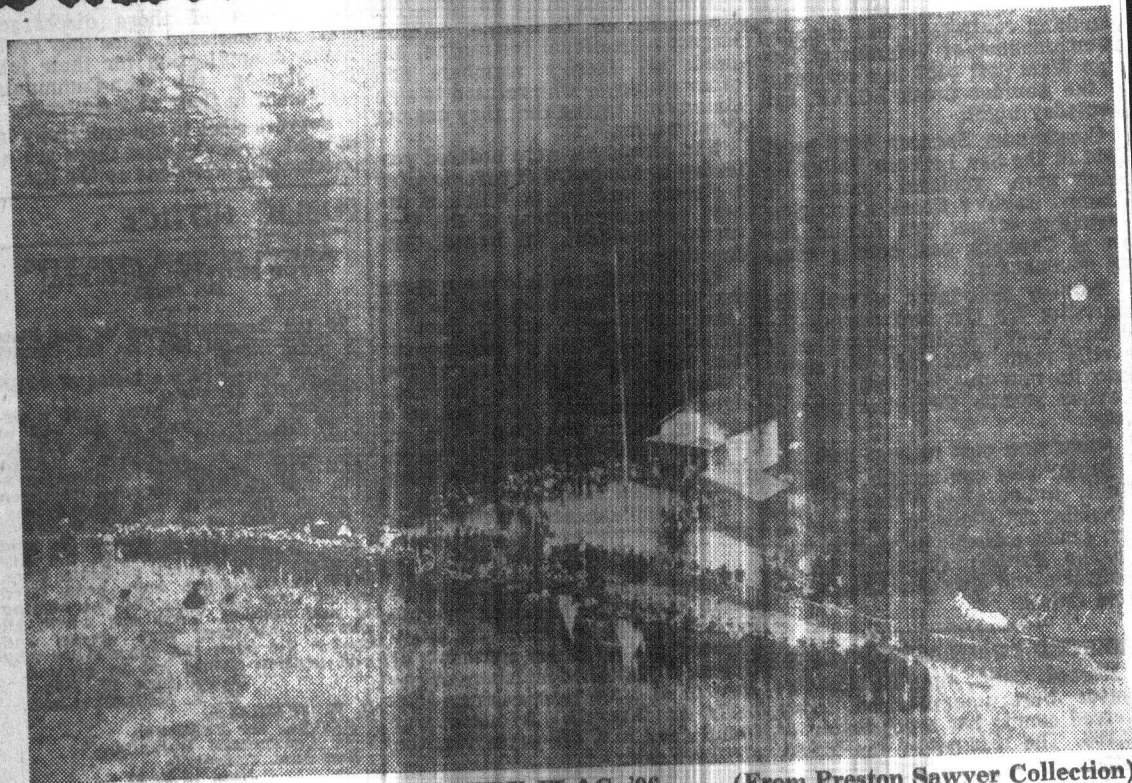


# Santa Cruz Yesterdays



## GLENWOOD SCHOOL GETS INFANTRY FLAG, '96

(From Preston Sawyer Collection)

The little one-room schoolhouse of 1896 at Glenwood was located some distance this side of the village. Proudly it had its own station on the mountain narrow gauge line of South Pacific Coast railroad. This had been arranged for voluntarily by an official of the company, after a chance conversation one morning with the young teacher, Josephine L. Cooney of Santa Cruz. She was fresh from normal school at San Jose and on her first teaching job.

About this time widespread attention was drawn to the woodland hamlet, even as it was last Thursday, with dedication of a state memorial plaque to the town's founders, the C. C. Martins.

### Had No Flag

Soldiers had marched by, en route to Santa Cruz, and Glenwood's modest small temple of learning among the redwoods had no flag to unfurl in salute to their passing. Enterprising Miss Cooney, along with her 14 pupils, keenly felt the lack. So she did something about it. She wrote a letter to Col. Evan Miles in command of the First Infantry, U.S.A., then in camp in Santa Cruz.

The troops were here on the annual camp of instruction lasting four weeks. Headquarters for the period was "Camp Garfield" at Garfield Park. Composed of soldiers from Benicia Barracks and Angel Island, the regiment had begun its trek at the San Francisco Presidio. The march, with nightly camping along the way simulating actual campaign practices, required a week. The quartermaster department provided a wagon train carrying equipment and food. Heavier materiel was transported by rail.

### Soldiers Offer Banner

In response to the resourceful teacher's suggestion, Col. Miles wrote, in part: "... as to having the First Infantry, when it reaches

Glenwood, en route back to the Presidio, take part in a program there to assist in raising money for a flag for the school. I will say: It affords me pleasure to inform you that ... (naming 17 officers) ... present with the regiment will present a flag to your school ... and it will be a pleasure to have appropriate ceremonies by the command, with patriotic airs played by our band, when you are ready to have the flag unfurled ..."

So it was that 400 infantrymen and officers, plus children and adults from round about, gathered at the schoolyard Friday afternoon, Sept. 18, 1896, to witness the unusual ceremonies that received wide publicity and attention at the time.

A tall young tree in the nearby forest had been selected and cut for a pole, trimmed and erected before the school, as shown in the picture. With appropriate words, Capt. L. O. Parker made the formal presentation and the flag-raising was to the tunes of the First Infantry band. A. B. Coffee, a leading educator and orator of the time, made the principal address. School Superintendent J. W. Linscott was present from Santa Cruz and also spoke, as did D. C. Clark.

A ball was given that night in Glenwood. The regiment camped over night there, the first camp-out on the return trip to San Francisco.

Miss Cooney taught in Glenwood for two years. After that came six years in Santa Cruz schools, before she married. She is now Mrs. Daniel A. Ryan of San Francisco, who often comes to visit here at the family home.

"I was truly grieved when I heard a few years later that my little schoolhouse had burned down," said Mrs. Ryan the other day.