

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1939

## The Traffic Booth

By ROBERT DEED

HISTORIC LAND is being developed at Ramapo Heights, near Sloatsburg, by Robert H. Gittins, planning a colony of homes around a village green. The tract is from the old Spencer Patent, dating from 1775, the year a certain revolution started and spared certain territorial possessions of King George from having to send men to the Rhine valley. Good Ramapo names like Allen, Dater and Sloat appear on the deeds.

Newburgh was a whaling port (New Bedford is almost equally inland, mind you) when Abner Allen had a small factory on Stony Brook Pond on this property to make three-cornered hoes for scraping the hulls of whaling ships.

"Uncle" Jake Waldron of Sloatsburg was, it is said, the first carpenter employed in building Tuxedo Park. He suffered a fatal gunshot wound while working on Spruce Lake dam at Ramapo Heights many years ago. Carrying a gun for a little hunting on the side as he worked in the sylvan dam site was his downfall. He accidentally stepped on the gun, which wounded him badly in the foot. Infection was fatal.

Ramapo Heights contains 225 acres suitable for development, the publicity tells us.

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