

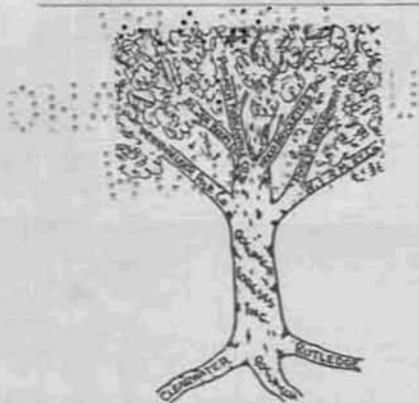
Idaho Potlatch Forests, Inc.



Vol. 13, no. 3
Dec., 1948



I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men—
—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



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EDITORIAL

It is said that if the troubles of every person were all packaged and thrown in a huge pile, and each of us was allowed to choose one, we would choose our own.

There are times when all of us are prone to envy the other fellow his lot in life. If we could just step into his shoes—the lucky guy—we're sure we would be free of trouble forever.

That man down the street who holds the high up position or the woman over in the next block who just inherited money, we are convinced don't have a care in the world while we are bowed down with troubles.

That kind of thinking is a Grade A pipe dream—as fuzzy as the thinking of marijuana smokers. Everyone has troubles. The job that looks so glamorous has its unpleasant side. Those apparently carefree individuals we see all around us have plenty of woes we know nothing about. Even the wealthy and famous who lead lives of comparative ease do not enjoy untrammelled bliss.

It's tonic for our souls occasionally to remember the other fellow has troubles too. There's an old folk tale of a man who believed himself unduly burdened with the cares of this world. One of those kind fairies who always appear at psychological moments in fables gave him the choice of exchanging lives with whomever he chose among those whom he envied.

The only condition was that the man must discard his own burdens and assume those of the person he chose to be. To help him make a happy choice, he was to be permitted to have a sort of X-ray view of the personal lives of those he envied. Joyfully the fellow accepted the offer. At the end of the day, however, after his behind-the-scenes review of their lives, he resumed his own

Christmas Message

We were startled and saddened at mid-year by the sudden passing of Mr. C. L. Billings, our General Manager.

We have paid fitting tribute to his memory by successfully completing the program laid out for the year 1948. It has been an excellent performance in the production of logs and lumber and the shipment of their products.

This is a proper time to express my appreciation for the splendid cooperation and effort extended by everyone in the offices, the camps and the mills in the accomplishment of our goal.

A Merry Christmas to you and yours and Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous 1949.

O. H. LEUSCHEL
General Manager

LETTER FROM JAPAN

"67 4-Chome Doikochi Higashiku
Negoya, Japan
November 18, 1948

"Dear Sir:

"It's getting colder and colder every day. How have you been lately? It's two years since I had separated with you in Okinawa. I'm very well and I'm working at Mitsubishi Electric Inc. as machinist. I shall never forget all your kindness when I was a P. W. I once was educated in Japanese Army that P. W. are treated badly by an enemy, but I perceived it very wrong, because U. S. Army treated handsomely for me. I think nothing is more pleasant than to life in Okinawa. It'll be good memories through my live. It's hard living now for inflation, but I'm right well and I'm working to get our happy future.

"I'll soon have my baby. I'm in expectation of it. Please remember me to Mr. Wright when you see him. I've much to say, but I'm sorry that I'm poor in English.

Yours very truly
Suzuichi Kawashima"

Mr. M. E. Jones
428 3rd St.
Clarkston, Washington, U.S.A."

(Editor's Note: It is pleasant and interesting to note that it has been two years since Bud has seen the above. It is even more remarkable that one should remember for such a long time. Seriously, however, this is mute evidence of the caliber of men who represented us in far off lands. The Golden Rule "Do unto others as you would they should do unto you" must certainly have been practiced by Jones during his tour of duty in the Pacific.)

burdens with equal joy—for his were the lightest of all.

The experience of the man in the fable is a good one to remember when we feel inclined to grumble that someone else has all the luck. Get a good (Continued on page 6)

TEN YEARS AGO IN THE TREE

The Christmas season found all three units of PFI scenes of holiday festivity and the employees looking forward to their annual Yuletide parties and events in which children were uppermost in their minds. Under the sponsorship of the American Legion, Kris Kringle greeted about 1,600 good boys and girls at Potlatch. At Clearwater the annual Christmas Party was held in the planing mill and 700 children of employees received gifts and the good wishes of Santa Claus. A. T. Kauffman, Glenn Porter, and Ed Lillard were in charge of the arrangements.

E. C. Rettig was unanimously re-elected as president of the North Idaho Chamber of Commerce at their annual meeting in Moscow.

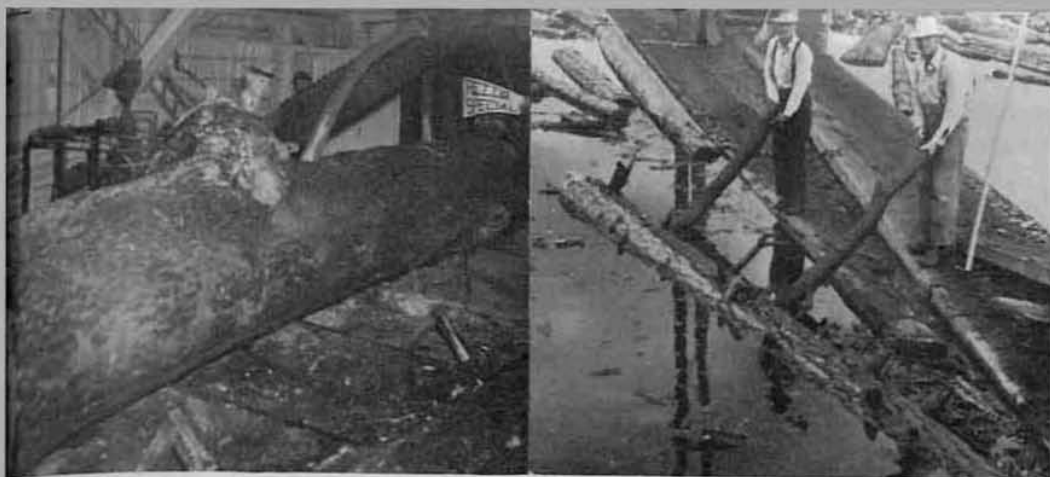
The Christmas window at the Rutledge unit's downtown office is brilliantly decorated with seasonal setting this year featuring "Rainbo-Logs" as the ideal gift for Christmas.

Fire, the red demon of the woods so thoroughly feared and hated by all lumbermen, struck with force at Potlatch on December 6, and nearly stole the show from Santa Claus. The fire started in the dry kilns early in the evening. Hundreds of men responded to the whistle and fought the fire until it was completely out two hours later. Aside from scorching the ends of some of the loads, the lumber suffered little damage. However, several thousand dollars damage was done to the dry kilns.

The movie "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.



"Juniper doesn't care how many extra choruses we sing, now that he's found a good warm spot!"



Woodsman spare not that extra limb,
Take every single bow,
For it means my pocket will be five bucks slim
So why not cut it now.

POTLATCH MEETING

"Crooked logs, limbs, school marms" cried the mill hands—"Costs, muddy weather, snow, rough terrain" bawled the loggers—"Poor production, break downs, tempers strained" replied the plant bosses—these exclamations and others which are not for these pages signified the principal theme for the conference of the Woods Foremen's Council at Potlatch, Saturday, November 13th.

From all indications the plant managers and their assistants had been preparing statistics, costs and actual evidence of the results of misshapened logs for just such an occasion. First off, each individual was handed a program, the top of which was decorated with a line drawing of a school marm log having limbs extending in all directions and jagged ends—clearly one which would not begin to climb a bull chain much less realize any merchantable lumber. The inscription on this log read "Rettig, Ritzheimer and Hagbom Logging Company."

Bad Logs

The first speaker expounded on the effect of bad logs from the sawyer's point of view. The speaker—D. E. La-Voy. He explained how a sawyer opens a log—gets all selects and shop and eventually the common grades, numbers one, two, three, four and five in that priority. Paul Tobin and G. D. Stillwell explained the segregations for drying the green lumber, the reasons for segregation, method of drying and methods of stacking the lumber for the dry kiln.

Next came another indictment against the loggers. Supt. Grover Gregg explained the effect of tong marks on dressed lumber, followed by Erick Matson on lumber grades. Tong marks, they say, hits directly into the selects and degrades the piece. Several suggestions were made such as equipping the loggers with kid gloves or wrapping the log in cotton, all of which added to the spirit of the meeting.

W. J. Gamble, being an independent observer to the contest, ranted and raved about informing the railroad as to schedules, plans and needs. Following the transportation difficulties, Joe Stone and John Shepherd presented a bipartisan discussion of safety in the operation and training of industrial personnel.

No Dog Fight

The above discussion would indicate that the entire meeting was a dog fight between the woods and mills—that

thought was farthest from the minds of any member present. The program was expertly arranged and many interesting and informative subjects were presented particularly about sawmill operation. Tom Youmans did a splendid job of conducting the meeting. Suggestions as to methods whereby the loggers would have a better conception of the problems of the mill and visa versa were voiced and from overheard conversations these suggestions are going to be placed in effect.

The noon meal of juicy steaks, French fried potatoes and all the trimmings that are only found in a logging camp cookhouse was served at Camp 36. During the lunch period a large frame containing pictures of the Bovill shops, Camp 45, Camp 42 and a log jammer was presented to Joe Parker, formerly Woods Superintendent on the Bovill side.

Tour of Plant

The afternoon was spent in going through the plant and witnessing first hand the limby, broken and school marm logs, the highlight being a large white pine log with long ponderous limbs protruding. A sign above the log read "Rettig's Special." At each department the foreman or designated employee explained the functions of the department and pointed out some of their problems.

Following the tour of the plant, a question and answer period was provided and as can be imagined the twenty minutes allotted was on the subject of misshapened logs. The loggers, being totally unimpressed of the motives of the plant men, were literally caught with their pants down. During this period statistics were presented showing the costs, low production, and break-downs occurring because of limby logs. The woodsmen were speechless during this tirade of statistics until one logger arose and asked for the percentage of bad logs. The subject was dropped when told the percentage has been small.

Thus ended one of the most informa-



A. A. "Sikes" Segersten

TO CALIFORNIA

The pill-rollers emigrated one of PFI's best liked key men to the sunny state of California in early December—veteran forester, A. A. (Sikes) Segersten. The California climate, according to Sikes' doctor should benefit his health which has not been top quality for some little time.

With PFI since 1926, Sikes brought to land department work a background of invaluable forestry experience, mixed it well with a quick, easy smile, a keen sense of humor and careful attention to detail. He was, and is, one of the best liked individuals among PFI people. Birthplace was that state difficult to pronounce. . . Massachusetts. Early employment included time with the Simonds Saw Company, Coos Bay Lumber Company, U. S. Forest Service, cruising timber in Oregon, work with Blodgett Lumber Company as fire warden, etc. Before coming west in 1910 a six months study of forestry in Germany, following schooling at the Biltmore School of Forestry on the Vanderbilt Estate in North Carolina, was sandwiched into a busy work schedule.

Departure and pre-departure brought expressions of well wishes from every corner of PFI's scattered organization. A number of intimate friends gathered at the Lewis-Clark Hotel in Lewiston in the evening of November 22nd to reminisce, toss the ox and (only incidentally) to eat. Not present, but known to much regret the compelling reason for change of residence to California, were the many friends Sikes has made over a period of years for himself and PFI among the farmers, cattlemen, sheepmen and stump ranchers who had need for land dealings with PFI. Oft expressed advice at the banquet, and it pretty well sums up the feelings of all who know Sikes, was — "take it easy, keep the latch string out because we'll come calling, and come north as often as you can . . ."

tive and educational meetings that the Woods Foremen have had. Prior to the return of all to their respective abodes a delicious supper and refreshments were served.



(Editor's Note: The following is as nearly a verbatim account as space will allow of a talk given to the North Idaho Soil Erosion Conference held at Lewiston November 16th by Royce Cox.)

Forestry --- Soil Conservation

Erosion is an irresistible force and has been whittling away at the earth's surface for hundreds of thousands of years. Nature, however, protected her topsoil against the forces of wind and water by providing a cover of soil-binding grasses, shrubs and trees. But the entrance of man upon the scene established a disruption of Nature's protective methods which has culminated in the vast agricultural economy of today with its millions of acres of cultivated land. Nobody can deny the absolute necessity of this cultivation; neither can we deny the tremendous problem it presents us. Loss of that thick layer comprising the precious outer skin of Mother Earth has become an increasingly alarming problem.

While erosion of our precious top soil cannot be completely eliminated, it can and must be retarded. Proven methods have been developed for controlling erosion and conserving the fertility of our topsoil—IF these methods are practiced on a large enough scale, we need have no serious qualms regarding the continuance of our agricultural economy at a high, productive level.

But what about our forested regions? How important are they in the conservation picture?

As part of Nature's protective scheme, forests have long exerted a profound influence upon soil and water. There are many ways in which forests protect the soil against the forces of erosion. The soil-binding capacity of the myriad threads making up the root system of a forest aid materially in preventing the soil from washing away. The layer of litter and duff deposited by trees protects the soil against the wearing action of driving rains. The crowns and branches of the trees break the full force of rainfall, thus retarding the splash-erosion action of raindrops.

Water Conservation

Forests also have an effect upon the conservation of water. The extent of this effect is debatable because trees transpire large amounts of moisture, thus partially offsetting any water conserving qualities they may have. To date the findings of large outdoor forest laboratories established to study the effect of forests on soil water are not conclusive. However, we may safely say that forests do conserve water in the following methods: First, the layer of litter and duff on the forest floor absorbs much of the rainfall and reduces the immediate run-off; second, water is held in the forest soil over longer periods, permitting it to percolate deeper to emerge later at lower levels in springs and streams. These factors are greatly conducive to more regular streams—flow over longer periods and do much to retard the danger of flash floods.

Regardless of the extent to which forests influence conservation of soil and water, we cannot deny their vital importance to our country, and particularly to the mountainous region comprising North Idaho. Few sections of earth on the North American continent are more wrinkled, rough, and cut up by rugged



terrain than North Idaho. The total land area of this region is roughly 13 million acres. Of this, nearly 80 per cent or 10 million acres, is classified as forest land. Nearly all of this forested land is mountainous to some degree and is ideally suited for growing of trees, the propagation of big game, grazing of stock, recreational use, and the storage of water for power irrigation purposes.

These natural resources—timber, game, grazing, recreation, water, and of course mining, form the backbone of our economy. To waste these resources would be to dissipate the lifeblood which sustains a sizeable portion of our population. In the lumbering industry alone in North Idaho approximately 8,000 people are employed directly in the woods and mills, while every community in North Idaho is influenced to some degree by the wealth of our timberlands. Statistics supplied by the Employment Security Agency indicate that in our ten northern counties the lumber and timber employees received approximately one-third of the total industrial payroll in 1947. This third amounts to over 20 million dollars, a sum which influences every phase of our community life.

Timber is a Crop

Obviously, it is good business to protect and conserve sources which mean so much to so many. And that is just what good forestry should be—good business, not only for a community engaged in the manufacture of wood products, but also for the region as a whole.

In a sense, timber is a crop, to be harvested at regular intervals just as with wheat and other farm products. The difference lies in the long-term nature of forest growth. According to present standards at least one hundred years is required to grow a good crop of saw-size timber in North Idaho. This long term aspect of forest management complicates the problem, but it does not diminish the fact that forests constitute a natural resource which has the unique capacity of renewing itself.

The foundation of a good forest management program is wise use, as so ably demonstrated by the late Mr. C. L. Billings, a man widely known for his practical views on forest conservation. Mr. Billings, in an article a few years ago, quoted the words of Parker Kuhne, as follows: "The only true title to land is use, and good use in the long run is good title, while bad use is bad title. We will soon lose what we cannot use well, no matter how sure we are that we own it."

These words reflect the basis of our timber management policies. In our zeal to conserve let us not commit the folly of conservation. Conservation to the point of non-use is not a poor title, it is poor business. The Honorable Ernest Gruening, Governor of Alaska, in a talk presented at the Western Forestry and Conservation Association meeting a year ago, said, "forty years of conservation we have developed no lumber industry, no pulp and paper industry, no recreational industry, no wood-working industry." Sound conservation measures must be based on wise use. It is use of the timber, mineral, water and recreational resources which will continue to make North Idaho a productive and prosperous region. Timber in a virgin forest has a definite value for watershed and esthetic purposes, it is true, but when that timber is milled and converted, its value is increased many fold by the creation of jobs, wages and useful products.

Public Responsibility

As owners of over one-third of a million acres of forest lands in North Idaho, we have a definite public responsibility.



protect and conserve these natural resources; however, we have a definite responsibility to efficiently use our timber to contribute to the 20 million dollar payroll so essential to the people.

Use of our timber resources, and their conservation, need not be in conflict. Our forestry management policy is to utilize our timber so as to assure a perpetual and consistent supply of timber for our wood utilization industries. In other words, we are engaged in what is called "sustained yield" in forestry terminology.

Probably no forest operation in the state, including National Forests, is actually on a permanent sustained yield basis, simply because we haven't been here long enough. The growing of timber crops in the White Pine region is a complicated, expensive long term proposition fraught with problems where the attainment of sustained yield demands many conditions which do not exist in our wild forests. At least another fifty years will pass before we can definitely say our sawtimber stands are on sustained yield. In the meantime, we are striving to apply the best forestry measures consistent with the harrowing process of operating at a profit and paying taxes.

For more than twenty years, we, in our Clearwater operation, have followed a policy of partial cutting or selective logging wherein a part of the volume of timber stands is reserved to assure future forest crops. In the case of young stands, up to 50 per cent of the volume may be reserved in the form of thrifty, seed trees to provide a second cut fifteen to thirty years later when the trees reserved have grown to a larger size and greater value. In the case of mature timber, seed trees or shelterwood stands are reserved to provide a seed source. In the case of over-mature timber, all merchantable trees are generally removed because such stands usually contain many cull mixed-species plus a heavy understory of younger mixed, a combination which inhibits the regeneration of white pine.

Four Problems

Let no one get the idea that our company thinks its forestry cannot be improved. Mistakes in past practices will be evident from time to time as more and better information obtained from experimental plots established on cutover lands. Mentioned before, the growing of timber—especially white pine—involves more than merely cutting the old trees and allowing the young ones to grow to maturity. Time does not permit a detailed discussion of the manifold problems of forest management, but in passing let me touch briefly on the more important ones.

First, of course, is the problem of fire protection. This problem is being capably handled by the various state, federal and local protective agencies. With proper cooperation on the part of the public which uses the timberlands for recreation, we could have no disastrous fires. Many thousands of people enter the timberlands of Potlatch Forests, Inc., for the purpose of fishing, berry-picking, or just plain relaxation. From these our company derives no revenue—nor do we expect any. Mr. Billings once said, "We do not begrudge these free services to the community. These values were not created by us, we consider it a part of our responsibility as landowners to maintain these resources, unimpaired, asking only public cooperation in return."

A second big problem in connection with growing white pine is the disease known as white pine blister rust. This problem is too complex to discuss at length now, but its nature is such that it might eventually force us into a drastic revision of our cutting practices in all but the youngest of white pine stands.

The picture on the extreme left shows Forester Cox beside one of his markings that indicate the percentage of cut in that certain plot. The panoramic scene taken from the top of Summit lookout on the immediate left is the workshop of Cox and his helpers and contains experimental plots in selectively logged timber. In order to determine the results of this program, the experimental plots were established to record the growth and death of reserve timber and the restocking of seedlings under various cutting practices and slash disposal methods.

Plots established in these recent cuttings have not been in long enough to show any conclusive results. One fact is clear, however, and that is in seed tree cuttings where only a few trees are reserved to assure regeneration of white pine, loss of reserve timber is high, and conversely, in shelterwood cuttings where up to 50% of the timber is reserved to provide a second cut in the future, the losses are low.

Below is a typical marking of a tree in an experimental plot.

The cover picture on this issue of the TREE shows the sign which identifies the over 300,000 acres shown in the panoramic view at left.

A third important problem is that posed by the shortage of timber in the 60-100 year age class in our wild forests. This problem will likely be eliminated after our timberlands have been under management for a hundred or more years, but it will force a curtailment of sawtimber yields—especially of white pine—within 20 to 50 years from now.

A fourth problem is that created by the preponderance of the relatively low value so-called "mixed species," by which we mean white fir, red fir, larch—and species other than white pine and ponderosa pine. The venerable white pine is the "living gold" which first attracted the loggers' axe to Northern Idaho, and it remains by far our most valuable asset today. Only during recent years have the mixed species been cut to anywhere near the proportion of their occurrence in the natural forest. This has resulted in an over-cutting of white pine and an under-cutting of mixed, and, also, too much mixed in the stands of reproduction which followed logging. A possible remedy in the past would have been the expensive one of deliberately cutting all of the mixed species and then burning it so as to open the areas to permit planting of white pine. This method would no doubt have increased the future supply of white pine, but such wholesale destruction of sound timber with a potentially useable value has never been condoned by our company.

For the past few years the market for mixed has improved sufficiently to enable us to log it at a profit, and this has greatly improved our forestry outlook. Today, many lumbermen feel the market for mixed will not only continue, but that new uses for the secondary species will develop. If this occurs, our company's policy of reserving its stands of mixed woods will be justified. The mixed species, which make up over 50 per cent of our sawtimber stands, must be considered in sustained-yield management.

There are other problems facing the timber growers and tree farmers of our region. Ironically, the leaders in forestry are not all in agreement as to the best methods of solving these problems. Our problems can be worked out through intelligent consideration of all the factors involved, and through cooperation of all parties concerned—the federal and state agencies, the private companies, and, not least, the public.

Good Forestry Management

We may draw encouragement from the situation existing in the local Clearwater region, an area containing some of the finest timber-growing country in the world. The bulk of the timber is in three strong, capable ownerships. Two of these—the United States Forest Service and the State of Idaho—are public owners; the third—Potlatch Forests, Inc.—as an operator. All are committed to good forestry practices and sound conservation measures. Problems and flaws do exist but continued cooperation in study of the technical aspects of timber growing will aid materially in perpetuating our wood supply.

As we drive up and down our highways we see signs re-

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Plant News

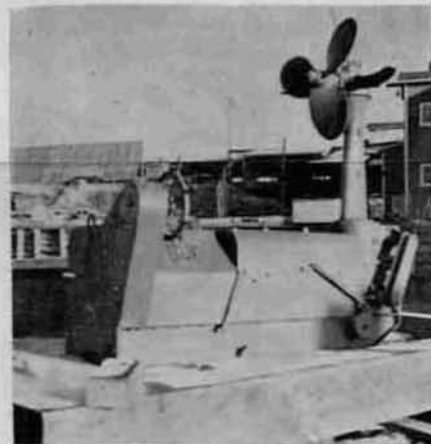
Rutledge

Rutledge Unit Manager C. O. Graue is shown in the picture below beside



a wide glued panel. The inscription states that these wide boards are manufactured in two minutes that would take Nature 200 years to grow. The glue line in these boards are stronger than the wood fibers.

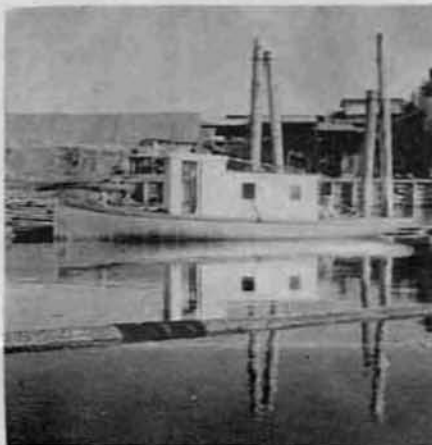
The picture below shows what is called the "Army Mule." It is an oversized outboard motor. When used in the pond it causes a current thus preventing freezing of logs. The Mule is mounted on cedar logs, and, contrary to the picture, the propeller is in the water when in operation.



A Christmas party is being planned for some time just before Christmas and will include Santa Claus and all the trimmings. All Rutledge employees' children will have an opportunity to visit with Santa Claus and tell him what they would like to have for Christmas.

The Rutledge Christmas fund this year amounted to \$1500 and was saved by the employees during the year through payroll savings.

The picture below is of the tug boat "Rutledge," built this year for work on the pond. It was built under the supervision of Fred Brautigan, veteran boat builder of Coeur d'Alene. It is used to tow logs from storage points and moving booms near the slip.



Clearwater

The 15th annual Clearwater Plant Christmas party is already to go and will be staged at the Lewiston Senior High School on December 19th. On December 18th a picture show at the Liberty Theatre will be shown to the 1200 children of Clearwater employees. A variety of entertainment is planned in addition to awarding of the prizes for the safety essay contest which closes on December 17th. The general chairman for the Christmas party is Carl Rasmussen. Other members of the committee are Jim Scofield, Ray Hines, Jack Willows, Bob Berger, Bill Greene, Shorty Curran, Cully Bing, Les Woodland, Happy Rodeck, Riley Worley and Skinny Kauffman.

The beaming smiles on the faces of the three card sharks in the picture



plus the showy display of their prizes was the climax of the pitch tournament held during the noon hours. The winners are, from left to right, Ralph Gunter, Orland Gage and Eddie

Gordon. This is the second time Gage has won and the smile on Gordon's face is the culmination of years of hard fighting in order to finally win a turkey. The little man on the extreme right, sometimes known as the "Walking Man," is C. J. Cummerford, personnel manager, who presented the prizes to the winners.

As a result of a suggestion made during the last year 100 new garages are set for construction at Clearwater and will greatly relieve the traffic problem.

On the night of November 15th the time office was the objective of a probable "California" driver. It seems that the car landed on the porch of the time office, resulting in the breaking of several boards on the porch floor and one post that supports the roof. Jerry, the timekeeper, says this is the second time this has happened. This might indicate that Jerry may have some enemies.

The cafeteria was given a clean bill of health by sanitation officer Owen Hatley. Congratulations to Orville Schinaman and his crew for obtaining the Grade A rating.

EDITORIAL

(Cont. from page 2)

look at the other fellow's burdens, and the chances are that most of us would decide our own lot in life wasn't so hard after all. For everyone has troubles.

Quoting the immediate past editor of the TREE while reading from the current issue of the Clearwater Log, a monthly publication carries a cartoon and a caption beginning, "What license these fellows take. Page 3 of personals and such at Clearwater Unit. 'Little Shelton.' How can you tell a thing five axe handles wide 'Little'."

FORESTRY-SOIL CONSERVATION

Cont. from Page 5

minding us to "Keep Washington Green," "Keep Idaho Green." These are valuable and influential slogans. Let us not ignore them. They are designed to urge the cooperation of the public in keeping uncontrolled fires out of our forests. However, prevention of forest fires is but a part of the vast, overall problem of woodland management and conservation of resources.

In the Inland Empire the interdependence of good farm management and good forest management is obvious to all of us. Each benefits the other; each conserves soil and water. Not only are these two natural resources—soil and water—essential to the growing of farm and forest crops, their effect is felt throughout every phase of our social and economic structure.

There can be little doubt that sound forest and soil conservation measures will go together in helping to assure a prosperous future for the land, the communities and the people.

Let us keep farm and forest green, let us keep our lands productive.

Old Maid: "Has the canary had its bath yet?"
Servant: "Yes Ma'm. You can come in now."

POTLATCH

Dr. C. M. Luce, Salt Lake City, shown below, arrived in Potlatch to take over



the practice of Thomas B. Murphy. Dr. Luce graduated from the University of Utah in 1945 and interned in the Los Angeles Hospital of the Good Samaritan until 1946. He has also had some post graduate work at the University of Southern California. He is a veteran of two years in the army, having entered July 1, 1946, and was released with the rank of Captain.

A big order given to Jim O'Connell by the Woods Department consisted of five 5'4x48' 8" select Idaho White Pine vertical grain panels which are to be used for bread boards. The order literally turned the plant upside down. In order to surface the necessary lumber, glueing the panels, several adjustments in the routine way of doing the job was necessary. They were sanded by a large sander and cut into 8' lengths, wrapped in heavy paper and delivered to each camp.

Another order received was for tamping sticks used by powdermen in the woods. These sticks are run to 1-1/8" full round and 24' long.

Many Potlatch employees will remember Dr. Malcolm M. Renfrew. He has recently been elected chairman of the Division of Paint, Varnish and Plastics Chemistry with the American Chemical Society. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Renfrew, former residents of Potlatch. His father was auditor of the Potlatch Mercantile and was on the staff of the General Timber Service.

First aid classes are being conducted at the plant under the direction of Joe Stone, Safety Director. The first group of ten foremen and key men has been concluded and new classes are being organized.

R. L. Davis, master mechanic of the W. I. & M. Railroad, passed away at Litchfield, Ill., November 5th. Mr. Davis had been in ill health for some time. He was visiting in Litchfield after taking treatment at the Mayo Clinic at Rochester. Interment was at the Holy Cross cemetery in Litchfield.

I. A. (Joe) Osterlund succeeded R. L. Davis as master mechanic of the W. I. & M. He had previously been head machinist and is a member of the Twenty-five Year Club.

The Robinson Post of the American Legion will again sponsor a community Christmas tree for the children of Potlatch and the surrounding communities. A definite date has not been set but it will be toward the end of the week before Christmas. Santa Claus will be on hand to greet and pass out cheer baskets to the children. Public schools will have a Christmas party and program for the school children only during the last week of school before Christmas. Schools will close Thursday evening, December 23rd and re-open Monday, January 3, 1949.

Woods News

Bovill

Approximately five inches of snow with more to come is the weather situation at Bovill.

Lewis Mill which has been in opera-

tion since last spring, closed down November 27th. Under foreman Mike Anderson and a small crew, a few repairs and changes will be made before the camp is deserted for the winter.

Camp 36—Potlatch

Skidding and hauling of logs to the Potlatch mill from Gold Creek was completed on November 6th. During the interim time before the camp is moved to 43 at Elk River skidding and hauling will be on Johnson Creek.

Alfred Brady, a rigging slinger, was fatally injured on November 6th. This is the first fatal accident for this camp in several years.

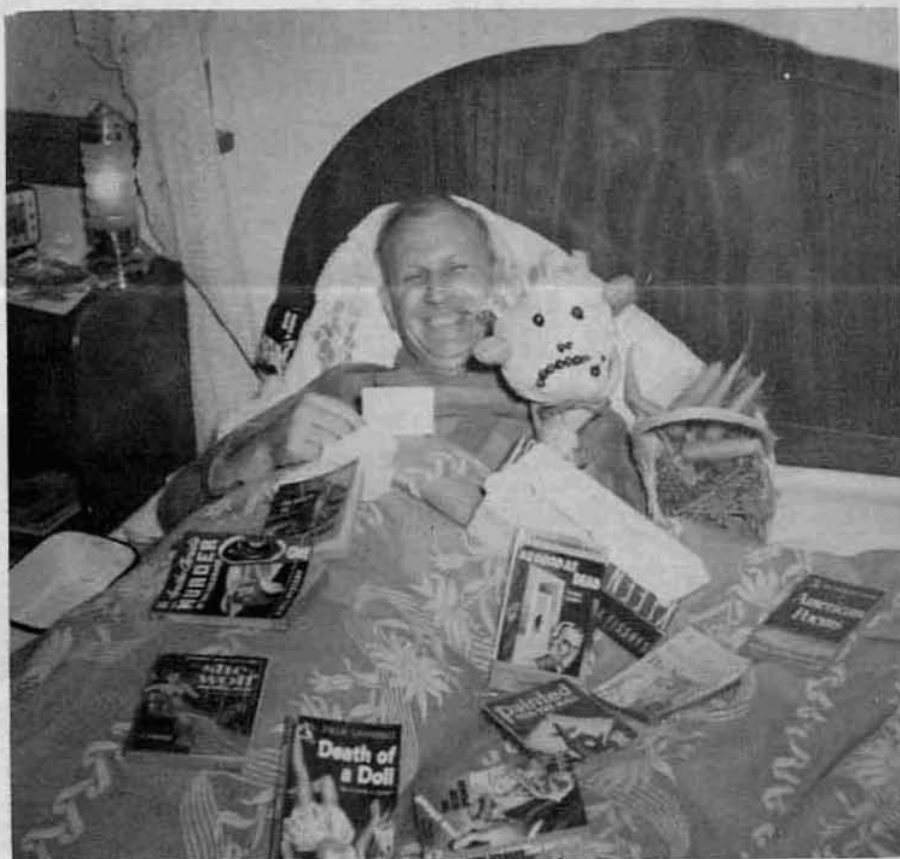
On Friday, November 19th, a group of 52 forestry students accompanied by John Nagel, dean of forestry at WSC, were visitors and toured the operation. They were accompanied into the woods by Walt Field and Tim Waide.

A trainload of white fir logs was shipped to the Inland Paper Company, Spokane.

"What's a burlesque?"

"That's a show in which the actresses assume that the audience is from Missouri."

CONDOLENCES . . . the scintillating countenance of "Pink" Terlson along with the jumble of magazines, carrots and what not certainly does not suggest a visitation by misfortune. On the contrary, he seems satisfied with his lot in life and perfectly willing to spend his days with a pumpkin as his bed fellow. Pink's predicament all started when he submitted to the surgeon's knife and his tonsils became a thing of the past. Whereupon, it being the custom that remembrances are sent to members of the Foreman's Council when ill, the members of that august body decided that carrots, et al, would be a fitting remembrance particularly in view of the nature of illness . . . harsh foods being the usual menu for tonsillectomies. It is well to note the type of reading that our patient enjoys. It is understood he will peruse anything from the Harvard Business Review to the Death of a Doll; but Cap't. Billy's Whizz Bang is much preferred.





SIGN AT RUTLEDGE

The downtown Rutledge office boasts a face lifting job in the way of a new neon sign, pictured above. The sign, which represents the jelled ideas of several people as to just the kind and type of sign best suited to the building, is nothing short of splendid, beautiful, attractive, etc., according to Unit Manager C. O. Graue. It also identifies the building as Potlatch Forests, Inc., property and gives some practical advice along either side of the building in the admonition "Prevent Forest Fires"—"Keep Idaho Green." There is general consensus, at least among Rutledge people, that the sign is by far the best looking in the city of Coeur d'Alene and THE FAMILY TREE for once is in complete agreement. The front lettering is 24 inches with double neon tubing and spans a 50 foot space. Small signs on sides of building, one of which is visible above, are 12 feet in length.

More Pres-to-logs

New Pres-to-logs machines, beginning operation enroute to destination, brought to 82 the number in Canada and the United States as of December 1. Four machines are in use in foreign countries and apart from the regular Pres-to-logs machines, there are five stoker fuel producing machines in Pacific Northwest plants.

Two machines shipped to the Deer Park Pine Industry, Inc., Deer Park, Washington, on October 26th, began turning out Pres-to-logs in late November under the watchful eye of Wood Briquettes Chief Engineer R. T. (Bob) Bowling and functioned satisfactorily following completion of plant wiring and installation of necessary auxiliary equipment. Marked for shipment from Portland in December are two additional Pres-to-logs machines for the Deer Park plant.

A single machine was shipped in November to Co-Op Vegetable Oils, Ltd., Altona, Manitoba, Canada. Placement of this machine has about it more than usual interest in that the waste material which will be converted into usable fuel is sunflower seed hulls. Remembering that from 10 to 12 tons of material a day is required to keep a Pres-to-logs machine working, it becomes apparent that the Canadian firm is in the sunflower seed business in a big, big way indeed. The sunflower seed hulls are said to compress well and to produce Pres-to-logs equally satisfactory from a fuel standpoint to those manufactured from wood waste. This installation is the first regular Pres-to-logs machine employed to produce fuel from other than wood waste although there is a Pres-to-logs stoker fuel machine in Barbados, British W. I. converting bagasse (sugar cane) into stoker size fuel. Like the sunflower seed hulls the bagasse is a quite satisfactory fuel in Pres-to-logs. In Altona supervising installation is company engineer Ward Towsley.

Late November took Wood Briquettes, Inc. General Manager Roy Huffman and Chief Engineer Bowling to Memphis, Tennessee for a check of Pres-to-logs machines operating in the Nickey Bros. plant and to offer counsel as to marketing procedures. The Tennessee firm's number one production item is hardwood flooring.

Meantime there are few weeks which pass that do not bring inquiries from one or more remote corners of the world as well as from widely separated parts of the U. S. to Wood Briquettes, Inc. offices. Some of these will eventually ripen into contracts for Pres-to-logs machines. With so heavy an accent placed by management everywhere on waste elimination and utilization of waste material in all lines of industry and productive enterprise, the pace at which Pres-to-logs machines will expand their field of use seems certain to accelerate.

59 Varieties

In a show case attached to the wall of the Pres-to-logs Storage Building at Clearwater, Foreman Les Woodland displays with pardonable pride slices of Pres-to-logs manufactured from 59 different materials.

Among prize items are pieces of Pres-to-logs made from corncocks; wheat straw (and various other straws); pineapple husks from the Hawaiian Islands; salt (which weighs exactly double wood by volume—8 pounds for a wood pres-to-log, 16 for salt); coffee husks from Brazil; peat from Dublin, Ireland; walnut shells; almond shells; coal dust; apricot pits; guayle (made before this plant attracted world wide attention as a source of rubber); humus (polite name for manure—which,



One of the most effective measures employed to further the KEEP IDAHO GREEN program and to keep motorists mindful of the need for care with fire, appears above. Between 150 and 200 hills were so lettered on Idaho highways during the months of July and August, 1948.

This phase of the program is typical of the cooperative effort given the entire undertaking since its origin in 1943.—The U. S. Grazing Service furnished a truck, man and machinery to apply paint to the highways; the Governor's KEEP IDAHO GREEN Committee furnished a man; the State Forestry Department supplied the paint; and in different sections of the state the various Junior Chambers of Commerce furnished manpower for traffic direction and to help with the actual application of paint to highway.

The highway lettering job appears on roads running from the Utah, Wyoming borders across south Idaho and on highways north to the Canadian border in the Idaho panhandle. The paint crew travelled some 1500 miles, applied more than 100 gallons of paint. One of the most heartening things was number of drivers who stopped long enough to tell paint crews it was a good idea.



like guayle, saturated the entire plant with a terrific odor during the briquetting process); alfalfa; etc.

At one time interest ran so high in Collector Woodland's show case that, urged by various friends, he addressed a letter to the Hobby-Lobby radio show inviting their attention to his unusual hobby and offering to "lobby for his hobby" as was customary for those selected to appear on the program. Hobby-Lobby, however, professed indifference and it should be admitted their stock dropped several points at the Pres-to-logs storage about the same time.

The display case with its unusual contents, each item carefully labelled, never fails to capture the attention of plant visitors alert to the unusual and interesting.