

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Save Our Scenery

An "S.O.S.-Save Our Scenery!" has been sent out by the Save the Redwoods League. That slogan, with others, has aided in the preservation of the great redwoods. It is hoped that it will alert the public also to the importance of full protection of Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe.

The outstanding character of Emerald Bay State Park and adjoining D. L. Bliss State Park, on Lake Tahoe, is praised in a resolution passed unanimously by the board of directors of the Save-the-Redwoods League. The league in 1953 contributed funds to aid the state to preserve the forests at Emerald Bay. The urgent need for keeping this scenic gem unharmed is expressed in the resolution, we are told, in the 1959 bulletin of the league.

If the improvement of highway conditions (expected to take place in the comparatively near future) is planned, conservationists, travel organizations and others who recognize the outstanding beauty of Emerald Bay, urge that rather than the construction of a bridge across Emerald Bay, with the attendant defacement of unspoiled landscape by several miles of approach, roads, every effort and all the ingenuity of the highway engineers be devoted to the design of an improved highway along the approximate line of the present spectacular "high line" route, whatever the cost. This would prevent destruction of one of the truly great landscapes of America.

Theodore Roosevelt, speaking at Stanford University on May 12, 1903, said: 'Here in California I want to make a special appeal to all of you, and to California as a whole, for work along a certain line - the line of preserving your great natural advantages alike from the standpoint of use and from the standpoint of beauty ... In California you have some of the great wonders of the world. You have a singularly beautiful landscape, singularly beautiful and singularly majestic scenery, and it should certainly be your aim to try to preserve for those who are to come after you that beauty, to try to keep unmarred that majesty.

"I appeal to you ... to protect the mighty redwoods, these wonderful monuments of beauty. I appeal to you

to protect them for the sake of their beauty, but I also make the appeal just as strongly on economic grounds."

"Learn to read a trailside like a book." C. M Goethe has written. Today we read that Charles M Goethe, a Sacramento scientist, conservationist, and philanthropist, has announced that he is going to give to the state another Redwood Grove in Humboldt County.

This same Charles M. Goethe the donor of the Mary Glide Goethe Grove in memory of his late wife, said the new redwood tract will honor Newton B. Drury, State director of the Division of Beaches and Parks, and his brother, Aubrey Drury. Both were early leaders in the Save the Redwoods League. It will consist of a large number of the stately trees in the Mary Glide Goethe Grove in Prairie Creek State Park north of Orick.

Fifty years ago, in 1908, Muir Woods, in Marin County, was given to the United States by William Kent and his wife, Elizabeth Thacher Kent. At their request it was named in honor of John Muir, noted traveler, naturalist, and writer. It was established by proclamation by President Theodore Roosevelt. This famous monument now contains 485 acres of federal land.

The 25th anniversary of the preservation of Point Lobos was held last Oct. 25 when the Save the Redwood League came to the Peninsula to observe that occasion. The League was largely responsible in saving Lobos and its native grove of Monterey Cypress, in cooperation with the California Park Commission and local citizens in 1833.