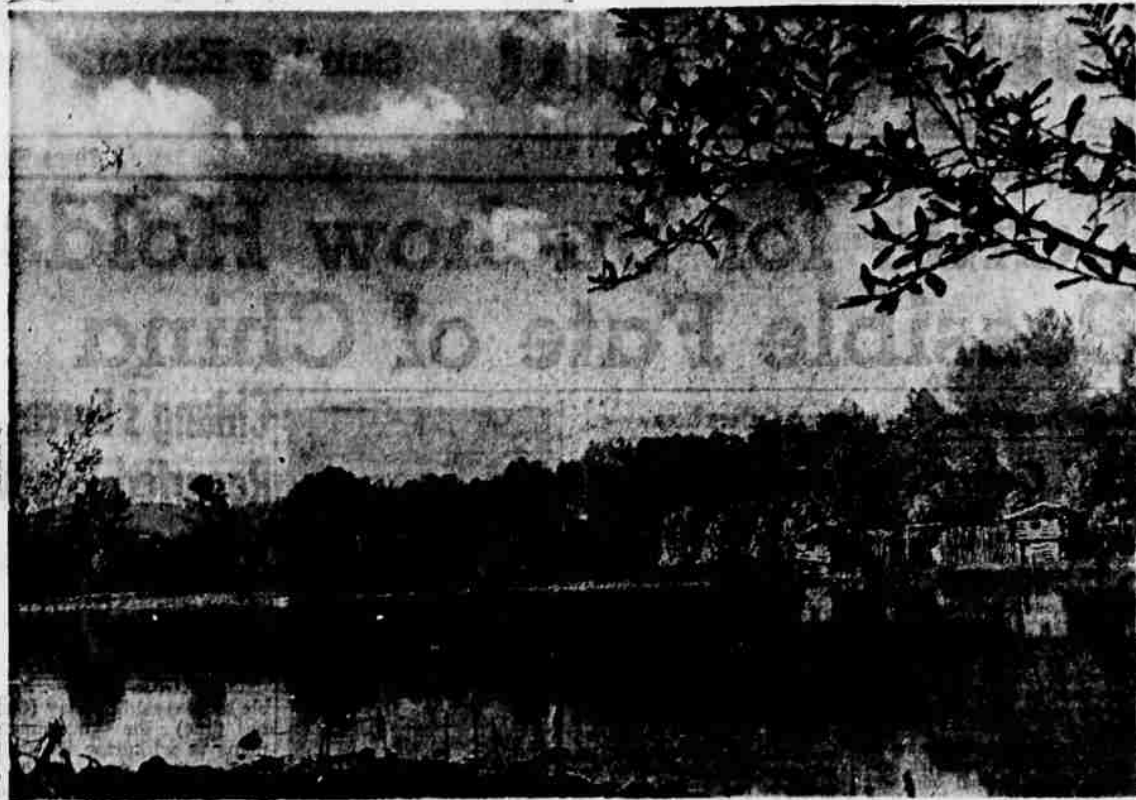




ON THE BANKS OF LANE'S MCKENZIE RIVER, familiar to Hollywood movie makers, RKO built a stockade—a \$30,000 set—and donated it to Eugene Boy Scouts as a recreational center. For several reasons the impressive

gift may never be accepted and come floodtime will probably move gradually down the river as so much more debris. A Register-Guard staff photo shows the colorful structure already succumbing to weather.

'\$30,000' Prize Fails to Pan Out

Scouts Sorry, But Refuse Gift

By R. HARLOW SCHILLIOS

When RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. filmed "Rachel and the Stranger" on Lane's beautiful McKenzie River they probably knew what a wake of curious people would flock to the site as soon as the shooting crew was through.

But even RKO didn't know it would end up as a \$30,000 bobble—a gift that might never be accepted.

With customary bleating of trumpets, publicists for the studio sent the following news release to the press: (A release which has never before enjoyed print).

"The Boy Scouts of Eugene, Oregon, are going to have a recreation center made from the \$30,000 motion picture set which was established for the filming of "Rachel and the Stranger." Loretta Young—William Holden—Robert Mitchum starring vehicle. A Fine Idea

"The center will cost the Boy Scouts \$1, and as a token of their appreciation, the grateful scouts are calling their new club head-

quarters The Young Oregonians Recreation Center in honor of the lovely star who conceived the plan. The center is actually a log-constructed village. A 20-foot palisade surrounds the square, which includes six buildings and two blockhouses. Since the site of the village is on the McKenzie River 10 miles from Eugene, it offers ideal fishing and swimming to the Scouts and their guests." Unquote RKO.

It all sounded good on paper to everyone concerned, including RKO. Everyone, that is, but the nearest property owner who lived next door to the site. To reach the former set, the public had to drive down a private road, cross private property between a farm-

er's home and barn, and open a private gate or two.

But It Had Drawbacks

Awed movie worshippers streamed to the site, and vandals moved along with them like buzzards looking for a few windows to smash, which they did; looking for a cow to shoot, which accidentally or otherwise, they did; meeting hapless chickens that might get in front of cars and be killed; they were; finding fence gates to leave open and let the cattle roam, this, too, they did.

In all, some 25 cases of misdemeanors piled up and, with understandable consideration, the property owner called the state police for protection against trespassers. Signs were posted, about half a dozen of them. Boy Scouts were unfortunately and erroneously blamed for the drunken brawls and vandalism caused in large part by older youth giving vent to "adventure."

Fallen out of Repair

Property owners point out that it would be folly for the Boy Scouts to pour money into the "gift" since the property is subject to periodic floods and the buildings have (RKO to the contrary) a value of "zero."

The plaster-of-paris fireplaces and roofs now let the rains stream in. Supports to the structures are falling down, and while it may have cost \$30,000 in labor to construct the stockade there is no similarity between that figure and the present value.

However, Roger L. Bales, Boy Scout executive, says the location would be "ideal for our use,

especially because of its closeness to nearby cities.

Thanks Just the Same

"If we could only work out some way of keeping away the older kids who have no connection with our organization, it would be fine and we'd certainly like to have this recreation center. But, when vandals began to run freely over the neighbors' property, our service didn't want to have a thing to do with it. The Boy Scouts had nothing to do with the trouble and won't have. But it would be wonderful if we could accept the offer."

Field Scout Executive Harold J. Shearer, Eugene, says the Boy Scouts will not follow through on the offer as long as there is any possibility of friction.

So ends the \$30,000 "recreational center" and, come floodtime, the picturesque stockade will probably solve its own problems.

Credit Bureau Assn. Meeting Postponed

The regular meeting of the Eugene Credit Bureau Association has been postponed from Thursday, Nov. 18, to Nov. 28, when the group will combine with the Chamber of Commerce in a Friday forum meeting.

Principle speaker will be Glen Wade, Salem, publicity director for Northwest Medical-Dental Credit Bureaus.

Under the general topic "Will Your Business Be Next?" Wade will discuss socialization trends in the medical and dental professions and their effect on the layman.

String Quartet Gives Concert

Highlighting Sunday afternoon in Eugene will be the recital of the University String quartet, a school of music faculty group who will be presented by their school in a concert of chamber music.

Opening the program, which is set for 4 o'clock in the afternoon, will be "String Quartet No. 5" by Boccherini. A "Tertetto for two violins and viola" by Dvorak will be the second composition presented by the quartet. And concluding the program will be Mozart's "Quartet No. 17."

Members of the quartet, heard first this season at a University library Browsing Room concert, are Dr. E. A. Cykler, Milton Diet-

KP Lodge, Pythians Plan Annual Roll Call

The annual roll call of Helmet Lodge No. 33, Knights of Pythias, and Helmetta Temple No. 29, Pythian Sisters, will be at Pythian Hall Monday evening, Nov. 15.

Knights and their wives, Pythian Sisters and husbands, and Sunshine Girls will be welcome to attend.

A potluck supper, with meat dish and dessert furnished by the lodge, will be served at 6:30 p.m., and there will be a program following the roll call.

erich, Mary Kapp Allton, and George Boughton.

Townpeople, students, and staff are invited to the recital, which will be held in the music auditorium on the University of Oregon campus.

First Inter-City Meeting Scheduled

SPRINGFIELD—The first in a series of inter-community meetings of the Eugene and Springfield Chambers of Commerce is scheduled at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday at Bob and Gwen's Cafe.

Directors of the boards, committee heads and other key personnel will meet to discuss problems and interests the two cities have in common. Marvin O. Sanders and Orlando John Hollis, presidents of the Springfield and Eugene groups, will be co-chairmen of the meeting.

Consideration will be given in informal discussion to a joint sewage disposal system and a water supply, industry, Lane County roads, the proposed Cascade High-

Housing Expediter Set on Broadcast

With thousands of people piling up over the nation's housing shortage, the Veterans War Relocation Authority will give a special radio program, Sunday a.m. The program will be locally over KORE.

Woods will report on wide investigation of housing violations and answer questions put by Broadcasting Co. on progress made by housing act on the thousands of complaints filed by veterans and over-occupied housing.

way to Portland and activities in the upper River area.

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