



**PROUDLY HOLDING TWINS**, Actor Fred MacMurray and wife, Actress June Haver, greet photographers after Los Angeles court approves their adoption of Laurie Anne (left) and Katie Marie, seven months old. (International)

## OUT OF THE WOODS

by JIM STEVENS

### Recreation Center

Seaback was born a camp in 1896, with other footholds of pioneer lumbering on the shores of Hood Canal. Set back in a little bay that made a snug harbor from the winds of the Olympic's glacial gorges, the settlement offered a good site for log booms and sawmill, and a safe channel and anchorage for lumber ships.

After the Civil War a steam sawmill was built at Seaback. The mill kept its crews working right steadily, outside of shutdowns for repairs and expansion, until the nearby timber of good quality began to give out. The depression of the early 1890s added low lumber prices to mounting logging costs. Fire solved the economic problem by burning the sawmill and docks down to the high-tide waterline of the piling.

Many departed, but others loved the scene and their homes too well to pull up stakes and move on to fall and neat timber. They stayed, "making out," and enjoyed the life of a quiet tidewater community, with as handsome a view of inland sea, and mighty mountains as any place in the world could show. There were cutovers and fire scars on the island around Seaback. But seedlings were showing amid the stumps and brush. And fire was kept out.

Nature's Renewal.

Public highway building brought the automobile to Hood Canal after World War I, and on the canal, as on all Puget Sound, fleets of motorboats were added to the sailboats and yachts of summer pleasure-seekers and vacationists in waterways of the Evergreen State's outdoors which tourists named "The Charmel Land." Seaback, like many other old logging centers, was born anew as a center of forest recreation, privately owned and paying taxes.

The saplings on the old Seaback cutovers had grown into tall trees, many of saw-timber size, as the 1920s roared on to the Great Depression. And so the scene changed all along the shores of Hood Canal, where fire had been stopped.

It was green again, and with blue water, and far snow peaks that blazed in summer sunsets, the scene was glorious. Pictures of Hood Canal and the Olympic Mountains were printed in color in national magazines by the Progress Commission, on the theme, "It's cool, it's green, it's great—Washington State!"

Church Forest

With the birth and growth of the Washington-Northern Idaho Council of Churches, Seaback became a rallying ground for the region's Protestants every summer.

Each June the tall young trees heard the hymns and prayers of morning devotions with lectures from around the world, and with group discussions through mornings and afternoons, ending with vespers.

In the evenings, amid forest shadows and murmurs, there were more talks and debates by the faithful. A fellowship hour closed each day of a Council of Churches summer conference at Seaback. A communion service was held on the last evening of the outdoor season of faith.

So the pattern of the Seaback summer program for the Council of Churches was developed in the years of the depression, through World War II, and the turn of the half-century. Seaback became the "farthest reach," the outpost of the Northwest, for an ancient American tradition in sustaining faith in God and His works. The camp meeting, the village meeting-house, the crossroads chapel. The brush-arbor service in the timber.

### Around Hollywood

United Press Correspondent  
By ALINE MOSBY

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Jean Simmons and Stewart Granger, a couple of elegant Londoners, move to a ranch in the wild and woolly west next spring, and Granger, at least, may say good-bye to the movies.

"I'd like to settle down and work less," Jean said today. "I don't want to give up acting completely because I enjoy it so much. We'll spend time in Hollywood the first five years, anyway, because we'll have to pay for the ranch. We've sold our house here and will stay in a hotel.

"But Jimmy (her husband's real name) wants to give up acting and make our ranch a working ranch. He loves ranching—it's something he's wanted to do for a long time."

Took the Plunge

The Grangers took the plunge last summer and bought the ranch, plus 800 head of cattle, on a tip from a South Dakota cowboy, Homer Brown, whom Granger met on location for a movie. Homer is now running the ranch for the Grangers until their adobe house is built. They will add horses, dogs, pigs and chickens to the place then move in.

A couple of limeys on a New Mexico ranch? It is extraordinary.

the future rancher's wife said in her English accent. "Our friends in London think we're crazy. So do our friends here. They say it will be so lonely—our neighbors are 14 miles away. The nearest town is Silver City.

"But we don't go out much here. We enjoy staying home. We like the cozy family life. The ranch will be great for our three children. They'll probably grow up with a western twang."

Blue Jeans, Boots

Granger has two children by a previous marriage, and he and Jean recently welcomed their first baby, Tracy. Jean now is back at work at MGM in "This Could Be the Night." But between scenes she talks excitedly of blue jeans and cowboy boots, of square dances and horses.

"Me, I see the glamour side of it," she said. "We have a name for our ranch—the T-4-J, after the first names of the family. I don't want to brand the cattle—just put blue ribbons on them!"

"We have mountain lion, coyotes, deer and bear on our ranch and when you go horseback riding you take along two dogs to sniff out the rattlesnakes!"

"This is a long way," said the glamorous cowgirl-to-be, "from Cracklewood, England, where I came from."

Budgeted — (U.P.)—The Budapest Workers Council said Saturday that 4,870 families lost their homes during the battle of Budapest.

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