



If you've never been to a Lions club "Farmers' Banquet" then you've missed something mighty unusual, and mighty fine. For this is the night, once a year, when the Coquille Lions do their best to entertain the finest group of men in the County—our farmers. For the past three years we've had the pleasure of attending a Lions club farmers' night and always it's a thrill to take part in the festivities.

Designed by the Lions as a means of showing that as businessmen they appreciate the fact that a great part of Coos county's progress is due to the farmers of the area, the banquet is replete

throughout with entertainment, good fellowship, and anecdotes.

This year George Ulett, a city man and a farmer too, was toastmaster. Lloyd Claver who doubles in "farms," too was his assistant. President Harry Slack of the Lions club did much to insure a good banquet and party.

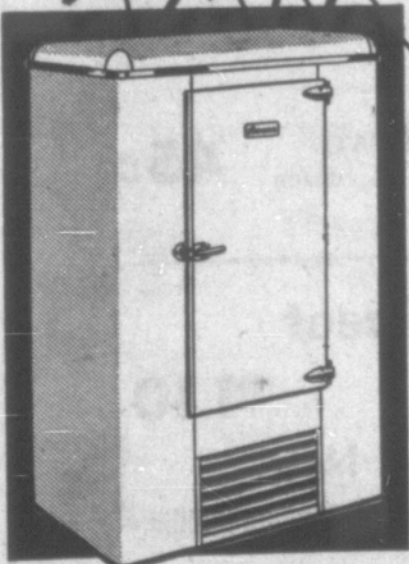
Perhaps the thoughts of the guests could be summed up in these words one of them gave us as we left the banquet the other night: "Things like this make me feel awfully glad that I live in this old world. It's a great place with great guys, yes?" And we echoed the "Yes."

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OUT OF THE WOODS

By Jim Stevens

KNOTS ARE STRONG

The man with the rifle turned like a wildcat toward the rotten bulk of the Douglas fir windfall. Joe Boone read murder in the maniacal eyes and in the grip of clawlike hands on rifle stock and barrel. Now he knew that he must reveal himself and take the one fighting chance that he had for his life.

His right hand tightened on a knot, a solid remnant of a big bough that had grown from the windfall when it was a standing tree. The hard, tough knot was loose in the rotten debris of the once giant tree trunk. Joe tensed, then he drove all the speed and force of his body into an upward thrust of his left arm and in a swing and throw of the knot with his right arm and hand.

There was a little luck for Joe Boone. In that instant the man with the gun was looking a trifle to Joe's right for the sound that had caught his attention. He had to look again and turn toward the new sound. He glimpsed the jagged whirl of the knot toward him. He dodged—too late. The knot struck him between the eyes a tick of time before he squeezed the trigger. The rifle was falling as it spat hot lead. And its owner fell as a stone falls.

"Knots are tough," said Joe Boone, rising in a cold sweat of relief. "Knots are strong."

And truer words were never spoken by any man.

KNOTS ARE WORTH MONEY

Back in 1861 Ezra Hallock and Luther Tuthill sold a considerable number of knots. They had been running an "upright and circular" sawmill in Ellendale, Oregon, for seven years and operating the first Oregon planer. Like most of the pioneer mills, the Ellendale outfit could not handle the large old growth. It took the small trees. Little of the cut was left over. The products of sawmill and planer were sold on a run of the mill basis. Some of it was full of strong, durable knots.

But all was good service lumber. The proof stands today in the Oregon Brunk home, a home that has been lived in at Salem since 1861. I have a clear photograph of the attic.

Four of the 2x6 rafters were evidently cut in success from the same log and happened to be put up in the roof construction in the same order. The one at the front of the picture has a knot that fills a fourth of the rafter's width. The next takes more than a third of the width, the next and the last

rafter widths are well-nigh spanned by the round knots.

There stands Oregon's oldest continuously lived-in house. And there the big, bad knots boldly stare back at the building inspectors.

Saying, "We've been holding our part of this roof up for 87 years, and we're good for another 87 if they keep us dry. What's the kick on us knots, anyway?" "WE GOTTA SELL KNOTS"

What is raising such a disturbance in behalf of knots is the foresters who have knots on the brain—knots on their minds, that is. The specialists in farm forestry are particularly pre-occupied with the marketing of logs and lumber in which knots are common. A log from second-growth farm timber soon shows knots in the heartwood when it is sliced down in the mill. These, of course, are from the earlier growth, the remnants of branches that died and fell away. Smaller log, more knots.

There you have young, strong wood in which the knots are small and tight. On the average, a 2x4 from such a log will serve better for all purposes that call for all-round wood strength, toughness and long life than many a clear 2x4 from an ancient big tree.

The latter, like other "show grades" of lumber, is invaluable for specific uses. Lumber for hard use, working lumber, "service grades," is invaluable for such uses as those illustrated in the fates of Oregon's Brunk home, which has sheltered family life steadily since 1861—for such uses as the framing of houses and farm buildings.

Knots are the work clothes of everyday wood from everyday trees. They are all right. See them in the car stacks that secure tons of lumber on speeding freight trains. See them in old houses, giving enduring service. Then think of the fact that knots have to be sold to make a go of farm forestry and to insure good utilization in the national forests and on industrial tree farms.

It was once believed that Christians might not enter a church to pray without first washing their hands.

COQUILLE, OREGON

APRIL 14, 1949.

Sentinel

ACTION MEN

Producers William Pine and William Thomas continue their policy of making outstanding action pictures for Paramount. Their latest production is "El Paso," filmed in color to co-star John Payne, Gail Russell, Sterling Hayden and George "Gabby" Hayes.

TWO A YEAR

Arleen Whelan, titan-haired beauty in Paramount's "Dear Wife," will only come to Hollywood for pictures twice a year—during the time when her husband's job forces him to leave his New York headquarters for long, semi-annual business trips.



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