

Few Crater Lake Visitors Know Interesting History Of Sculptured Rock Lady

After 21 years the Lady of the Woods remains enveloped in mystery. Few of the thousands who view it every week know the origin or the beginning of this woman sculptured in stone in Crater Lake national park.

Poems, letters and newspaper articles have been written over the years about the mystic Lady of the Woods, the impressions made upon the viewers being as varied as the park visitors are numerous. Clippings and letters are still being received by the sculptor.

The story behind the Lady of the Woods was told 13 years ago in a little pamphlet by William Gladstone Steel, now deceased, who is known as the "father of Crater Lake."

Doctor Was Sculptor

The sculptor was Dr. Earl Russell Bush, now associate medical director of the Western & Southern Life Insurance company, Cincinnati, Ohio. Back in 1917 Dr. Bush was a surgeon at Crater Lake national park when the U. S. engineers were constructing a system of roads. The doctor visited the various camps in the park to take care of the men's health.

"In doing so," Mr. Steel wrote in his pamphlet, "he conceived a deep-seated love for the lake and its environs. Being a lover of nature and having by reason of training and development a deep interest in natural laws, he found this virgin country a great inspiration and food for much thought. The profound impression made upon him by the wilderness increased until after the season was well advanced the desire came to put into definite form some of the emotions that had been aroused.

First Attempt

Seeking to portray the fecundity of a wilderness, which, though to the casual observer may seem quiet, seclusive and unvarying, is nevertheless teeming with millions of different forms of life, he finally decided to attempt the sculpture of a figure in stone. Although he had never attempted modeling or sculpturing in any form it so happened that his inspiration could best be portrayed by the human figure, with which as a doctor he was well acquainted. Wandering at random through the forest he finally found a rock that seemed to fit his purpose. He then called on William Ivy, the government blacksmith, who was an expert in handling steel, and persuaded him to make a set of sculpturing chisels.

"The season was well spent and it was October 4 before he actually commenced his work. Anxious to complete as much of it as possible he labored continuously each day, without model or drawing, until compelled to stop by the necessity of breaking camp on October 19. Further delay in the face of the coming winter was unsafe.

"Although unfinished, the doctor's work nevertheless carries with it the great inspiration which must have been his, and which was the force that made successful a difficult task with which he was entirely unacquainted. While he sought to portray sleeping life, natural beauty and peaceful solitude in the sculptured figure of the most beautiful of God's creatures, he succeeded in portraying numerous other motives which have occurred to individuals who have visited the spot. Unknowingly this figure in stone has been given some of the grace of the Sleeping Ariadne, the sleeping beauty of the days of Caesar Augustus. All who look upon this tribute to the forest linger to admire and leave with thoughts of gratitude to the silent, ever-present power that directs the human mind in mysterious ways. As the years flow silently by it will grow in the public estimation, perhaps become a shrine. How happy the man must be who can pass down to the ages an inspiration like this, uplifting and sublime, stimulating others to attempt in turn an expression of unborn thoughts."



Among those in whom the Lady of the Woods has created a definite emotion is Mrs. Ira Luman (above) of Route 4, Mrs. Luman, who has been writing for seven or eight years, expressed her interpretation of the sculpture in a poem. The poem follows:

The Lady of the Woods
Great Mazama, mighty mountain,
Proud and snow-capped monarch,
Looked across the lesser mountains,
Heard the soaring eagles' call,
Royal robes of pine and hemlock,
Decked with laurel, oak and fir,
Dwelling place of nymph and dryad,
Red men worship from afar.
Ventured not too near the fastness
Where the Sacred Being dwelt,
Looked with awe upon Mazama,
Looked with awe, and humbly knelt.
Among the nymphs was one so lovely
All the creatures of the wild
Waighed with wonder unabated,
Knew her as the Goddess-Child.
Small and graceful, full of laughter,
Knew her power, and loved it well,
Saw the love of Rogue-the-Fair god,
Loved him, too, but would not tell.
Heard him plead, and coldly answered,
Laughed, and coolly turned away:
"Yes, my Rogue," her heart made answer,
"Yes, my love, but—not today."
Vain and selfish in her beauty,
Heeded not his wooing song,
Nor his plea for her surrender,
Mocking at his love so strong.
Rogue, the favored of the high gods,
Angry they to see him spurned,
Great the vengeance of the high ones,
High, and higher, anger burned:
Yearned they to destroy the beauty
Of that lofty mountain home,
Longed to hush the careless laughter
Of the goddess, Heart-of-Stone.

FORESTRY CLASS IS ORGANIZED BY PEANUT CCC BOYS

HAYFORK, Cal. (Sp)—A forestry class has been organized at Camp Peanut here for members of the 210th CCC company. The boys, all from the east, are showing great interest. The class had to be limited to 25 owing to inability to handle instruction of a larger number. The boys have learned much of the tremendous task of forest conservation since coming west where they have been engaged in fighting such enemies of the trees as fire diseases and injurious insects.

Officers of the class include Joe Purcell, president; Louis Lottio, vice president; Steve Ondek, secretary; Raymond McAlarney, treasurer; sergeant at arms, Jack McLaughlin; Robert Irwin and Pat McAuley.

The class is instructed by Earl Keegan, one of the leaders in the camp and is supervised by Educational Adviser Jack H. Vincent. The army personnel and D. A. foreman are cooperating in every way possible. Arrangements are being made for a field trip to Eureka to see the Redwood trees in that vicinity.

Now within Mazama's caverns
Livid fires and gases rolled
Porching high a lava fountain,
Molten terror, uncontrolled;
Swelled and burst in wild upheaval,
Rocked the far Pacific shore,
Thundered thru this land primeval—
And Mazama was no more.
Where it stood in guardian splendor
Yawned a crater, wide and deep;
Gone, the forest, gone, its creatures,
Desolate the ruins sleep.
Sleep till Manitou in mercy
Clothes once more the mighty
steeps
With the beauty of the pine trees,
With the waterfall that leaps,
Green the forest, gone the dryads,
Are they now the bright eyed
slipping softly thru its shadows,
Thru its meadows without fear,
And the crater of Mazama
Is a chalice, deep and clear,
With the bite of magic water,
Can it be the goddess' tears?
Where is she who caused this
In that world of long ago.

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SOLDIERS, SAILORS HOLD REUNION IN PARK AT G. PASS

The forty-sixth annual reunion of the Southern Oregon Soldiers' and Sailors' association was held in Riverside park at Grants Pass, August 18. Officers present were Colonel Commander Sirena Vroman, Gold Hill; Major Commander J. C. Woods, Central Point; and Lieutenant Colonel Commander Mary E. Robbins of Grants Pass. In the absence of the adjutant, Anna W. Harmon of Grants Pass acted in that capacity.

During the day 73 registered, of whom two were Civil War veterans, two United Spanish War veterans, one World War veteran, 37 members of the Woman's Relief Corps, 22 members of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, six members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and other friends. An honored guest was Dr. W. E. Buchanan, department commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, of Eugene, who gave a very interesting talk immediately following the bountiful dinner served at noon. About 100 members and friends gathered about the dinner table, and at that time Melvin and Ray Newby favored with two songs.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Comrade Sirena Vroman, colonel commander; Comrade J. C. Woods, major commander; Mrs. Madge Dorman, lieutenant colonel commander; and Rev. H. S. Reichard, chaplain; E. A. Pelletier of Gold Hill was chosen as adjutant. It was decided to hold the 1939 meeting at Gold Hill.

An important decision of the association was that all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the United States and their auxiliaries are entitled to become members of the association, which was organized by members of the Grand Army of the Republic and has been carried on by the O.A.R. and its affiliated orders, and the secretary was instructed to notify the proper officers of the various organizations of that decision.

An interesting program was given at 2:30, which began with singing led by Mrs. Viola Wilken and Mrs. Elizabeth Megaral, with Mrs. Marjorie Bonney at the piano, followed by the salute to the flag. W. C. Harmon, commander of the local camp Sons of Union Veterans extended a welcome and announced that the beautiful gladioli which they had provided were to be given to the guests.

Comrades Vroman and Woods had attended the Gettysburg reunion, and Mrs. Piella Woods, who went as her husband's escort, gave a very interesting account of their trip and of her Gettysburg impressions.

Following are the resolutions adopted: "Whereas, in this day when there is a marked feeling of unrest within our nation, caused by the alleged inroads of philosophies of government foreign to, and incompatible with, our cherished form of government, there is a crying need for emphatic re-dedication to the principles which have preserved this nation; and

"Whereas, this association stands for the highest type of citizenship thought and paid for with the sacrificial devotion of heroic men and women; and

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we call upon our membership to renew their devotion to the highest interests of our beloved country, lending their influence by word and life to the nurture of those principles embodied in our flag and our national constitution; and

"Be it further resolved, that we express our sincere appreciation to the committee in charge, from General Loan Woman's Relief Corps No. 25, and Julia Dent Grant Tent No. 10, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and James Holman Camp No. 10, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, for their gracious and abundant hospitality during this our 46th annual reunion; to the Grants Pass Daily Courier for the publicity given; to all who took part in the program, and especially to Dr. P. L. Wemmet for his splendid patriotic address."

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POETRY OF NAME PLUS POETRY OF MOTION is combined in above fountain-sprayed Court of the Moon to be found on Treasure Island, San Francisco Bay site of the 1939 Golden Gate International exposition. Beyond the fountain looms 400-foot Tower of the Sun.

First Negro Town. EATONVILLE, Fla. — (AP) — Investigators of the Federal Writers' project of Florida report that they have substantiated this Orange county hamlet's claim that it was the first incorporated town for negroes in the United States. Eatonville, located a short distance northwest of Orlando, received its charter of incorporation in 1883.

Forgot "Tails" Side. WABASH, Ind. — (AP) — Police are seeking a lazy counterfeiter who made bogus nickels with an Indian head on one side and nothing on the other.

Patriotic Square. BERKELEY, Cal. (UP) — The city council has decided to rename one of the city's squares "Constitutional Place" in honor of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the American constitution.

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