th day of February 1924, Judge Daniel C. Deasy of the Superior Court granted an *Interlocutory Decree of Divorce*:

... Wherefore, it is here ordered, adjudged and decreed and this Court does hereby order, adjudge and decree as and for an interlocutory decree herein, that Plaintiff is entitled to an interlocutory decree of this Court, adjudging that she has established grounds for the dissolution of the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between said Plaintiff and said Defendant; and subject to the provisions of the statute in such case made and provided, and in pursuance, thereof such interlocutory decree is hereby made on the grounds of Defendant's willful desertion, and that, upon the expiration of one year from the entry of this decree, final judgment granting said decree and restoring said parties to the status of single persons, be entered herein.

Accordingly, on the 9th March 1925 a *Final Decree of Divorce* was granted by Judge Deasy of the Superior Court and certified by H. I. Mulcrevy, County Clerk of the City of San Francisco State of California, and ex-officio Clerk of the Superior Court.

Twelve days later at St. Barnabas Church of England in Sydney, Australia, **John⁸ Henry Saunders married May Agnes Snowdon on 21 March 1925.** Jack was 44 years of age and May was 31. The marriage certificate nominates Jack's father's occupation as *musician*. We know his father, James⁷ Douglass Saunders (1829–1903), was married to Emily Brannan, a music teacher, and it is supposed that this mutual interest in music brought them together. We also know that Jack's uncle and namesake, John⁷ Henry Saunders (1821–1885), was an accomplished amateur musician.



May Agnes Snowdon
1893–1953

May Snowdon was born 17 October 1893 at Hunters Hill in Sydney. She was the daughter of William Snowdon, carpenter, and Elizabeth Gardiner. William was born 21 January 1853 in London, UK and died 17 April 1923 in Sydney, Australia. Elizabeth Gardiner was born 2 February 1858 in the Hunter Valley, NSW Australia and died 8 June 1938 in Sydney, Australia. William and Elizabeth Snowdon, both from the Sydney suburb of Hunters Hill, were married by the Rev. Dr. Robert Steel, DD, PhD on 12 July 1879 in the Presbyterian Church at 168 Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo, a suburb bordering downtown Sydney. The witnesses to the marriage were George and Ellen Gardner, who were Elizabeth's parents. William and Elizabeth Snowdon had one son and six daughters.



Elizabeth Snowdon,
née Gardiner
1858–1938



William Snowdon,
1853–1938

21 July 1925

The Scopes Trial, formally known as *The State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes*. Born 1900 in Kentucky, Scopes was accused of violating Tennessee law by teaching evolution in a state-funded school. He was found guilty but the verdict was overturned on a technicality.



John T. Scopes
1900–1970

9/3/1925

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, IN AND FOR THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

-0-

LILLIAN FRANCES SAUNDERS,
Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN HENRY SAUNDERS,
Defendant.

No. 144213
Dept. 13

*Certified
COPY*

-0-

FINAL DECREE OF DIVORCE

-0-

County Clerk—Judgment Dept. F. No. 24


STATE OF CALIFORNIA { ss. City and County of San Francisco

I, **H. I. Mulcrevy**, County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, and ex-officio Clerk of the Superior Court thereof, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original **FINAL DECREE OF DIVORCE** filed in my office on the 9th day of MARCH, 1925, and that the same was entered of record on the 9th day of MARCH, 1925 in Book 225 of Judgments at Page 162.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Superior Court this 2nd day of APRIL, 1925.

H. I. Mulcrevy
Clerk

By: *H. I. Mulcrevy*
Deputy Clerk



Jack and Fran's Final Decree of Divorce dated 9th March 1925

Following the Final Decree of Divorce between Jack and Fran there were several changes to the agreed terms and conditions, mostly relating to the financial obligations imposed on Jack. Of particular interest was the schedule of personal property owned by Jack but in the possession of Fran, and which was to be inherited by their son, as stipulated in the divorce agreement. Amongst the items mentioned is *One (1) chesterfield*. Some twenty-five years later this item of furniture—an antique Lowboy—was to play a major role in the life of Fran and Jack's son.

Scant information is available about Jack's life with May in Australia. Some of his various business ventures must have been successful as he lived well, built a grand house in Darling Point, a fashionable suburb of inner Sydney's eastern suburbs district, and was an active member of Tattersall's Club, which catered for the well-to-do horseracing fraternity.

Indeed, he is mentioned in the publication *Tattersall's Club, Sydney 1858–1983* by Joseph Anderson, chapter 9:

In March 1934, J. H. Saunders, who had so stoutly protested the right of non-British members to occupy executive positions in the Club, was elected to the Committee.

In 1931, after completing an economics degree at Stanford University, Jack's son decided to try his luck in Australia by joining his father in the bloodstock insurance business. Jack at this time was enjoying the fruits of one of his more profitable ventures. For his son, a young man of 24 just out of College in post-depression America, it seemed logical to join forces with his successful father and see a bit of the world at the same time. His stay in Australia was never meant to be permanent.

Suffice to say now that the rosy economic picture did not last long. Jack's fortune waned and he sought solace at the clubs and bars which he frequented. He moved from his grand home in Darling Point to a more modest boarding house at 110 Alison Road, Randwick, not far from the racecourse.

Jack's health was deteriorating and he was drinking heavily. However, he lived to see his son married in November 1935 and a year later in December 1936, the birth of his grandson.



*John Henry Saunders
c.1935*

Jack's signature c.1920

19 August 1935

Cane Toads (*Bufo marinus*) from Hawaii were released in the sugarcane plantations in north Queensland in the hope that they would control the destructive native cane beetle population. The beetles eat the crop's leaves but the main problem is the larvae which feed on the roots. Conventional methods of pest control such as pesticide use would eradicate harmless species of insects. Unfortunately, the toads had no impact on the cane beetles. Being very bulky they cannot jump very high and therefore couldn't reach the beetles they were supposed to eat. The larvae live underground so they were also unreachable. The cane toad has poison glands on each side of its head which are lethal to all native carnivores. The eggs and tadpoles are also poisonous. The toad has become one of the most invasive pest species in Australia, poisoning native animals and causing major disruptions to sensitive ecosystems.



The following two articles appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald* respectively on the 4th and 5th of July 1933:

FATAL COLLISION BETWEEN CAR AND SULKY.

The City Coroner (Mr. H. H. Farrington) commenced an inquiry yesterday into a collision between a motor car and a sulky, in Alison-road, Randwick, on June 11, when Raymond Percy Egan, 25, motor mechanic, was killed. The driver of the car, John Henry Saunders, who is charged with manslaughter, was present in court.

Arthur Charles Cross said that he was driving the sulky, in which Egan was a passenger, along Alison-road, on its correct side of the road, when it was struck from behind by a motor car travelling in the same direction. Witness and Egan were thrown out of the sulky, which was smashed to pieces. A man gave witness the number of a car. Saunders arrived at the scene after the accident.

William Gideon Dash, traveller, said that the accused's car passed his car, travelling in a normal manner and at a normal speed.

Constable Joseph B. Walker said that Saunders told him the sulky was zig-zagging along the road, and pulled over towards the centre. Saunders thought it was going across continued straight on, but the sulky came back. Saunders said he jammed on the brakes and tried to avoid it by going on the inside, but the car struck the wheel. Witness found that the offside mudguard of the car was damaged. He asked Saunders why he did not stop immediately after the accident, and he replied: "The windscreen hit me in the face and stunned me." Saunders' face was bleeding. Saunders said the car was going at about 25 miles an hour. The story told by Saunders was consistent with what witness saw at the scene of the accident.

In answer to the Coroner, Saunders said that he wished to give evidence, and the inquest was adjourned until 2 p.m. to-day.

FATAL COLLISION. Car Driver Exonerated.

The City Coroner (Mr. H. H. Farrington) yesterday concluded the inquiry into the collision between a motor car and a sulky, in Alison-road, Randwick, on June 11, when Raymond Percy Egan, 25, motor mechanic, was killed. John Henry Saunders, a broker, the driver of the car, who was charged with manslaughter, was discharged by the Coroner, who found that the deceased had died from injuries accidentally received in the collision.

Saunders, giving evidence, said that as he turned into Alison-road from Anzac-parade he became aware of the sulky. He was on the left-hand side of the road, travelling at about 25 or 30 miles an hour. As he approached the sulky he blew his horn and tried to pass it on its right-hand side. The horse and sulky made a definite turn to the right, and as he believed that the sulky was going to cross the street, he applied his brakes and tried to pass it on the left-hand side. The sulky then seemed to straighten up again and come back. The car hit the near wheel. Had he continued straight on he would have struck the sulky square at the back. In the emergency he could not have done more than he did to avoid the accident.

23 February 1931

Nellie Melba died at St. Vincent's private hospital in Sydney. Born Helen Porter Mitchell in 1861, she was an Australian Operatic soprano and became one of the most famous singers of the late Victorian era and the early 20th century. She took the pseudonym 'Melba' from Melbourne, her home town. Nellie was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the 1918 New Year Honours.



John⁸ Henry Saunders died on Sunday, 21 April 1940 at his home in Randwick aged just 59 years. The cause of death was *auricular fibrillation, chronic cardiac degeneration and mitral stenosis*. He was buried in an unmarked grave—Lot 32, Section S—in the Church of England section of Northern Suburbs Cemetery. We do not know why there was no headstone on the burial site. John Jr. was struggling financially at the time, and World War II was in progress. Certainly his passing was not grieved by his son's wife who refused to attend the funeral, so intense were the bitter feelings she held for her father-in-law.

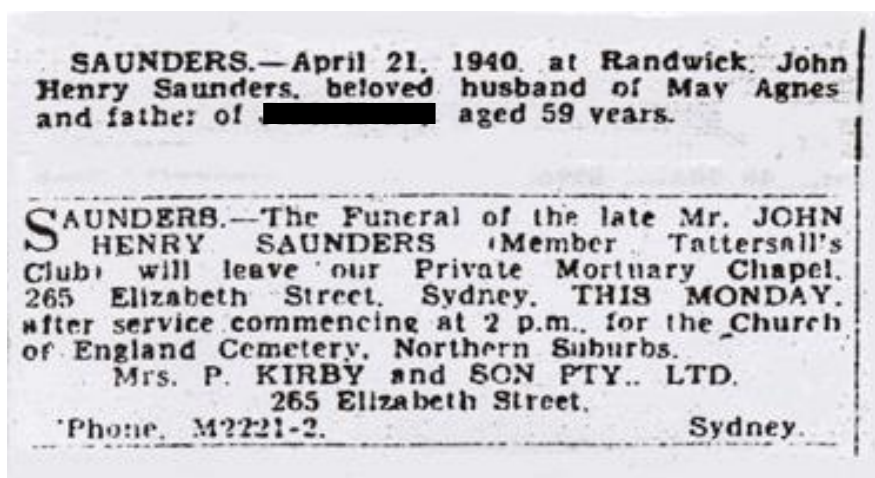
However, none of this explains why May did not arrange a headstone for her husband of fifteen years. His occupation at the time of death was described as share broker on the death certificate. It is understood that he left in his wake many large debts. In the course of Jack's business dealings, perhaps because of his own tarnished reputation, he had influenced his son John Jr to become surety for these debts and the poor man spent years paying out his father's creditors.

In July 2001 Jack's grandson born after his grandfather died, made arrangements for a suitable headstone to be installed on the burial site.


A search of the registry in Sydney revealed no Will for John⁸ Henry Saunders. It is likely he died impecunious. Very little meaningful memorabilia survives such as passports, correspondence, photographs, personal effects and the like, particularly relating to his last twenty years. Such things so often tell a story about the owner.



The new headstone on Jack and May's gravesite at Macquarie Park Cemetery (formerly Northern Suburbs Cemetery)



*The Sydney Morning Herald
Monday, 22 April 1940*



DEATH REGISTERED IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.

**CERTIFIED COPY FURNISHED UNDER PART V OF THE
 REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES ACT, 1973.**

No.	Date and place of death	Name and occupation	Sex and age	Cause of death Duration of last illness; medical attendant; when he last saw deceased	Name and occupation of father Name and maiden surname of mother	Informant	Particulars of registration	When and where buried; name of undertaker	Name and religion of Minister and names of witnesses of burial	Where born and how long in the Australian Colonies or States	Place of marriage, age, and to whom	Children of marriage
10127	1940. 21 st April	John Henry Saunders Share Broker.	Male 59 years	(1) Myocardial Infarction (2) Coronary Arteriosclerosis (3) Hypertension (4) H. J. Solomon (Registered) 20 th April 1940	(1) Unknown (2) Unknown (3) Unknown	John H. Saunders son 72 New South Head Trenchise	(1) Randwick (2) 22 nd April 1940 (3) Church of England (4) Northern Suburbs Cemetery	(1) H. D. Kennedy (2) Church of England (3) James H. Butler William H. Hard	San Francisco California America	21 years 2 1/2 years	1 st Marriage New York United States America 24 years William James 2 nd Marriage England about 13 years May Agnes Saunders	1 st Marriage John H. 32 ling 1 female deceased. 2 nd Marriage No issue

I, VERNON MARK BENNETT, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF PARTICULARS RECORDED IN A REGISTER KEPT BY ME.

ISSUED AT SYDNEY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 1984.


 PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR

Death Certificate issued for John Henry Saunders who died 21 April 1940

5 January 1941

Amy Johnson, a pioneering English aviator, died when her aeroplane went off course in adverse weather conditions while delivering an Airspeed Oxford to RAF Kidlington near Oxford. Her aircraft crashed into the Thames Estuary and her body was never found though she is reported to have bailed out. Her death remains a mystery to this day. Born in 1903, Johnson was the first female pilot to fly alone from Britain to Australia in 1930.



*Amy Johnson
1903-1941*

May Agnes Saunders died on **Monday, 15 June 1953** of *disease of the heart (coronary)* at the age of 60. She passed away at her home in Randwick where she had continued to live since the death of Jack some thirteen years earlier. She also is buried in the same unmarked grave with her husband at Sydney's Northern Suburbs Cemetery. Again, we do not know why her relations—she had a number of sisters still living—did not bother to mark her burial site with a headstone. Moreover, adding to this conundrum, she is listed incorrectly on the official cemetery records as *Mary Ann* Saunders.

For unknown reasons, as shown on the newspaper article at right, relatives requested a post-mortem examination

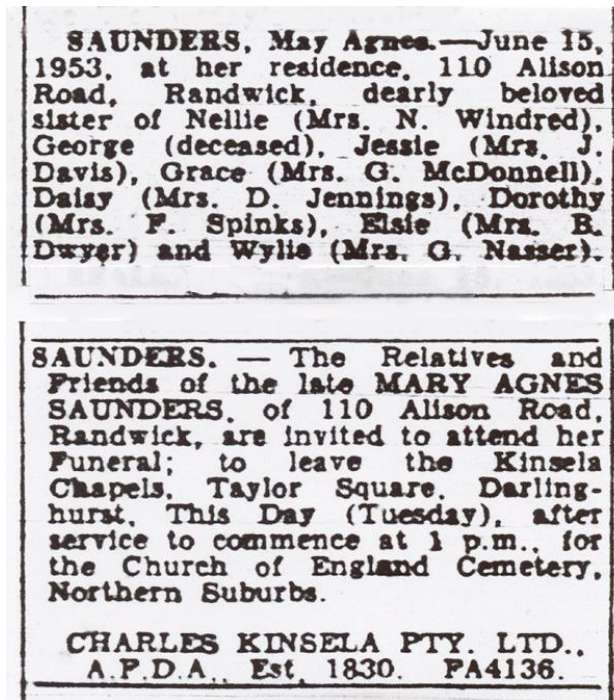
Widow's Death Investigated.

Detectives are investigating the death yesterday of Mrs. May Agnes Saunders, 60, a widow, at a residential in Allison Road, Randwick.

A doctor issued a certificate showing that she had died from natural causes, but relatives later asked Randwick police to arrange a post-mortem examination.

The Government Medical Officer (Dr. Percy) will make the examination today.

*The Cessnock Eagle
 and South Maitland Recorder,
 Tue., 16 June 1953*



*The Sydney Morning Herald
Tuesday, 15 June 1953*



*May Agnes Saunders
née Snowdon
1893–1953*

A search of the records revealed a Last Will and Testament:

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of me May Agnes Saunders of 110 Alison Road, Randwick in the State of New South Wales, Widow. I REVOKE all former wills and testamentary dispositions at any time heretofore made by me AND DECLARE this to be my last will and testament. I APPOINT EDGAR ARTHUR BENEDICT SMITH of 110 Alison Road, Randwick to be the Executor of this my Will. I DIRECT that all my estate of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situate be sold called in and converted into money and that from the proceeds of such sale calling in and conversion all of my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses be paid. I GIVE AND BEQUEATH unto the said EDGAR ARTHUR BENEDICT SMITH the sum of Four thousand pounds AND I GIVE AND BEQUEATH all the rest and residue of my said estate unto my sisters in equal shares for their own use and benefit absolutely.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this Fifteenth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and fifty three.

May Saunders

oOo

20 January 1953

Dwight D. Eisenhower inaugurated as the Republican President of the United States. Eisenhower was an army general and statesman who served as the 34th President of the United States from 1953 to 1961. During World War II, he was a five-star general in the United States Army and served as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe. He was born 14 October 1890 and died 28 March 1969.



*Dwight D. Eisenhower
1890–1969*

Summary**JOHN⁸ HENRY SAUNDERS 1880–1940**

1880 04 Aug	Born -	San Francisco, CA. Youngest son of James ⁷ Douglass Saunders and his wife Emma (née Brannan).
1885	Aged 4 -	Commenced at Clement Grammar School.
1885 03 Sep	Aged 5 -	Uncle John ⁷ Henry died in San Rafael.
1889	Aged 9 -	Two older brothers left for Eastern Schools.
1890 12 Jul	Aged 10 -	Brother James ⁸ Douglass died at Virginia Military.
1892	Aged 12 -	Bates Selbourne Boarding School, San Rafael.
1894	Aged 14 -	Brother William ⁸ Hartshorne graduated from the University of Virginia.
1896	Aged 16 -	Lowell High School, San Francisco.
1897	Aged 17 -	Brother William ⁸ Hartshorne died.
1898	Aged 18 -	Class President, Captain of football and track.
1898	Aged 18 -	Started Law studies.
1901 Jun	Aged 20 -	Passed exams before Supreme Court in Law.
1901 Sep	Aged 21 -	Started Law practice.
1902 27 May	Aged 21 -	Mother Emma died.
1903 23 May	Aged 22 -	Father James ⁷ Douglass Saunders died.
1905 18 Jan	Aged 24 -	Married Lillian Frances Chinn in New York.
1905	Aged 25 -	Daughter born – died at birth.
1906 18 Apr	Aged 25 -	Earthquake and fire in San Francisco.
1906 01 May	Aged 25 -	Moved to Los Angeles.
1907 29 Aug	Aged 27 -	Son born.
1912 Nov	Aged 32 -	Moved back to San Francisco.
1914 10 Apr	Aged 34 -	Grandmother Jane Emily Brannan died in New York at the age of 95.
1913 23 Jun	Aged 32 -	Father-in-law, Thomas Withers Chinn died.
1914 28 Jun	Aged 33 -	<i>World War I started when Archduke Francis Ferdinand assassinated in Sarajevo, the capital of the Austrian province of Bosnia.</i>

Summary of John⁸ Henry Saunders (1880–1940) continued

1914	23 Dec	Aged 34 -	Sailed for New Zealand via Australia.
1915	Oct	Aged 34 -	Wife, son and mother-in-law arrive in NZ.
1917	06 Apr	Aged 36 -	<i>The United States entered World War I when it declares war on Germany.</i>
1918	Apr	Aged 37 -	Wife, son and mother-in-law returned to San Francisco due to illness of latter.
1918	Jun	Aged 37 -	Left for San Francisco.
1918	11 Nov	Aged 38 -	<i>World War I ends when Germany signs the armistice.</i>
1919	Feb	Aged 39 -	Left for Sydney, Australia.
1920	29 Jun	Aged 40 -	Mother-in-law, Lillie Smoot Pendegast died.
1920	24 Nov	Aged 40 -	Left for San Francisco.
1921	19 Feb	Aged 40 -	Left for Sydney, Australia.
1922	Nov	Aged 42 -	Left for San Francisco.
1923	Feb	Aged 43 -	Returned to Sydney, Australia.
1924	21 Feb	Aged 43 -	Divorce proceedings commenced.
1925	09 Mar	Aged 44 -	Final Decree of Divorce granted.
1925	21 Mar	Aged 44 -	Marries May Agnes Snowdon in Sydney Australia.
1927	Jan	Aged 46 -	Joined son in Hawaii for trip to Australia .
1931		Aged 50 -	Joined in business by son.
1935	17 Nov	Aged 54 -	Son John Henry ⁹ Jr married Maureen Frances Meagher.
1936	07 Dec	Aged 55 -	Grandchild born.
1939	01 Sep	Aged 59 -	<i>World War II started when Germany attacked Poland.</i>
1940	21 Apr	Aged 59 -	Died at his home in Randwick, Sydney Buried Northern Suburbs Cemetery.

17 July 1917

The House of Windsor came into being in 1917, when the name was adopted as the British Royal Family's official name by a proclamation of King George V replacing the historic German name of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. It remains the family name of the current Royal Family. The name change came about because of the anti-German sentiment in the British Empire during World War I.



King George V
1865–1936