

Entrance Gained To Post Office Through Tree

Richardson Grove, Calif. — The entrance to the Richardson Grove post office is through the heart of a living tree.

The unique doorway is one of several huge openings found in California's redwood empire's ancient trees in Humboldt county, 200 miles north of San Francisco.

Another huge cavity in a 3,500-year-old redwood near Myrtle Flat serves as a drive-through for automobiles with a shrill hoot in.

Both trees are examples of the special abilities redwoods have to survive enormous wounds by fire. One such redwood still grows and thrives despite being struck by flames to a height of 50 feet.

Some scientists believe redwoods, the world's prime example of the will to live, have special chemicals to attain their great age and size.

The ancient trees heal certain types of wounds by covering them with a burl, a sort of combination scab and bandage. The burls themselves, if cut off from the tree and placed in water, grow and send forth feathery spires of redwood foliage.

Other redwood trees brought to earth by flood, winds, or earthquake, cling to life tenaciously. Some of them have become known as "reincarnation trees," because new trees sprout from the fallen trunk.

One example of the redwood's ability to protect itself was discovered recently near Fort Bragg, on the California coast. Workers found a cache of acorns in the heart of a redwood log.

Foresters theorize that a woodpecker had hacked out a nest in the stump of a young tree and that subsequently the nest had been covered over by a squirrel. Apparently the squirrel forgot where he stored the acorns and in time the redwood sealed over the hole and continued to grow.



POINTING TO HOSTILE WITNESS, Mrs. Delphine Smith, Stephen Wereb, ex-FBI undercover agent, tells congressional subcommittee in Los Angeles he knew her as a Communist. Mrs. Smith talks to Attorney William Murish, ignoring charge. (International)

Japanese Salvage Experts Gambling On Sunken BULLION

Darwin — Japanese salvage experts are gambling \$70,000 in hopes of getting more than a million dollars in sunken bullion.

The Okadagumi company of Tokyo has bought the remains of the four ships lying on the bottom of Darwin Harbor where they were sunk in a World War II air raid Feb. 19, 1942.

There has never been an official denial that one of the ships, the American destroyer Peary, had more than a million dollars worth of Philippines gold aboard when she went down. The other three ships bought were the Meigs, Mauna Loa and Zealandia.

The salvage company paid a Darwin beachcomber, Carl Atkinson, \$70,000 for rights to the four hulks for more than 10 years after "buying" them right after the war for a few hundred pounds.

"Skindiver" Atkinson salvaged two trucks from the freighter Mauna Loa in 1946, but when Australian customs officials tried to collect duty on them, he calmly dropped the vehicles back into the ocean.

Three years later the officials changed their minds and Atkinson was allowed to land duty-free any material he salvaged from the four hulks. The trucks were again raised and brought ashore. They were found to be in astonishingly good mechanical condition with the tires still inflated.

Alkali Bees Said To Be Worth \$25,000

Prosser, Wash. — Farmer George O'Brien says tiny alkali bees that live in the ground on his Columbia Basin farm are worth \$25,000 to him.

He has even spent several hundred dollars to protect the little bees from birds and skunks by building wire baskets over the patch of ground in which the bees make their home.

O'Brien raises alfalfa seed and says his tiny friends help him do a better job by pollinating the alfalfa. He says the alkali bees are faster and more efficient than ordinary bees because they are smaller.

Thanks in great part to his bees, O'Brien gets an average yield of about a thousand pounds of alfalfa seed per acre.

has made a careful search of the Peary. Atkinson claims he has never been able to locate the bullion. It reportedly was put aboard the destroyer just prior to the fall of the Philippines and still was aboard when Japanese planes bombed and sank the ships here.

The Japanese company has the ownership of the hulks, but it still has to get permission from the Australian government to salvage the ships.

There is still considerable anti-Japanese feeling in Australia, and if permission is denied, the world probably will never know whether the gold is still aboard the Peary, and the Okadagumi company will be in the unusual position of having a possible million dollars worth of assets it can't touch.

FRENCH ATMOSPHERE
Saranac Lake, N.Y. — This Adirondack Mountain community has acquired a Parisian flavor with the installation of six book stalls which formerly stood by the Seine River in Paris. The book stalls are the gifts of "unidentified" friends of Saranac Lake now living in France.

Of 14,200 persons killed in on-the-job accidents in all industries in 1955, approximately 3,700 were killed in farm work.

TABLE ROCK Long-time Resident Dies

By R. E. NEALON

Table Rock — This community lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens with the death of H. W. Davison Dec. 4.

Davison came to the area some 39 years ago when he purchased the Table Rock store, which he operated until 1935. A Christian, and a kindly man, he sold many goods to needy persons who were to pay when they "got on their feet." Although many failed to do this, it didn't in any way dim his faith in God or humanity.

He and his family were connected with church work in Central Point when coming here, but they soon became interested in the local Sunday school and Davison served terms as superintendent and teacher of the Bible class.

His smiling face and cheery conversation will be greatly missed at the Table Rock store, and we join with the other neighbors in extending sympathy to those who will miss him most.

Mrs. William Bishop writes from Kansas City that parking tickets come higher in that city than in Medford. She learned this when she left her car too long by an un-nourished meter, for which offense she put \$1.50 into the city's piggy bank and was told that the next offense would be \$3, and the third \$5. She is thinking of riding the bus from now on.

Orville Hamilton, local manager of the Modoc orchards was among valley fruit growers attending the annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural society in Corvallis last Thursday and Friday.

Our report that Lilac, the Wheeler heifer, was missing and that neither hide nor hair of her could be found, was hardly out, when she was discovered in one piece in a feed lot on the Table Top ranch, making herself at home among hundreds of other cattle. Mrs. Wheeler was so glad to find her that she has about decided not to put her into the deep freeze as she had threatened.

Patrons of our local telephone lines have been complaining for some time about the difficulty of getting the line for business on account of it being used as a means of visiting. Most of the complaints come from those with phones on line No. 09 and No. 82, with one having nine phone connections and one with

eight. If we could time our calls to about five minutes, it would make it better for all concerned.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore Hamilton of Medford visited relatives here Sunday evening. They report that their son, Alexander, now a student of George Washington university, and Miss Elizabeth McDowell of Sioux Falls, S.D., are to be married at a January wedding in Washington, D.C.

Miss McDowell, a Republican, is employed in the office of Sen. Carl Mundt, while Alex is employed in the U.S. Senate under patronage of Democratic Senator Wayne Morse.

Table Rock Ladies club will hold their December meeting at the home of Mrs. Everett Brown, Wednesday, Dec. 12. Mrs. Brown will be assisted by Mrs. Hobart Moore and Mrs. Manley Jacobson. There will be an exchange of gifts.

The annual neighborhood Christmas tree and entertainment will be held at the school house Friday night, Dec. 21. Those in charge of the program would like each family to furnish a number for the program.

Program material and a place on the program can be obtained by seeing Mrs. Brown.

Sunday visitors at the local Sunday school were Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Randall of Medford, the Rev. Alan Hill and family of Central Point, and Miss Gwen Birkland of Sams Valley.

The fifty black Angus cattle on pasture at the Ed Taylor farm for the past month were taken Saturday to the feed yards of the owner, Armin Richter at Applegate.

We have just received a story from Holly Swingle of Forest Acres that we think the game commission should hear. It seems that his registered boar got out during the heavy fog, and wandered over near the Bybee bridge. When found in a ditch beside the road he had been shot three times with different guns. A shotgun, a .22 rifle, and a high powered game rifle. Besides this, the hog had been "stuck," showing that the would-be "sportsman" had intended to dress out the carcass for meat when scared away.

Such action as this is what causes farmers to be allergic to hunters on their property.

Americans Intrigued By French Chateau

Nancy, France — (U.P.) — Tourists are flocking to the historic Chateau de Fleville near here, one of the great chateaux of France, now open to the public for the first time.

American visitors particularly are intrigued by the diploma granted an ancestor of the present owner by Gen. George Washington for his aid in the American Revolution.

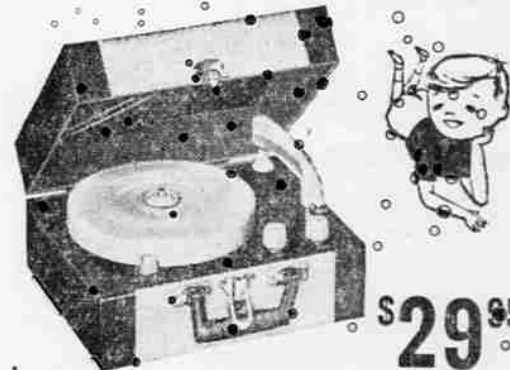
By descent the owners of the chateau, the oldest parts of

which date from the 12th century, are members of the American Society of the Cincinnati. Among other items of interest in the castle is the bedroom of King Stanislas, ruler of Poland in 1704 and sovereign of the Duchies of Bar and Lorraine.

There are more than 4,000 varieties of barley in the collection in the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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Thursday NIGHT—DEC. 13

AT THE LODGE

For Members Only!

FREE!

REFRESHMENTS from

5 to 7 • Dinner at 6:30

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