

The Family

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TREE

December 1949

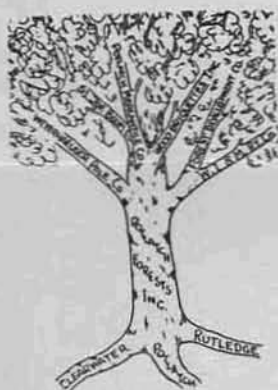


Merry Christmas



LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

The Family TREE



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to Employees

December
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TEN YEARS AGO IN THE TREE

Potlatch high school music department, under the direction of Ray Hinkley, broadcast over KFPY during the "Meet Your Neighbor" half-hour on Sunday, December 17.

The story in the October issue of THE FAMILY TREE which told of the free public library at Potlatch, brought a letter to the librarian, Mrs. Jessie Metcalf, and the offer of a gift of books and papers from Thomas McCulloch of the Weyerhaeuser Sales Company in St. Paul.

Employees of Potlatch Forests, Inc., saved \$7,500.50 during the past year under the Christmas Fund program. Through an arrangement with the company, employees order deduc-

(Continued on page 5)

'Twas The Night Before Christmas

The kids are all tucked in their beds. The house has taken on a festive appearance as you finish trimming the tree. A feeling of peace settles over your home.

You feel different than you did yesterday. Something akin to Godliness seems to flow through your body. You want to shout from the housetops "Peace on earth—good will to all men."

For the third time you check the presents, knowing that you have done your level best to fill the kids' requests. Your heart swells in the anticipation of their happiness in the morning.

Maybe for the first time you realize that Christmas has taken on a different meaning. You realize that the job is in the giving, rather than in the receiving.

You realize how your thinking has changed. When you were as young as those kids you just tucked into bed, your thoughts were "what you were going to get," and now you are thinking "how much I can give."

To those kids whose shining eyes will bring you a full measure of happiness tomorrow, you have given things that have a dollars and cents value. That is what they understand best. But to your fellow men you are giving a gift far above monetary values—a gift of good will.

The only true happiness in life is found in giving—giving good will to your fellow men—giving your family

more love and attention than they demand.

Let us pause for a moment in our celebrating to give thanks—thanks that we have so much to give.

Liberty Versus Servitude

Liberty versus servitude is the subject of the following statement by Thomas Jefferson.

"I place economy among the first and most important virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers to be feared. To preserve our independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt.

"We must make our choice between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we run into such debts, we must be taken in our meat and drink, in our necessities and in our comforts, in our labors and in our amusements. If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of caring for them, then they will be happy.

"The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the disposition of public money."

ATOMIC INVENTIONS: Atomic watch which is a tube of gas through which a continuous radio impulse passes, can't run down, will keep correct time for many years.

The Sioux Indians had a prayer: "Great Spirit, help me never to judge another until I have walked two weeks in his moccasins."

Some folks have no respect for age unless it's bottled.

Cover Picture

This month's cover is a picture taken in Spokane of the Red Fir tree that was donated to the Bon Marche Department Store for use as their Christmas tree during the holiday season. This tree came from the Bovill logging area and was felled and loaded without loss of limbs, by Les Mallory and his crew from Camp 42.



CHRISTMAS PARTY and ESSAY CONTEST

The weekend of December 17 and 18 was filled with Christmas parties, essay contests and many other activities at Clearwater and Rutledge Units. Potlatch Unit held their celebration December 24th.

Highlight of the Clearwater party was the announcement of the winners in the safety essay contest on the subject, "How Dad Makes Safety Part of My Home Life." The most surprised boy in the audience was ten-year-old Gary Gage when he was selected as the winner of the essay contest and the proud possessor of the two-speed Schwinn bike.

More than 2,000 employees and their families jammed the Lewiston Senior High School for their annual party. Old St. Nicholas distributed about 1,200 gifts to the children between one and 12 years of age.

William P. Davis

The program included a welcome from William P. Davis, president and general manager of PFI, the Rev. Ralph Helseth who gave the invocation, music by the Lewiston Senior High School band under the direction of J. Ross Woods, a specialty number by C. Ray Smight and his horse Zara, selections by a string trio consisting of Don Hines, Ray Moats and Tom Armstrong, and Christmas carols by the Northern Idaho College of Education male quartet.

Other winners in the essay contest were: Second, Phil Patterson, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence (Pat) Patterson, a camera with flash attachment; third, portable radio by Brabara Paulson, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray W. Paulson; fourth, fly rod and tackle, Dale Williams, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Williams; fifth, basketball, Iver Johnson, Jr., 11, son of Mr. and Mrs. Iver Johnson; and sixth, baseball mitt, J. Dave Summers, 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Summers.

Judges

Judges for the contest were: Dave Kay, managing director of the Spokane area safety council; Mrs. Rolan Albright, executive of the Sacajawea Council of Camp Fire Girls; and Harry Michelson, executive, Lewis-Clark Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

(Continued on page 7)

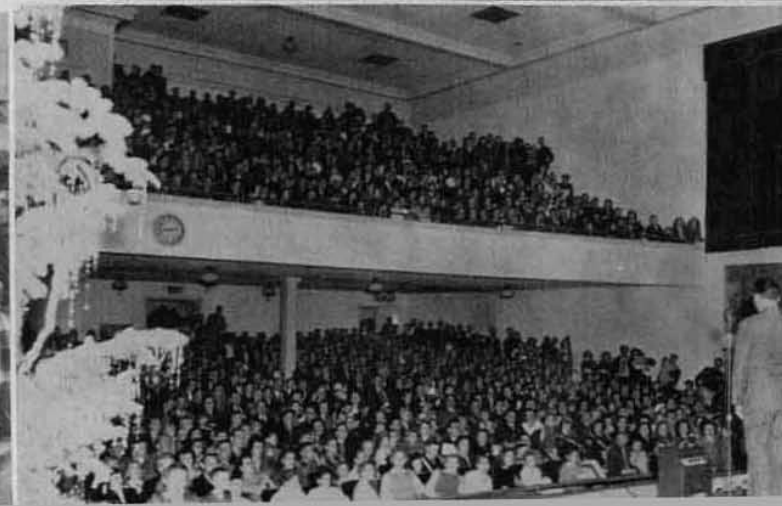
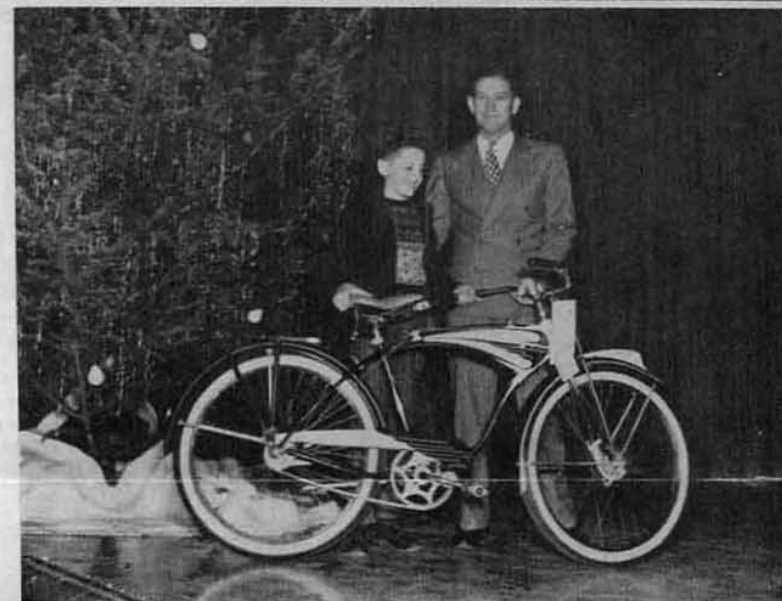
Clockwise around the page, the pictures are:

Santa Claus greeting Clearwater Unit employees' children following the Christmas party.

Gary Gage beaming at his prize by winning the Safety Essay contest. With him is Clearwater Safety Director Cut Epling.

Clearwater Unit employees' children emerging from the free show Saturday, December 17th.

Part of the 2,000 people that crowded the High School auditorium. Bud Jones, in the foreground, was master of ceremonies.



Bon Marche' Christmas Tree

In the big blow of 1949 which uprooted large pine and fir trees throughout northern Idaho and eastern Washington, at least one tree, which is perched precariously atop the marquee of the Bon Marche department store in Spokane, withstood the 65 to 85-mile an hour gale. This 52-foot red fir was presented



The picture above shows the red fir in its natural state.

Below . . . the same red fir as the shout of "T-i-m-b-e-r" echoed through the air.



Members of the Spokane Hoo Hoo Club straining at the rope of the Christmas tree in Spokane.

to the store by PFI to help bring the spirit of Christmas to Spokane.

Negotiations for the tree started early in October. Earl Ritzheimer, Bovill woods superintendent, said that he could find the tree and a transfer company in Spokane provided the cartage.

The first tree selected was a spruce located in a meadow north of Bovill. It had a perfect shape, so perfect in fact that it hid the schoolmarm about half way up the trunk. When Les Mallory and his crew got the tree down and attempted to move it the tree broke at the point of the schoolmarm.

Finally Loaded

Another tree, a red fir, was selected at a point between Bovill and Elk River. On Armistice Day Les and his crew fell this second tree and after several hours of work managed to load it on the transfer . . . limbs and all. State laws governing width had to be observed which necessitated tying the limbs back. Just as darkness cast its shadows upon the scene, the transfer pulled out and made its way to Spokane without any unfortunate incidents enroute.

The following day the tree was placed on the marquee by a large hoist. Placed in a specially prepared base, the tree was chained to the building with a steel cable. The Spokane chapter of the Hoo Doo Club decorated the tree. More than 500 feet of aluminum strips were spiraled around the tree. Twelve large and twelve small "papier mache" ornaments were placed on the boughs. Five 130-foot elec-

tric wires, to which were fastened 350 colored lights, were draped over the tree. On top of this, a large case of "icicles," thin strip of aluminum foil, was scattered throughout the branches.

All the aforementioned wind did to the tree was to scatter most of the decorations throughout the city of Spokane and the job of decorating had to be renewed.

Much of the credit for accomplishing this job should go to Les Mallory and his crew. It was no small task to lower the tree and load it without breaking any limbs.

Men: Say what you want about women, but did you ever know one who would waste \$2 worth of shotgun shells to shoot a 25-cent rabbit; give a waiter a 50-cent tip because he smiled at her; hire for \$25 a boat to go where the fish are not.

The proper means of increasing the love we bear to our nature country is to reside sometime in a foreign one.

Idaho White Pine is used for paneling, finish woodwork, siding and other general construction purposes.

Les Mallory and his crew cutting the notch. Guy ropes were used to lower the tree to the ground.



OROFINO C. of C. VISITS CAMP-Y



The above picture is one of the landing at Camp Y. At left . . . part of the group of the Orofino Chamber of Commerce that were guests of PFI at Camp Y.



Potlatch Forests, Inc., were hosts November 22 to the Orofino Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon and a tour of logging operations at Camp Y. About forty-five members of the Chamber from Orofino and nearby areas were present and took part in the program.

Ed Rettig, assistant general manager, acted as master of ceremonies. He told the group that the Orofino trading area were participants in the annual payroll of \$3,195,000 and that the annual production from the Headquarters logging area was approximately 136,000,000 board feet.

Mr. Rettig stressed that logging loads are kept at reasonable height, weights are well distributed and speeds of trucks are kept to the minimum to insure safety to other road users.

Excellent Food

The guests were loud in their praise of the excellent meal pro-

vided by Vern Craig, and his crew. Many of them expressed the desire to stay and have some more. Vern added an extra service following the trip to the landing by having hot coffee and cookies available for the group prior to their return to Orofino.

The Chamber held their regular business meeting during the meal following which they were given the opportunity to observe skidding and loading operations at one of the landings. They observed the use of 10-foot bunks on company trucks on the road from Elk Creek to the camp. This road was constructed, widened and surfaced by the company.

Among those present were Melvin Snook, state senator, and Walter Dinnison, state representative, both of Clearwater County; Lawrence Judd, county commissioner; and Ebbe Bowdish, County Assessor.

PFI personnel present in addition to George Golassa, camp foreman, and his crew, were Rettig, Howard Bradbury, Clearwater logging superintendent; L. K. Edelblute, assistant logging superintendent; George Beardsmore, company attorney; A. P. Hansen, land agent; and Earl R. Bullock, public relations director.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Continued from page 2)

tions from their monthly pay checks in amounts they believe they can save. The company keeps the money for them and distributes these savings just before Christmas.

* * *

G. F. Jewett, C. L. Billings, E. C. Rettig and Jack Baggs attended the congressional hearings in Portland, Oregon, at the call of Congressman Walter L. Pierce of Oregon, to question public and private landowners.

My plain-spoken uncle always calls a spade a spade . . . except once when he dropped one on his toes.

Left, below . . . another scene from the truck landing above Camp Y. On the right . . . another scene showing the members of the

Orofino Chamber of Commerce observing the loading operations.



Plant News

CLEARWATER

Thirteen robust members of the Foremen's Council left Saturday, December 10th, for Bovill on what has been termed "The Annual Christmas Tree Hunt." From all reports there were no casualties, however, it is rumored that Phil Reinmuth was a near casualty.

* * *

Lawrence Bashore, dry end foreman of the Veneer Plant, left Lewiston, December 13th for Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he visited the plant of the Morgan Veneer Company. This company has purchased from PFI two carloads of Idaho and Ponderosa Pine veneer which was cut for door styles.

* * *

John Shepherd, training director for PFI, and Lyle Arbuckle, woods safety director, represented PFI at a Safety Training Program in Boise during the week of December 12. The training course was sponsored by the Idaho Department of Labor. This is the first of a series of six courses that have been planned. Joe S. Perzella, Safety Promotion Specialist in the U. S. Dept. of Labor, conducted the course.

* * *

Potlatch No. 1 Federal Credit Union will hold its annual meeting January 15th at 2:00 p.m. at the plant cafeteria. Business to be conducted is election of officers for 1950 and declaring of dividends for the year 1949.

* * *

Santa Claus and his little helpers, Bud Jones and Cully Bing, plus all the members of the Foremen's Council, were extremely sorry when Santa's supply of gifts were exhausted at the annual Christmas party. Gifts were ordered from a survey taken the first part of October, plus a ten per cent increase. It seems that the Potlatch family is in-

The picture below shows the group of Boy Scouts from Troop 137 sponsored by the Clearwater Unit Foremen's Council. This was the occasion of the annual Christmas party that was held at the Boy Scout cabin in East Lewiston. The Santa Claus helper was none other than "Hap" Rodeck, foreman of the Pres-to-logs manufacturing.



creasing more than is realized. However, toys have been ordered and are expected to be distributed before Christmas.

RUTLEDGE

The big wind storm that hit the Inland Empire November 19th did little damage to our plant except for the large display window in the main office. This window has a habit of breaking out under the slightest provocation.

The glass has been replaced in the display window and the window has been decorated for the Christmas Season. It consists of a Bible turned to the chapter of St. Matthew with large crosses and Biblical representations forming the background.

* * *

At the end of November lost time injury statistics show a decrease over the previous year. To December 1, 1948, there were 11 injuries and to the same date this year there has been 8. Severity has also been reduced for the same period from 13.41 to 1.25.

* * *

Ten employees shared in the Christmas fund savings this year amounting to \$1200.00.

POTLATCH

Some 2,000 people joined in the festivities at the Potlatch Mercantile Company celebrating the renovation of the grocery and meat departments. Refreshments and door prizes were provided the visitors.

* * *

Several Christmas celebrations were held prior to the holidays. These consisted of programs by the first six grades of the public school; midnight Mass and carols at St. Mary's Catholic Church; watch service on Christmas Eve and regular church services on Christmas Day at the Community Presbyterian Church; a program given by the children on Christmas Eve at the Lutheran Church; and on Friday afternoon, December 23rd, the big com-

Car Shortage

"We have just gone through the worst car shortage since Clearwater Unit started operation in 1927," was the comment of Walter Weisman, traffic manager, when Dave Troy, Clearwater Unit manager, demanded more cars. The situation has been greatly relieved and production has returned to normal.

Clearwater Unit uses approximately 30 cars per day. During the period of October 15 to November 5 the mill received only 18 to 20 per day. The result was shutting down the shipping departments periodically. Potlatch and Rutledge operated as usual and were not curtailed because of this shortage.

Weisman stated that the shortage was caused principally by the coal strike. Eastern lines hauled only pay loads and left empties concentrated in eastern and southeastern yards.

Community Christmas tree service was held in the gymnasium.

* * *

Sponsored by Robinson Post of the American Legion, with the cooperation of the local business houses and Potlatch Forests, Inc., Santa Claus will come to the Community Christmas tree in Potlatch at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 23rd. A program will be given by the schools, including numbers by the Girls Chorus and the Brass Quartette directed by Ralph Kennard. Also, a play will be presented by the Masque & Dagger Club under direction of Mrs. Alva Bennett.

All children included in School District No. 285 are invited and will receive treats from Santa. Another feature of major interest which will take place at this time will be the awarding of the prizes in the safety essay contest sponsored by the Potlatch Forests, Inc. for the school children.

Don't worry when you stumble. Remember, a worm is about the only thing that can't fall down.

* * *

Idaho White Pine needles grow in clusters of five, in common with all true white pines.

* * *

The easy workability and dimensional stability of Idaho White Pine make it one of the premier pattern making woods.

* * *

The plain, prim little old lady who stood beside a male customer at a department store counter was nervous and embarrassed; finally she said: "Please Miss, I'd like two packages of bath room stationery."

* * *

Bark of an Idaho White Pine tree is thin and dark gray in color. Needles are approximately four inches long.

Woods News

HEADQUARTERS

Yes, we are still here! Annual Jam-borees of PFI take their toll as well as the year-end inventories.

Professors Shepherd and Terlson visit us each Wednesday for instruction of camp foremen on job training.

The construction of the new Community Hall has temporarily stopped. All of the carpenters are concentrating on finishing the railroad shop building first.

Logging superintendent Howard Bradbury says that it is ideal logging weather and for the camps to keep pouring it on. He also warns the men to watch out for those stray limbs and jilpokes. A logger might get out of production. (Dave Troy: Note warning to camp foremen).

Today we saw writer Jack McKinnon with the following sign on his back . . .

DANGER—EXPLOSIVE.
sSanh

CAMP 14—BEAVER CREEK

Since Thanksgiving a crew of 14 men with 3 dozers have been building skid roads in the Cooper Creek area. This is preliminary work for the 1950 truck hauling and skidding operations.

Camp 14 is expected to close for the winter at Christmas and work will be resumed here in the early spring.

CAMP 55—ALDER CREEK

The winter logging at Camp 61 is beginning to open up. There are 11 saw gangs working on strips and 2 gangs working on the burned area at Camp 59. The section crew is almost finished with their ballasting for the old and new track for this year.

The Camp 61 site is nearing completion and are looking forward to moving into the new camp by Christmas.

CAMP 58—MCCOMAS MEADOW

Having negotiated the steeper part of

the present logging site, production has taken a decided turn for the better with approximately 100,000 feet as a normal production figure. There is still some rugged terrain to log but it is believed the worst is over.

Seven saw gangs are on the job and all are hoping the weather remains favorable for logging.

Three gravel trucks were sent over from Headquarters to aid in road construction.

CAMP 60—WASHINGTON CREEK

The great wind of November 27th blew down between 250 and 300 thousand feet of timber . . . mostly White Pine, in the Camp 60 area. Eight gangs of saws have been working to salvage these trees.

CAMP 62—SNAKE CREEK

This camp got off to a slow start in log production due to bad weather, however, road construction and other work progressed rapidly. The road has been graded to the camp.

During the wind storm a large tree fell across one of the General Loaders with considerable damage. Fortunately, none of the crew were working and no one was injured.

CAMP T—ELK BERRY CREEK

This camp is still at full strength. There are 11 gangs of sawyers and skidding operations on two landings. This is in spite of the fact the mud is waist deep.

The busiest man in camp is our freight driver John Apfelbeck, better known as the "Pres-to-logs Kid." It is his job to get supplies from Headquarters to camp regardless of weather and road conditions.

CAMP X—ROBINSON CREEK

The crew is beginning to get itchy feet as Christmas vacation approaches. In fact, the itch is so bad that about ten or fifteen of them will be flown out of Camp X by Abe Bowler for their Christmas vacation. In this way they will save a full day.

Roy Carroll, camp clerk, in his news for THE TREE, expressed the desire to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CAMP Y—NORTH FORK

Logging operations and production here are gaining steadily and should be going at full strength very soon.

The other news sent in by Camp Y concerned the visit of the Orofino Chamber of Commerce November 22nd. This story is covered on page 4 of this issue of THE TREE.

ESSAY CONTEST

(Continued from page 3)

The following is the text of the winning essay by Gary Gage that won him the top prize:

"I am a boy ten years old. My dad says to be a regular rough and tough boy but to have sense when it comes to safety. Don't do anything unsafe just to make someone think you tough. No one should be classed or called a sissy if one uses these simple safety rules:

"My Dad Says THINK"

"1. Think—then look before crossing a street.

"2. Think—what matches can do if used wrong.

"3. Think—all the time while riding a bicycle.

"4. Think—that guns are 'always' loaded.

"5. Think—and never touch any stray electric wires.

"6. Think—take medicine only when given by an adult.

"7. Think—of the other fellow and don't jump on his back.

"8. Think—while using a knife or sharp tools.

"9. Think—and don't jump off high places.

"10. Think—be careful of strange animals.

"Dad and I have made a deal. He will think safety on the job. I will think safety at home and at school. Then mom and sis can have time to think happy thoughts with no worry about us."

TO OUR EMPLOYEES . . . Under the Law, we are obliged to make an additional deduction from your pay during the coming year. Beginning with your January payday, your share of the cost of the Government Social Security program is increased from 1 per cent to 1½ per cent of your earnings. The money is turned over by the company to the United States Government. The increased deduc-

tion is made necessary by law to meet the ever-increasing cost of Social Security benefits. Your company's share of the cost of Social Security is also adjusted upward. From now on, the company pays a tax equal to 1½ per cent of the pay of each covered employee. Combined employer-employee contributions toward Social Security now equal 3 per cent of the payroll. At the present time 1½ per cent is deducted on the first \$3,000 of your annual salary.

EVERYONE'S PAY CHECK

January, 1950

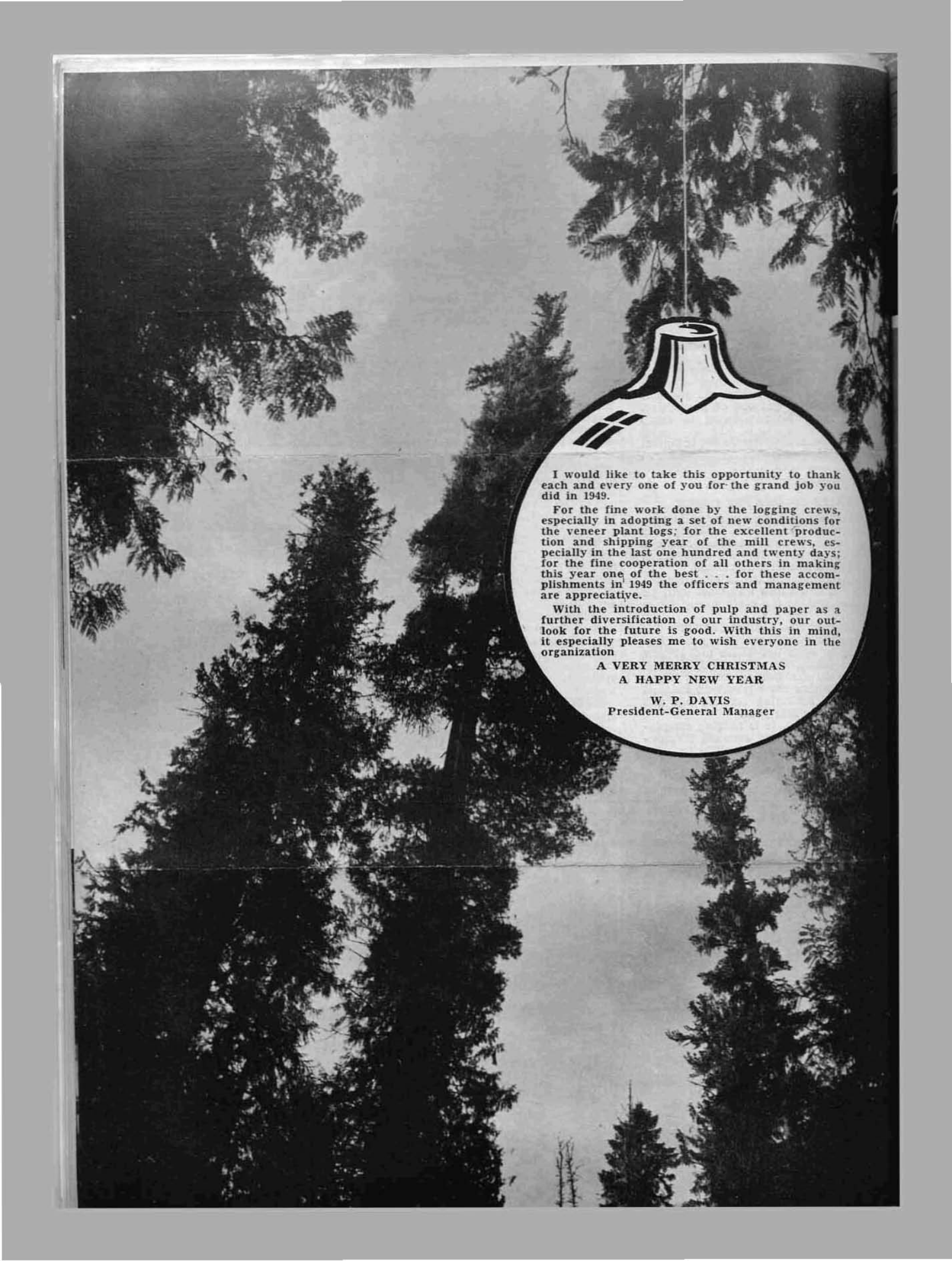
Pay To The
Order Of

Uncle Sam

Deduction for Social Security 1½% of my pay

New Increase

All Employees



I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the grand job you did in 1949.

For the fine work done by the logging crews, especially in adopting a set of new conditions for the veneer plant logs; for the excellent production and shipping year of the mill crews, especially in the last one hundred and twenty days; for the fine cooperation of all others in making this year one of the best . . . for these accomplishments in 1949 the officers and management are appreciative.

With the introduction of pulp and paper as a further diversification of our industry, our outlook for the future is good. With this in mind, it especially pleases me to wish everyone in the organization

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**W. P. DAVIS
President-General Manager**