

## Historical Notes

By MAX BRAINARD

TO PHIL ADAMS, of Gold Beach we are indebted for the record of another and quite early visitor to the Rogue. Mr. Adams has loaned a copy of the 1948 bulletin of the Society of California Pioneers. In this booklet, Charles T. Ward of Boston writes that he left there in April, 1849, came through the Straits of Magellan and landed in San Francisco in December of that year. He appears to have arrived in the Bay City when times were really tough. Then the village simply could not care for the mobs rushing through it from all parts of the world toward the gold fields. Like others, he drifted about the gold diggings of "Nevada County," around Marysville, took a little gold, sold out, and returned to Frisco.

Unfortunately Ward omitted dates from his account, but it must have been in 1850 that he joined Col. Hiram Winchester's expedition to the Umpqua and Rogue rivers. "In due course of time," he wrote, we arrived off the Rogue, and a small boat was put forth to sound the channel. The boat was capsized in the breakers, one old sailor was drowned, and the rest reached the shore where they were immediately set upon by Indians and stripped of their clothing."

Seeing this those on shipboard resolved to go to their mates' rescue, lined themselves along the ship's bulwarks to pass word from the pilot, in the bow, to the helmsman, and they headed in. Just as they were about to enter the jaws their mainsail came down with a run and the ship drifted to the south. This event probably saved them from the fate of the Hackstaff, wrecked there in a similar attempt in '49.

With the help of a higher tide, and the swells, they crossed over the bar on the next try. Just as soon as they were securely anchored in the tidal basin armed men took to their boats. When the Indians saw them coming they were eager to return the clothes they had "borrowed" and the unharmed white captives.

A "discovery" party looked over the south side of the river's mouth and explored up the river, but in this latter venture the men had to wade the rapids and haul their boats over them. The Indians kept close watch but did not bother the "discoverers."

As they found no evidence of gold they left the Rogue and set out for their original terminal, the Umpqua.

Ward records bucking head winds on this trip but eventually making port. No Indians were seen about the entrance to the Umpqua and the party proceeded to pick out a townsite, of which Ward did not think a good choice was made.

Some of the party took their bedrolls and some provisions and went on up the river, where they found other optimists had christened and laid out "Scottsburg." According to Ward the party laid out the townsites of Umpqua, Elkton, Winchester, and Washington. They stayed over for a time with Jesse and Charles Applegate and

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## Scouts Celebrate 44th Anniversary

The forty-fourth year of Boy Scouting was celebrated Wednesday evening, February 24 at the I.O.O.F. hall with a birthday party. Present were cub scouts, den mothers, committee members and parents.

Frenchy Arrell, chairman, introduced Bob Huffman, who discussed the procedure of cubs going into scouting. Ernie Wheeler, cub master, gave out registration cards and presented awards to cubs. Some of the boys had as many as five or six silver and gold arrows. Mr. Arrell announced those boys doing outstanding work in Dens 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and introduced the den mothers.

Rotary club, the sponsoring organization, was represented by then returned to their ship, sailing back to San Francisco.

Apparently this was enough exploring for the writer as he didn't make any more trips by boat during his lifetime.

Earl Breuer who gave a short talk. Other committeemen, Blain Gribble and Mr. Chapin were introduced.

A candle lighting service was held which portrayed the three steps in boy scouting, cubs, scouts and explorers.

Refreshments of cake, ice cream and punch were served on the tables arranged in a U shape. Each den had made one of the table decorations and place cards, and paper hats in blue and gold were also made by the boys.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY SUNDAY

Lenn David Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Smith of Harbor celebrated his fifth birthday on Sunday, February 28 with a lawn party. A large cake beautifully decorated with yellow roses, ice cream and punch were served.

Those attending the party were Donna, Cindy and Susan Freeman, Barbara and Johnny Dahlstrom, Ernie and Jeanne Wheeler, Michael and Chloe Leonard and Diane Carson.

### WOMEN'S CLUB MEETS

The regular monthly meeting of the Winchuck Women's Club was held last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Orvin Randall in Smith River. The vice president presided in the absence of the president.

After a short business meeting the members watched a cake decorating demonstration.

The next meeting will be held

## Brookings-Harbor Pilot 7 THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1954

### ALLSUPS IN MEDFORD

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell B. Allsup and children spent the week end at Medford with his brother and family.

at the home of Mrs. Mary Waterman on the Winchuck.

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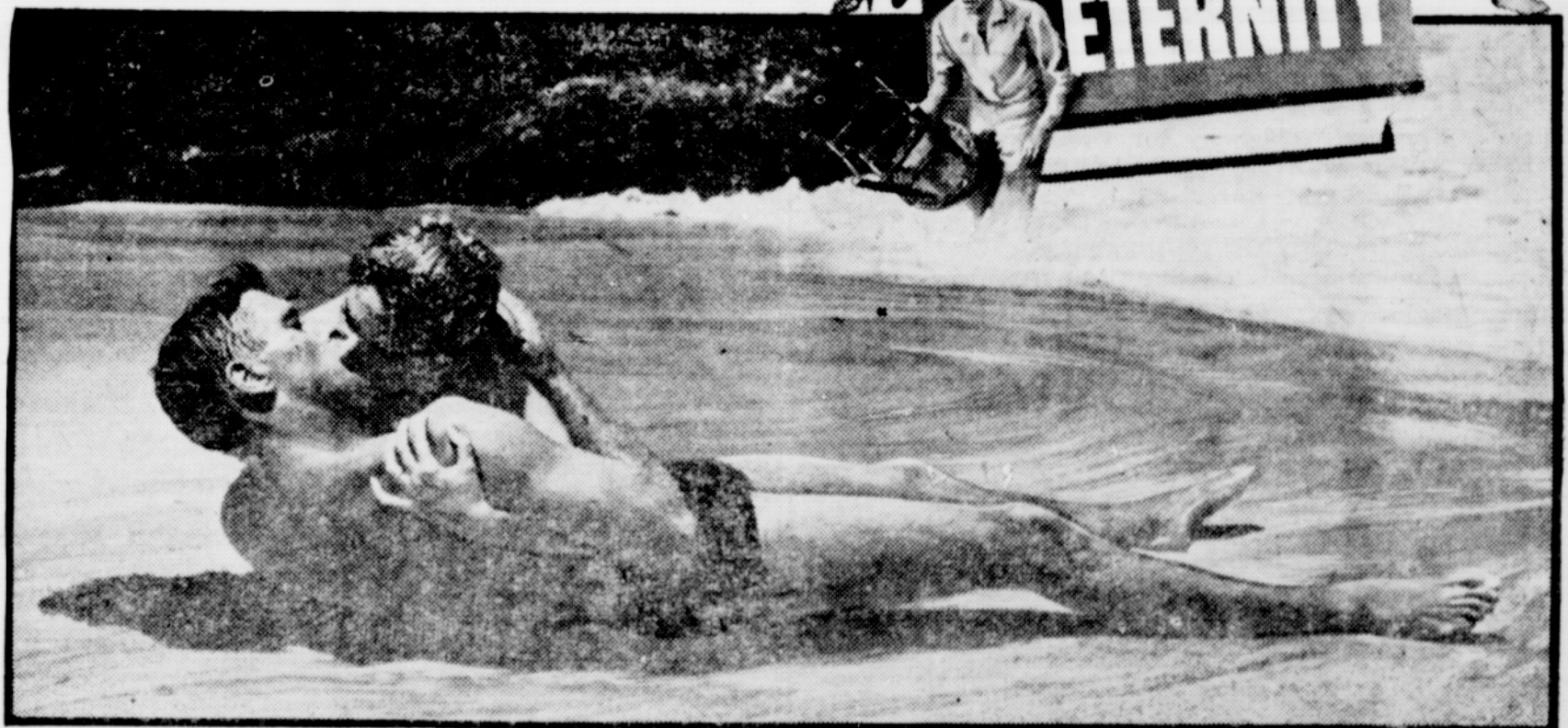
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