

LONG BEACH PRESS-TELEGRAM, SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1931

Indian Burial Ground Excavation Protested by Member of Tribe

SANTA ANA, Aug. 1.—Further excavation of the old Indian burial ground near Wintersburg today was protested by an elderly Indian woman who wants to prevent further "desecration" of her ancestors' graves.

Hearing that further excavations in the old burial plot would be undertaken after the current beet and bean harvest, Mrs. Virginia Carmelo, 60, of Orange, appealed for official protection for the bones of the Juanitos, laid away in the peat bog centuries ago.

Mrs. Carmelo, a Juanito, and the wife of a Dieguena, came to the courthouse in Santa Ana to ask the authorities to refuse to permit any one to remove the skeletons.

"They want them to sell," she said, "and we do not want the bodies of our fathers disturbed."

The Wintersburg burial ground, on land now known as the Sherman Buck ranch, received the dead of the Juanitos tribe from time immemorial, centuries before the padres came, the Indian said. Its use terminated soon after the mission was established, and no tribesman has been buried there in probably 150 years.

For a century and a half the city of the dead slumbered in peace, until last Winter the thrust of a shovel shattered its repose.

like to talk with
me.

Yours very truly

Riverside Calif.

Orange Calif.
Sept 28th 1931

Mr. S. C. Evans.

Miss Virginia Chamberlain
729 E. Chapman Ave.
Orange, Calif.

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated Sept
23rd at hand. Consider-
ing you and the lady that
published the design of
the bald grans of our people
and in regard to the
history of the Indians will
give all the knowledge I
possess you would like
to talk with me
when you would