

Villard Builders Leave 'Time Capsule'

By DAVID BUTLER
Feature Editor

The Oregon State Seal has rarely been used as a time capsule. But in 1886, that's exactly how a seal on Villard Hall was used.

In early January, 1886, workmen hung two carefully-carved State Seals above the east and west entrances to Villard as final touches for the new state University.

For 80 years the seals rotted above the entrances; the University grew larger, and changes were made in Villard.

The University Theatre was added in the 1950's. Under the heavy cement paint on the seals, the wood continued to rot.

80 Years

Finally, early fall term this year, University Theatre personnel noticed the seal above the UT addition on the west side of Villard was beginning to fall.

With vague plans of refinishing the seal and hanging it in the University Pocket Theatre, UT workers and speech instructors took the seal down. It was 80 years to the month from when

the seal was put up until Howard Helm, shop foreman for the theatre, began to restore it.

Sealed Bottle

By chance, Helm opened up the layered, domed seal.

When Helm opened the almost-rotten seal in early January, he chanced on a four-inch bottle embedded in the soft wood.

Stuffed with scraps of paper, the sealed bottle had been trapped in the wood for almost a century before it had been accidentally discovered.

Instructors in the speech department opened the bottle and discovered a collection of notes, newspaper clippings, and names that had been planted by workmen in 1886.

The papers, now being kept

for University archives, are all dated 1886 and earlier, and point out that the seal was placed on Villard Jan. 10, 1886.

Found inside the bottle was:

- an envelope, cancellation date illegible, with a scrawled return address

- a Steamship Columbia meal ticket dated Jan. 17, 1883 for table one to T. A. Brown, 30.

- a slip of paper stating W. T. Campbell, born Sept. 25, 1852, was one of the workmen that built the building

- a newspaper clipping reporting English author George Eliot's funeral. Elliot was a pen name for Mary Ann Evans.

- several jokes
- a poem of "The Bachelor's Last Hours."

Anthony Kadlec, assistant professor of speech, is holding the notes for University archives. Kadlec said of the seal, "I'll

truly bet if you went around and got into these seals you would find more of these things."

Since the notes were found last month, the seal has been totally restored and re-painted. UT personnel have hung the restored seal above the stage in the Pocket theatre in a remodeling project that eventually will

center around the seal. Kadlec calls it "American-Victorian."

The other state seal erected at the same time as the newly-restored seal is still above the east entrance to Villard. The weather, too, has taken its toll of that seal. Perhaps, said Kadlec, that seal, also, has a similar "time capsule" embedded in it.

Club to Support Millrace Project

After two and one-quarter hours of discussion, the Metropolitan Civic Club Wednesday sent back to a research committee the proposal that the club support a restoration of the Millrace.

The research committee had recommended that Eugene "acquire, develop, and maintain the lower Millrace as a scenic and recreational attraction."

Because of a club rule against amending a motion, the matter was sent back to the committee, so that the committee could change its recommendation to one which would ask that a commission be set up to study the feasibility of the proposed Millrace development.

Job Opportunities

Feb. 10—Turn Toward Peace Intern Program, all liberal arts majors.

Feb. 11—Must have completed junior year, wants majors in physics and math, must complete federal application form 57 and complete academic transcript required.

Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five times in September and five days a week during the academic year, except during examination periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon.

Second-class postage paid at Eugene, Oregon 97403. Subscription rates \$5 per year, \$2 per term.

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Ferens to Speak At Coffee Hour

Robert Ferens will speak and show slides of his visit to West Africa at the International Coffee Hour at 4 p.m. today in the Y Lounge, Gerlinger Hall.

Ferens is a professor in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

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Jim came to Ford in February, 1963. His first assignment was in marketing analysis where his principal job was evaluating present and potential dealer locations. For a time, he also gained experience in the actual purchasing of dealer locations. Later, an assignment forecasting sales and market potential with Ford Division's Truck Sales Programming Department gave him the background he needed to qualify for his present position. His job today? Only three years out of college, Jim is now a senior financial analyst in Ford Division's Business Management Department.

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