

THE FAMILY TREE

Published by Potlatch Forests, Inc.

Vol. III

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No. 3

MERRY CHRISTMAS



MERRY CHRISTMAS SALESMEN!

We are coming to the end of a year, during most of which we have been operating on a slow bell. March and December have been the only months with a satisfactory volume. Our hope that demand for lumber for buildings and residences would give us a good volume was only partly realized; while our railroad and industrial business fell off to dismally low figures.

We do have now, however, a good order file reaching over the first of the year, with each mail bringing in more orders from the fellows on the road. We think we are a "Good Outfit" and we know we have the resources in lumber, logs, equipment and personnel to handle all the business we can get. A lot of people think business will be good in 1939 and we know that, good or bad, we shall get our share.

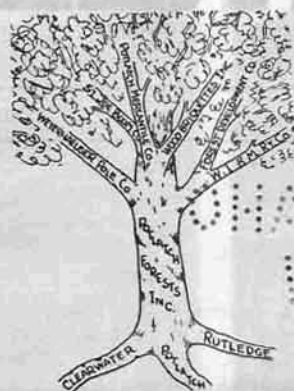
It is with this thought that our officers, stockholders and employees join with the management in wishing, for our salesmen, their helpers and their bosses a . . . VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

C. L. BILLINGS,
General Manager.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Bob Alexander

THE FAMILY TREE



Published by Potlatch Forests, Inc., Once Monthly for Free Distribution to Employees.

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 Miss B. Stoddard, Coeur d'Alene..... Assoc. Editor
 Carl Pease, Headquarters Assoc. Editor
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 Jack Eaton, Coeur d'Alene News Correspondent

"He has a right to criticize who has a heart to help."

Down the Editor's Alley

MEMORANDUM TO:

C. L. BILLINGS

Every year since *The Family Tree* began publication we of the offices and mills and woods have asked you for a Christmas message of good cheer. Every year we got it. Last time things weren't going so hot and we knew how you felt. We've had a lot of other things too, that only you can give. So this is from us to you. "CLB," MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

"Most interesting," said the sweet young thing to the auto salesman. "Now show me the depreciation; I hear it is quite heavy in these cars."

"As a matter of fact, madam," replied the opportunist, "we have found it quite a source of worry, and have had it removed altogether."

Alex McGregor was looking at a pair of army officer's laced boots, soft and shiny but with calks in the soles.

"My God," said Alex, "aren't they lovely?"

Santa Claus Finds Happy Throngs Waiting In All Three Units of Potlatch Forests, Inc.

Christmas season found all three units of Potlatch Forests, Inc., scenes of holiday festivity and the employees looking forward to their annual Yuletide parties, and events in which children were uppermost in their minds.

In the offices too, there were tiny Christmas trees dressed in brilliant lights and decorations.

At Potlatch and Lewiston big trees the metas of hundreds of youngsters and even though the mercury took a nose dive and weather a few points above zero was experienced, Santa Claus found his way to these places with bags filled with candies and toys.

The big red fir at Potlatch, which grows in the lawn of the gymnasium across the street from the office building, twinkled merrily every night with a myriad of lights, and on Friday afternoon, Dec. 23, Kris Kringle arrived before 1,600 good boys and girls in that community. Special arrangements for him were made by the Robinson post of the American Legion, assisted by local fraternal organizations and business firms.

Churches and organizations of the town were also holding their annual Christmas parties.

Band Festival Held

Starting the season's festivals, Potlatch high school band was host to the school bands of Moscow, St. Maries and Genesee on Dec. 10. There were 134 young musicians in the festival, which was directed by F. Ray Hinkley, music director of the Potlatch schools.

On December 12, "Growing Pains," a three-act comedy, was presented by the high school under the direction of Miss Phoebe Nelson.

Later, on the 15th and 16th, Mr. Hinkley's music department presented the elementary school choir made up of children of the fifth to eighth grades. This choir included three soloists, all boys, Eddie Wright, Henry Alsaker and Clarence Nygaard. Part two of the musical included an operetta, "At the Court of Santa Claus," which brought more than 100 children to the stage. There were 144 in the choir. (Picture on page 8.)

Members of the Clearwater unit held their annual Christmas tree party in the planing mill on the afternoon of December 18, when more than 700 children were greeted by Mr. Claus. Gifts of dolls and sewing sets for girls and Boy Scout knives to boys, were

illuminated with electric lights were handed out in packages that contained an assortment of candies.

Music Program Held

Music for the occasion was provided through the co-operation of Miss Mar Granger, music instructor at the Lewiston Normal college, who presented a male quartet, Cy Dennis, Jasper Rogers, Bob Willett and Bill Doolittle. Following them Jess and Haysley Mann of Lewiston, music instructor, presented little Misses Wilma Shawalter and Monta Morris, in accordian selections. These girls are daughters of employes at the plant and won big hand for their accomplishments.

The Clearwater festival was preceded by a short talk by C. L. Billings, general manager, who was brought before the microphone by Glen Porter, master of ceremonies. A. T. Kaufman was chairman of the committee and Ed Lillard was Santa, as he has been successfully for several years.

Thanks were extended by Dan Troy, shipping superintendent, to Dr. E. G. Braddock and the Shell Oil company for a gift of candy; to Theodor Fohl of Orofino for Christmas trees; to the lumber and sawmill workers' union and to the I. E. U., for assistance; to the motion picture operators' union for use of the public address system; and to Miss Granger and the Mann brothers, for music.

Ed Rettig Re-elected President of N. I. C. C.

Ed Rettig, forester and land agent who for the past year had guided the North Idaho Chamber of Commerce as its president, was unanimously re-elected at the annual meeting held in Moscow, Idaho, Nov. 22.

Mr. Rettig won popular acclaim by calling together all the legislators-elect, Governor-elect C. A. Bottorff and Lieutenant Governor-elect Donald A. Whitehead, to meet with representatives of the 11 northern counties embraced in the membership of the chamber.

Easy Savings Plan Creates Christmas Fund for Employees

Christmas will mean more to about 60 employes of Potlatch Forests, Inc., in the Potlatch and Clearwater units this year than ever before, take it from the accounting department.

Growing from a small fund in 1936 when about \$1200 was saved by employes who joined the "Christmas fund," there was approximately \$5,000 handed out a few days ago to those who were thinking ahead.

At Potlatch, individual savings amounted to \$2,477.25, participated in by approximately 30 workmen in that community and plant. Clearwater workmen saved \$2,034.50.

These funds were created by signed authorizations for payroll deductions each month. The signer agrees to permit the company to deduct an amount up to \$10 a month, to be paid out early in the Christmas season. No carrying charges are made and the owner of the fund gets all of his money back. If he should leave the services of the company prior to the Christmas fund distribution period, he gets his money.

When the money is returned, those who have saved \$100 or more, get their money in a \$100 bill and whatever currency necessary to make up his fund over that amount. The same applies to savings of \$50 or more. As a consequence there were a lot of \$100 and \$50 bills being displayed around the plants on the day of the distribution.

Vern Perry Guesses Himself Into Fat Purse

Guessing the surfaced lumber inventory would run 4,900,000 feet, Vern Perry, shop grader in the yards at the Rutledge unit plant in Coeur d'Alene, outguessed 28 other aspirants including the dressed shed crew, in the annual pre-inventory contest there, to collect a nice little purse for Christmas.

Each contestant entered with a two-bit ante. The winner takes all, but the other part of that story is that he has to make the collections himself.

Vern's guess was close, there being 4,873,469 feet in the surfaced lumber.

They say a woman is as old as she looks, and man old only when he stops looking.



"Trees and Men" Seen By 12,000 Children

From "the mouths of babes" come words of wisdom.

In Troy, Idaho, during the showing of the motion picture, "Trees and Men," a high school boy said:

"If you don't mind a little criticism, I want to say that our 'top loaders' over here in Idaho can skin the pants off those fellows on the coast."

He was asked why.

"Did you see that fellow in the picture running down the load and kicking at the hook, and jerking it and pulling at it? Well, he'll get killed that way. Our top loaders over here just throw a hook under and flip it out."

Another boy, in Tekoe, Wash., said: "Gee, that must be some outfit—I'd like to see it."

"Trees and Men" has been shown to approximately 12,000 youngsters in the Inland Empire since September, in addition to more than 2,800 adults including teachers, members of chambers of commerce, etc. School principles have called general assemblies for the showing. In Pomeroy, Wash., 524 pupils attended a show, while in Colfax, Wash., another 650 saw the film and 683 saw it at Lewiston high school. Crowds of 250 to 300 children in union school districts have been common occurrences. The picture has been booked and shown by Mr. L. H. Keeler, a showman of long experience and incidentally, one of the early balloonists of this part of the country.

Coeur d'Alene Unit's Window Has Display Featuring Christmas

The Christmas window at the Rutledge unit's downtown office is brilliantly decorated with a seasonal setting this year featuring "Rainbo-Logs" as the ideal gift for Christmas.

A large Santa Claus, cut out of wood, is standing at one side holding an overflowing sack of presents and in one hand holds a "Rainbo-Log" that he has taken from his bag.

Centered toward the back is a Christmas tree decorated with colored lights and tinsel that readily attracts the attention of passers-by. On the other side of the tree is a fireplace with an artificial fire of "Rainbo-Logs"—bringing warmth and comfort to the scene.

Verses Bring Message

Off-side in front is a three-foot Christmas card which brings out the personal aspect. The card is red on the outside and white with black and red lettering on the inside. The following verse is inscribed:

"Place this magic 'Rainbo-Log'
"On the glowing hearth,
"Pictures from your memories
"One by one come forth.
"Pageantry of colors
"Dancing to and fro,
"A cheery stage for dreaming
"In the firelight's glow.
"Tells a varied story
"To you who gather 'round,
"Restful contemplation,
"Music without sound,
"Brings back many a happy thought,
"Dreams of joys to come;
"Brightly colored fireflames
"Reflect a happy home."

Scattered around at various points in the window are groups of "Rainbo-Logs" colorfully gift wrapped. The side walls are decorated with silver and green cords, wreaths and tinsel interwoven.

Rutledge has entered the Coeur d'Alene merchants' display window "Pick a Gift" contest. Each concern displays several gifts in his window with a card stating "Pick-a-Gift." "this is a Contest Item." Rutledge has three items in its window: a medicine cabinet, Pres-to-log fireplace grate, and a box of "Rainbo-Logs." The contest is to pick the "master gift" from those displayed. Of course a box of "Rainbo-Logs" is the master gift.

Who Couldn't Study In a Room Like This?



Upper: The home economics room of the Potlatch high school is done in knotty pine panelling and furnished in cream colored tables and chairs. Along the wall on the right are sewing machines. The young ladies in the picture are learning how to make garments. Lower: In the kitchen of the home "ec" department, where they also learn to cook. Electric stoves, electric refrigerators, cream tables, chairs and cabinets emphasize the knotty pine panels on the walls.

Children of Idaho Get New Song to Sing

"What Idaho needs is a good song," said Bobby G. Bailey, son of R. G. Bailey, author of the book "River of No Return."

"O.K., son, let's sing," said R. G.

And that is why there is a new piece of sheet music on the stands today, titled "My Home In Idaho," and that's also why some 1,500 schools in the state are getting copies of the song.

Through the interest of C. L. Billings, vice-president and general manager of Potlatch Forests, Inc., every

school in the state will receive a copy of "My Home In Idaho" by Christmas.

When young Bobby thought his home state needed a new song he sat down and wrote the music for it. His dad wrote the words, and to make the story complete, his mother painted a cover for it. Bobby is a Lewiston high school boy. When he got in a tight place or two with the music he took it downtown to Hayden Mann who straightened him out.

"That ought to be good for the school children," said Mr. Billings, and with the result that all 1,500 copies are in the mail.

Essays On Cooking Bring Range and Roaster As Prizes

For lessons in how to furnish kitchen with all latest and best electrical equipment, apply to Mrs. Adrian Nelson of Orofino, wife of the well-known employment manager and assistant secretary of the Clearwater Timber Protective association.

Mrs. Nelson is in possession of a huge porcelained and enameled electric range and a new electric roaster complete, all because she wrote the best essays in some commercial contests—the kind where you tear off the top of the package of cereal or something like that and send it in with words or so on why you do this or that, or why you think this or that is the best.

To win the range Mrs. Nelson wrote:

"Because we're on a budget; because we have a growing family who needs all the nutrition the food contains; because my days are crowded with work and short-cuts are necessary; and because beauty is a necessity and a stimulus even in the kitchen, I'd change to electric cooking."

The Washington Water Power company awarded her the range and, as an aside, it fits into a beautiful kitchen just like it had been intended to.

Another contest was entered under terms that are explained in the essay and the roaster followed this one:

"I like today's finer, creamer Crisco because we are on a budget because we have a growing family needing nutritious foods; because my days are busy days and short cuts are necessary."

Rutledge to Crowd Safety Records

"We're going to see what we can do to stop accidents in the Rutledge unit, and give these boys of Potlatch and Clearwater units a race for the money," said Clarence O. Graue, manager of the Rutledge unit, the other day.

Just what his program is to stop the ball rolling toward a safety record Mr. Graue didn't reveal, but it is good authority that Potlatch and Clearwater will have to look to the laurels.

This Is the "Cram Room" of Potlatch High



Built last summer, this huge assembly room of the Potlatch high school seats several hundred young men and women during the study hour. The walls here are of knotty pine wainscoting, Nu-wood plank and genuine Idaho white pine window frames and sash. There are 32 windows in the room. The ceiling is of Nu-wood tile.

Child's Play Causes Bashed In Head for Skylarking Mill Man

Skylarkin' just like a bunch of high school kids, put Jim Prohaska, a Glenville sawmill worker, in the hospital and brought about a police investigation.

It was this way: Prohaska and another fellow got to playing around, in a practical sort of way, with the result that Prohaska, head dog man, found his gloves filled with grease. Prohaska, as the carriages went by Homer Reed, take-off man, swiped the grease across Reed's face. He blamed Reed for the condition of his gloves. Some fun, eh keed? But the war was on.

Reed picked up a handful of bark and heaved it at Prohaska, whereupon Prohaska got mad and hurled a pick-aron, striking Reed in the leg. Reed countered with a peevy to the head.

Prohaska woke up several hours later, but in the spirit of all the fun, refused to sign a complaint against Reed. The horseplay, however, was investigated by a deputy sheriff, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Roseburg, Oregon, and from which the foregoing was taken.

All of which causes one close to the

Clearwater unit plant of Potlatch Forests, Inc., to wonder what kind of an outfit Mr. Prohaska works for, especially when those in the Clearwater plant worked so hard to establish the lumber industry in the safety column by breaking the national "no lost time accident" record and giving the world a new one to shoot at.

New Record Wanted

There is a feeling at the Clearwater plant that there has been a let-down because of two or three little accidents that brought the big record-making period to a close recently. That there still is much "in the wind" however, toward building up a new record comes to *The Family Tree* from a letter to Walter J. Stewart, chairman of the safety committee of the Edison Wood Products, Inc., New London, Wisconsin, and just sent by Tom Sherry, plant safety director. In this letter Tom enclosed some suggestions gleaned from men on the plant, and here they are:

I. F. Gilbertson, office clerk, dry kiln department: "The wonderful record set by our plant in the prevention of accidents proves that they can be prevented. Two things are necessary to make such a record possible: a determination on the part of the employer to remove all causes of accidents; and the education of the employe to the

point where he knows accidents do not happen but are caused by his own carelessness, and can be avoided."

R. R. Wright, unstacker operator: "Our record would not have been possible without the fine bulletin boards with their common sense messages. A fellow can't continually see the posters without getting some value from them."

John Holmgren, grader, re-manufacturing department: "Getting over to the First Aid with those little splinters and scratches right away is one thing that counts. Such things have to be treated quick to stay out of trouble."

Don Sowa, carpenter, maintenance department: "Fix me up with another pair of those safety shoes. They saved my feet once so I'd better keep on wearing them. Those shoes do their share all the time in keeping accidents out."

Must Keep Interest

John Shepherd, foreman, shipping docks: "You must keep interest up and keep men thinking all the time, to successfully conduct a safety program. Any laxity of effort will soon reflect in increased accident frequency."

John Aram, employment manager: "Contact the new man at once and line him up on the Safety side. Then keep in touch with him and get his fellow workers to help him."

Hubert Smith, edgerman, unstacker department: "I saw a fellow the other day who was cleaning out under a chain and who was wearing a torn coat. He might have got the coat caught in the chain, so I told him about it. Glad to say he changed his coat. Floppy pants cuffs, jumpers not tucked into your overalls, torn gloves and other sloppy clothes are dangerous."

The story might have gone on and on, but with minds like this in plants of Potlatch Forests, Inc., the story from Glenville seems a little bizzare.

A tourist returning from California through the Texas Panhandle got into conversation with an old settler and his son at a service station. "Looks like we might have rain," suggested the tourist.

"Well, I hope so," replied the native, "not so much for myself as for the boy. I've seen rain."

Shop and Drawing Room With a Little Science Too At Potlatch High



Above left: The manual training department for boys at Potlatch high is caught here by the camera eye as the boys were in action. At the right of the picture is the tool room where everything has a place. Right above: A little matter of test tubes in the science room. Lower: When they aren't working on wood these boys draw pictures and plans of the things they want.

Potlatch Kiln Fire Draws Hundreds to Fight; Save Lumber

Fire, the red demon of the woods so thoroughly feared and hated by lumbermen, struck with force at Potlatch on December 6, and nearly snuffed the show from Santa Claus.

Starting in the dry kilns flames well on their way when discovered about 8:30 p. m., but when the whistle blew literally hundreds of men jumped into cars or ran toward the plant, realizing fully what a major catastrophe would mean to them and their community.

Getting 18 loads of drying lumber out of two kilns was the toughest part and while water poured over everything and smoke rolled out of the kilns in great black billows, Nels Opstronk donned a gas mask and went into the kilns to hook cables onto the trucks. Seventy-five men at the other end of the cables pulled the loads out.

For almost two hours the fight was tough, but the men won and saved from scorching the ends of some of the loads, the lumber suffered very little. Several thousand dollars damage was done to the kilns however. The fire was out by 10 o'clock, and as one newsman said it: "We went back to bed."

Every year college deans pop the routine question to their under-graduates: "Why did you come to college?"

Traditionally the answers match the questions in triteness. But last year one University of Arizona co-ed unexpectedly confided: "I came to be went with—but I ain't yet!"

He: "Will you have dinner with me tonight?"

She: "Certainly."

He: "Then tell your mother I'll be over early."

A bee's sting is one-thirty-second of an inch long. The other two feet is imagination.

Chuck for Long Winter Months At "14"



Unloading supplies at Camp 14 when the PFI train made its last trip in for the winter.

Last Train to 14 Takes Newsmen and Staff Photographer

"The last train in" to the end of steel and Camp 14, in the Clearwater woods, was a memorable occasion for two visitors to Headquarters and way points on November 16, when supplies for the winter were taken to the camp and its handful of men and two women who are remaining there.

Cheney Cowles, executive editor of the Spokesman-Review of Spokane, and Harleth Steinke, head of the art department of the Spokane American Engraving company, were guests of Howard Bradbury, logging superintendent, on the trip.

Returning from Camp 14, the train brought out Mr. and Mrs. George McKinnon for some last shopping and visiting in Lewiston before the blanket of snow completely isolated them from "the outside." They returned two days later and the weather man had been kind. Instead of snowshoeing as they planned, they managed to ride the speeder back to the end of steel.

Shaws With McKinnons

With the McKinnons this winter will be Mr. and Mrs. William Shaw. The men will protect the buildings and keep the telephone lines in repair during the closed season. As in previous winters when Mrs. McKinnon has remained in with Mr. McKinnon, she anticipated trips out to Headquarters by snowshoe. The building at

the old Camp 16 station has been fitted with stove and blankets for possible wayfarers and it was also hoped to establish another station at Camp 6. It is about 19 miles from Headquarters to Camp 14 by rail and trail.

Mr. Cowles and Mr. Steinke were gathering material and pictures for a special feature story which appeared in the Sunday magazine section of the Spokesman-Review on December 11. They had for some time been looking forward to seeing selective logging operations of Potlatch Forests, Inc.

Taking the train out of Headquarters on the morning of the 16th they rode in the cab of the snowplow. Charles Jack and Mr. Bradbury accompanied them. Several pictures were taken of the unloading of supplies at Camp 14 and on the return trip, pictures of the loading of a cat and a truck on a flatcar for transportation to Headquarters. The snowfall had caught both cat and truck near Camp 6.

Cutting Methods Shown

The following day the visitors were taken over a portion of the Deer creek selectively cut lands and were shown some contrasts between selective cutting and clear cutting, the latter in the old Camp 1 area. Borings were taken from trees by Mr. Jack to demonstrate the growth after logging operations had opened the stand and thinned out the trees.

The party then hiked from Fromelt's camp near Pierce, two and one-half miles across country to Camp 20, where logging was under way in

Medical Protection Service to Continue

With the thought that a few of the employees at Potlatch would be temporarily laid off by the seasonal shut-down of the Potlatch unit, the company has arranged with the Western Hospital association for the protection of those employees during the period of inactivity.

As a result, hospital and medical service will be given to those agreeing to pay the hospital \$1.50 per month for each calendar month of the layoff.

Log Supply Dwindles

Happy Rodeck says there are 1850 tons of Pres-to-logs in the new plant storage at the Rutledge unit in Coeur d'Alene, that is, at the time this story was written.

Hoar frost in the trees and grounds signalled many a hurry up call for fuel, and it was suggested that Hap's tonnage was dwindling at a very satisfactory rate by the time the story got into print.

Athletic Program Started At Plant

After several years without an athletic program at the Lewiston plant, equipment such as footballs, softballs and bats, horseshoes, etc., has been purchased and the crew is working up some interest in what might well be dubbed "intra-mural" sports.

Several horseshoe courts have been constructed and are already in use and it is planned to keep an active sports program going through the winter. Checkers and cribbage are holding their own as the popular indoor variety.

Next spring several tournaments are planned. The following named men have been elected to work out the details of the program: J. W. Campbell, Clarence Akers, James Seibert, Ellis Cass, Leo Ellis, Ralph Showalter, Jake Gonser, Rowe Bennett, Walt Cronin, Lonnie Ropp, Roy Jaynes, Pete Lasswell, Cully Bing and Floyd Gregory.

the snow and more pictures were taken. On this particular day the loggers were knee deep in mud along trails and chutes and it was said they had been since the first snowfall. The Spokane men obtained some photographs of falling as well as loading.

Potlatch School Children Take Trip to Santa Claus Land In Play

