

BIG ESTATE IS GIVEN TO THE GIRL SCOUTS

Eagle Island in Saranac Lake
Presented by Henry Graves to
Oranges and Maplewood

WAS LEVI MORTON HOME

Value of Gift Is Estimated as
High as \$1,000,000—Facilities
for Above 100 Campers

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ORANGE, N. J., Aug. 29.—Henry Graves, formerly identified with large cement interests, has made an outright gift to Girl Scouts in the Oranges and Maplewood of an improved twenty-acre island in the upper part of Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, it was disclosed today by Girl Scout leaders here. Estimates on the value of the gift range from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.

Known as Eagle Island, the site, which several decades ago was the Summer home of the late Governor Levi P. Morton of New York, was officially accepted by Mrs. William F. Campbell of South Orange and Mrs. Franklin Terry of Maplewood. The former represented the Girl Scouts Council of the Oranges and the latter Temple Wood Council.

Story Started Month Ago

The story behind acquisition of the island begins about a month ago, when a search was started for a new site to replace the present camp at White Lake, near Blairstown, N. J., used for the last five Summers by members of the Oranges and Maplewood Councils. Mrs. Archer Bachman of South Orange, chairman of the camp committee, and her husband, who is acquainted with Mr. Graves, learned Eagle Island might be for sale.

They later reported that the Saranac site could be bought for what was called "the astoundingly low figure of \$20,000." Mr. Graves, who occupied the island for thirty years, ceased vacationing there last year. Negotiations were started after Mrs. Campbell and camp experts of both councils had visited the site. Plans were mapped for a drive to raise funds—and then came the surprise gift.

Recently representatives of national headquarters inspected the island to determine whether official approval should be given to its purchase. The approval was quickly forthcoming. Several days later leaders here were notified that Mr. Graves had decided to give the island and everything on it to the Girl Scouts in memory of his two deceased sons, Henry Graves 3d and George Coe Graves. Mr. Graves formerly lived in the Oranges.

Contains Large Lodge

About a half mile from shore the island contains one large Adirondacks lodge, fourteen small buildings of log-cabin style, picnic grounds and a tennis court.

There are boats, canoes and a speed boat which is said to be worth more than \$5,000. Bathing facilities include a shallow pool for beginners, a sand beach and a deep pool with a dock for swimmers.

Each building is fully equipped with electric lights and water and sanitary facilities. There are twenty-four large bedrooms, with a bath for every two or three rooms. It is estimated that accommodations are available to house easily more than 100 campers. Facilities at the present camp at White Lake have been taxed beyond capacity.