In 1915, truck farmer Joe Desimone brought his produce to the Market in elaborate displays. By 1941, Desimone had taken over management of the Market from the family of Frank Goodwin.

Continued from page 20
permanent, year ’round vendors, but ultimately lose.

1930 Peter DeLaurenti marries Mamie-Marie Mustelo, later buying out her mother’s grocery and creating one of the Market’s best-known specialty food stores.

1931 Market becomes important source of cheap food in the Depression.

1935 Dance Hall operates in Economy Market Building.

After Pearl Harbor, Japanese farmers and merchants were denied loans for seed and fertilizer; many were denied car insurance, and curfews restricted their travels. By 1942, they were forced into internment camps; their stalls were closed and offered to others.

1938 Artist Mark Tobey begins to sketch and paint Market scenes.

1939 Stalls peak at 515 leases.

1941 Joe Desimone takes over ownership from the Goodwins.


1942 110,000 Japanese-Americans interned on West Coast, stalls leases plunge to 196. Market begins to empty and decay.

1942 Nellie Curtis opens famed brothel in former LaSalle Hotel, south end of Market.

1946 In postwar era, truck farming eclipsed by modern farming, and supermarkets take business away from Pike Place Market. Joe Desimone dies. (His heirs sell to city in 1974.)

1949 Stall leases dip to 53. Automobile reduces mass transit access to Market.

1950 Engineer Harlan Edwards, husband of Councilwoman Myrtle

Continued on page 24 >