

The FAMILY TREE

Published by Potlatch Forests, Inc.

Vol. I

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Number 7

Grade Conference At Lewiston

On April 8th and 9th, a meeting of Western Pine Association inspector, check graders, and other interested persons was held at the Clearwater unit of Potlatch Forests. Check graders and other representatives were from the majority of sawmill operations of northern and central Idaho and southeastern Washington. Practically all were producers of Idaho White Pine and the majority cut that species almost entirely. Those attending the meeting were:

Lester Farris, Farris Lumber Co., Anatone; Van Blaricon and R. P. Thompson, Russell & Pugh Lumber Co., Harrison; Sam Gilbertson and Harvey Wilcox, Potlatch Forests, Inc., Coeur d'Alene; John Frederickson, Winton Lumber Co., Coeur d'Alene; Gus Carlson, Blackwell Lumber Co., Coeur d'Alene; Joseph Cardinell and Clarence Knaggs, Long Lake Lumber Co., Spokane; John Kerr, P. J. Jackson and Frank Pamaianki, Diamond Match Co., St. Maries.

M. T. McGoldrick, George Holden and Axel Bergren, McGoldrick Lumber Co., Spokane; B. Eageh and Hugo Enborn, Rogers Lumber Co., St. Maries; Ralph Bockmier and Lou Shank, Bockmier & McCubrey, Spokane; Joseph McCarty and Palmer Soderburg, White Pine Lumber Co., Orofino; Paul Tobin, Erik Mattson and Gus Hessell, Potlatch Forests, Inc., Potlatch; Henry Klopp, White Pine Sash Co., Spokane; Louis Shanks, Weyerhaeuser Sales Co., Spokane; Otto Leuschel, Phil Pratt, Dave Troy, C. S. Peterson, Victor Anderson, Ever Falk, Alvin Gwynne, G. H. Hansen and J. W. Campbell, Potlatch Forests, Inc., Potlatch.

(Continued on page three)

"A Good Outfit"

We entered the month of March with a great deal of concern. We had on hand a large unshipped order file and new business still pouring in. We had available an unusually small stock of dry lumber at all three units and a badly broken stock, particularly in staple items, from which to expect a large volume of shipments.

However, your company shipped during March nearly THIRTY MILLION feet. A record month and a fine performance. It takes many things to accomplish such a result under the existing stock conditions.

It takes the closest kind of coordination as between the three units—Rutledge, Potlatch and Clearwater.

It takes the fullest cooperation between the various departments of each unit—Logging, Manufacture and Shipping.

It takes full understanding and careful planning by the General Office and the Sales Office.

The March shipments have again demonstrated that you men of Potlatch Forests, Inc., "have what it takes." You have again proven that we are—"A Good Outfit."

OTTO H. LEUSCHEL,
OHL:R Assistant General Manager.

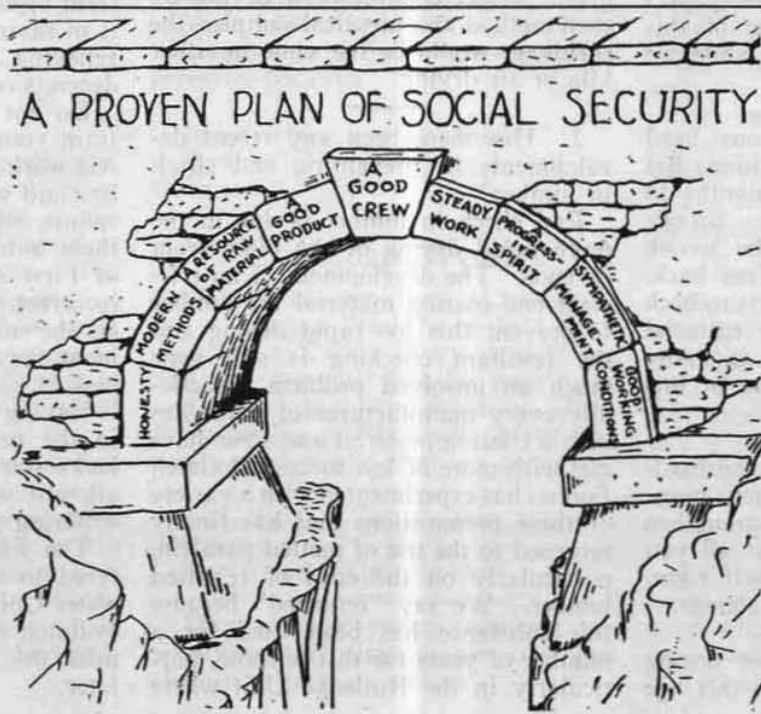
P. A. A. C. Enters Lewis-Clark Ball League

At a recent meeting of the Potlatch Amateur Athletic club, the newly organized baseball unit signed up with the Hill division of the Lewis-Clark league. This group is composed of eight towns, Moscow, Genesee, Colfax, Pullman, Palouse, St. John, Ritzville and Potlatch. The opening game is scheduled for Sunday, April 25th.

Fifteen new suits have been ordered for the players, the funds for their purchase having been contributed by business organizations of Potlatch. The suits, which will be pearl gray with black stripes, will carry the "P. A. A. C." letters on the chest and the name of the donor on the back.

As another event being staged by Bob Eldred, Director, a fight card will be put on in the gym on the night of April 26th. Eight fights in weights of 125 to 165 pounds are booked and six P. A. A. C. boys are donning gloves against stiff competition from the University of Idaho and Washington State College.

Bob Eldred, the new director of the club, is doing great work in getting the P. A. A. C. back on its feet. In an interview to the Family Tree, Mr. Eldred outlined plans for the coming year which showed an excellent knowledge of the problems which he will have to overcome as well as of the field of work in general. Briefly, the Club is to be made more than a scene of athletic competition. It will be the hub of a carefully laid out community recreation plan, including the men and women, young and old, of the Potlatch community.



THE FAMILY TREE



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

Robert M. Evenden, Lewiston, Editor
Miss Mabel Kelly, Potlatch
..... Assoc. Editor
Miss B. Stoddard, Coeur d'Alene.....
..... Assoc. Editor
Carl Pease, Headquarters
..... Assoc. Editor

Down the Editor's Alley

We wonder sometimes if anyone stops to think, or in fact if many have any reason to know, that when the Family Tree comes off the press 3,500 to 3,700 copies are made and the total is growing each month. The summer, with logging activity in full swing, should see our circulation go over the 4,000 mark. Lots of small newspapers would welcome a circulation of this size and work hard for it while we have it handed to us.

Joe Parker, our ubiquitous head scaler (see Webster for definition) has been after us for several months to print the story about Charley Brooks driving for 40 miles on the wrong river and having to drive 'em back. We can't seem to find any facts to back up this story so with true editorial caution hesitate to mention it. Any evidence as to the foundation of this story would be appreciated.

"If a man is right, all the bombardment of the world for five, ten, twenty, forty years will only strengthen him in his position. So that all you have to do is to keep yourself right. Never mind the world."—Talmage.

"College student loses foot dozing on railroad track." Even in this age

of more and more education, it seems that a high school course would have been sufficient.

Questions and Answers

1. Is there any difference in the shrinkage of kiln dried lumber and air dried lumber up to the fibre saturation point?

Answer: This question may be taken to mean two different things. "Up to the fibre saturation point" requires definition. The fibre saturation point is that point in the drying process at which no more free water exists in the cell cavities. In other words, what water does remain is "saturated" in the fibres of the wood. *Wood does not shrink in drying until the fibre saturation point is reached.* Below the fibre saturation point, and by "below" we mean at moisture contents less than that of the fibre saturation point, the rate of shrinkage depends on the rate of drying, other things being equal. Again in explanation, if two pieces of l. w. p. identical in every respect were dried below the fibre saturation point, one would shrink faster if it were dried at a faster rate. To compare rates of shrinkage in air drying and kiln drying, we run into a few factors which may or may not affect the shrinkage rate. For instance, casehardening may reduce the shrinkage in an improperly kiln-dried piece in comparison to one that is air-dried. However, given perfect conditions of drying by each method and identical samples, the shrinkage would be the same in either kiln or air drying.

2. Has there been any recent developments in preventing end check in lumber?

End check in lumber is due to the more rapid drying of the piece from its ends. The development of an efficient end-coating material for lumber to prevent this too rapid drying and the resultant checking is still very much an unsolved problem. Practically every manufacturer of paint has such a coating material and some have met with more or less success. Potlatch Forests has experimented with a variety of these preparations and has finally returned to the use of melted paraffin, particularly on the ends of rebutted lumber. We say "returned" because this substance has been used for a number of years for this purpose, particularly in the Rutledge Unit where

it was first used extensively in the air-drying operations.

The essential requirement of a good end coating preparation is that it furnish a complete seal of the end grain of the board. All cell openings must be closed and cell walls coated. While it has the disadvantage of having to be heated for application, paraffin seems to perform the sealing job most effectively.

End split, often confused with checking, is not a seasoning defect but comes as the result of rough handling or in manufacture.

The Good Old Summer Time

Spring is here, things are coming out of their winter hibernation and with them we humans are near that time of year when the red flannels are put in moth balls and we let our neckties on the corner of a mirror.

Soon the highways will hold their summer traffic, lakes and streams have their bathers and fishermen, and our woods will be full of the weekend camper. And with this movement of people with the coming of summer come more exposure to accidents.

Some time, sooner or later, each of us has the opportunity of taking part in time of an emergency and bringing a bad situation to a better finish. Often these emergencies are in the form of accidents and our opportunity is in saving a life, reducing injury, relieving pain. Successful handling depends on training in First Aid.

Do not overlook an opportunity to train yourself in this important First Aid work. In many persons' opinion first aid work has to do only with splints, slings and tourniquets. While these subjects are important parts of First Aid, this opinion is entirely incorrect. A course in First Aid covers the entire field of emergency treatment for accidental injury and illness.

Having this training, you may want in the next few months thank your lucky stars for the knowledge that allowed you to save a life or ease a suffering person.

The First Aid course is being offered to all employees of the Clew Water Unit. It may also be secured at Potlatch and Coeur d'Alene. Do not miss this opportunity and be a later.

GRADE CONFERENCE AT LEWISTON

(Continued from page one)

latch Forests, Inc., Lewiston.

The Western Pine Association was represented by Vern Johnson, chief of the grading bureau; A. O. Lund, Ray Ballantyne, Reed Pierce and A. E. Johnson, all of Portland.

This meeting was called by the Western Pine association for the purpose of securing a more uniform understanding between the White Pine producers of this region on the grading standards of that species. The association has found that it is necessary to develop some means of compensating for the effect of the different types of timber cut by the various mills on the grades in the lumber which they produce. It is hoped that through these meetings, standards will be more uniform and comparable, grade for grade, in all plants in the region.

In each grade, a number of low-line pieces were exhibited by members of the Clearwater Unit grading staff. Chief Inspector Johnson checked these exhibited pieces for grade and called for comments on his judgement, the discussion usually ending with a general agreement on the proper placement of the board.

As has been intimated, more of these meetings are scheduled for the coming year at other plants and their great value to all participating is easily recognized.

Safety Director At Clearwater

John Shepherd has been made safety director at the Clearwater plant and will devote his full time to the direction of a program of accident prevention for the coming year. His duties will also include the supervision of first aid instruction which is being made available to all employees of this plant as a very important part in making safety a household word among employees.

Mr. Shepherd is an American Red Cross First Aid instructor and is an experienced safety man, having been very active in that field at the Rib Lake Lumber Co., in Wisconsin. This company was a subsidiary of the United States Leather Company which has a national reputation for their advanced safety work.

Rutledge Rejects

The absent-minded professor called his biology class to order immediately after the lunch hour.

"Our work, this afternoon," he said, "will be the cutting up and inspecting the inward workings of a frog. I have a frog in my pocket here to be used as a specimen."

He reached into his pocket and pulled out a paper sack, shook its contents on the table, and out rolled a nice big sandwich.

The professor was puzzled. He scratched his head and muttered: "That's funny. I distinctly remember eating my lunch this noon."

Student: Do other countries have the Fourth of July?

Teacher: No.

Student: Then what comes between July 3rd and July 5th?

Mose became heir to a few hundred dollars and he immediately went down town to settle a grocery account of long standing, after which he strolled down the street about two blocks into a rival grocery store and purchased a large supply of groceries, for which he paid cash.

The groceryman with whom he had the large account saw him, and a few days later stopped him and inquired:

"Mose, why did you buy a large bill of groceries from my competitor after I have carried your account so long?"

Mose looked surprised and replied: "Ma goodness, I didn't know you sold groceries for cash."

Judge: Have you an attorney?

Prisoner: No, I'm going to tell the truth.

Cleanup Week

The Clearwater Unit is announcing a Cleanup Week to be held from April 19 to 24th. Every department and the grounds will be gone over and slicked up during this week. Good housekeeping is efficiency, safety and surely good public relations policy.

Girl friend: "I'm so thin you can count my ribs."

Boy friend: "Gee, thanks."

Many of our young engineers are spending their time monkeying with the misses in their motors.

Monkey Glands for Rutledge Corliss

The big Corliss engine which drives the Rutledge sawmill underwent an overhauling during the past shutdown and emerged a different piece of machinery. Chief among the repairs made to it was the installation of a new piston and the boring and bushing of the cylinder. In bushing the cylinder, the new diameter was necessarily made smaller than the original so that now, on paper, the engine is rated but 750 horsepower. Actually however, where it labored last summer and fall in turning over the sawmill machinery, it now is loafing half the time with the new found power in a well fitted piston.

Johnny Shepherd was giving an examination in First Aid class. He singled out Oscar Swedland and asked him the following question:

"What are rabies and what do you do about it?"

Oscar replied: "Rabies are Jewish priests and you can't do anything about it."

"Brown got kicked out of school this morning for cheating in an astronomy exam."

"What was he doing, copying from the fellow in front of him?"

"Naw, the professor caught him bumping his head against the wall."

She came into the police station with a picture in her hand.

"My husband has disappeared," she sobbed. "Here is his picture. I want you to find him."

The inspector looked up from the photograph. "Why?" he asked.

Twins having arrived, the father told little Johnny that he needn't go to school that day.

Little Johnny: "But wouldn't it be just as well to tell the teacher tomorrow I've got one new little brother, and then next week stay home again and tell her I've got one more?"

The nudists were planning a masquerade and the ladies were worrying over what to imitate. "Well," said one, "with my varicose veins I think I'll go as a road map."

Potlatch Grads

If anyone in the selling business has a lumber background, it is a couple of Potlatch boys we will talk about this month. They are Weyerhaeuser Sales Company representatives, Walner L. Peterson at Worcester, Massachusetts, and Clarence E. Lindstrom at Boston, Massachusetts.

Walner, "Pete," came to Potlatch with his family in 1906, the year the Potlatch mill started operation. His father, Charley Peterson, whom you all know, was and still is a tradition in our Potlatch family. Pete received his grade and high school education in the Potlatch schools and graduated from the University of Idaho in 1925. After he reached the ripe age of 12 years (old enough to hold up a tally board) he spent all of his vacations around lumber. When he left us for a selling job he held Western Pine Association grading certificates covering all grades and species.

He went with the Sales Company in 1926 and was given a territory around Wausau, Wisconsin, where he did a real job of selling—so good in fact that Max Williamson, in charge of the New York district, drafted him for his organization and placed him at Worcester, Mass., where Pete is still doing a real job for White Pine.

Clarence E. Lindstrom, "Lindy," had a very similar background to Pete and this, as well as the fact that they now have adjoining territories, has caused us to group them together. Lindy worked for the old Dover Lumber Company near Sandpoint for some time during his early years and also went in for some higher education at the University of Idaho. He put in some good years at Potlatch and also became a certified Association grader. Several brothers have at some time been connected with our organization.

Lindy started his selling experience with the Sales Company in 1925 at Quincy, Illinois, which had not been a very satisfactory territory for Idaho White Pine, but soon became one under his careful nursing. His success in this territory, as well as his thorough lumber experience, also drew the attention of Max Williamson who placed him in Boston, Massachusetts, an important and highly competitive market. Lindy always has done a good job down there and has inspired all of his customers with fullest con-

fidence in his knowledge of our products.

We can all be proud of these two Potlatchers. They are in a spot where they can do us a lot of good, and do it.

Potlatch Woods Notes

Cedar making is still in full swing at Camp 32. They have in the neighborhood of 20,000 poles made and will complete the making in two or three weeks. Twenty men are making poles at Camp 36 in the 3-Bear line and they will develop 7,000 poles by the end of this month.

The snow is about gone in the 3-Bear country and Camps 31 and 32 will be putting on loading crews the first of next week on poles and logs. Production will have reached full capacity in three weeks. Axel Anderson will be in charge of Camp 31 and his brother Melker will be at 32.

Camp 33, the truck camp out of Harvard under Clyde Ratliff will open as soon as the roads are dry enough for trucking. This should be about the 15th of May.

With the Potlatch mill running double shift and all the logs out of the upper pond, the woods needs to get on full production to keep both shifts fully supplied with logs.

Sales Managers Meeting

On April 8th, a meeting of sales-managers was held in Lewiston to discuss grades and shipping problems. Besides Phil Pratt and "Spike" Baker of the Lewiston office, the following men were present:

Pat Jackson, Diamond Match Co.
Geo. Holden, McGoldrick Lumber Co.
Milton McGoldrick, McGoldrick Lumber Co.
Ralph Bockmier, Bockmier-McCoubrey Lumber Co.
Ray Wilson, Deer Park Lumber Co.
Jim Brown, Long Lake Lumber Co.
Bill Burns, Rogers Lumber Co.
Joe McCarthy, White Pine Lumber Co.
Palmer Soderberg, White Pine Lumber Co.

They say the easiest way to climb the social ladder is to have had your grandfather start at the bottom of it. In the lumber game it helps if your grandfather was a Scandinavian.

Rutledge Resumes Operation on 21st Anniversary

Twenty-one years, to the day, since its whistle blew for the first shift of the brand new mill, the Rutledge Unit turned its wheels again on the morning of April 1st to commence its 19th run. Then as the Coeur d'Alene plant of the Edward Rutledge Timber Company and now as the Rutledge Unit of Potlatch Forests, Inc., it still is the same efficient lumber producing mill and, with the exception of a few seasons during the darkest depths of the depression, it has run continuously during that 21-year period.

Two of the men who were at the "coming out" party 21 years ago were present at this anniversary. They were C. O. Graue, manager of the Rutledge Unit and J. L. "Jack" Frisch, superintendent of manufacture at Clearwater Unit. Jack Frisch was superintendent of the Rutledge mill in 1916 and Mr. Graue was its first keeper. This made it a sort of reunion and a chance to look back over 21 years of service.

During its shutdown which ended on April 1st, numerous repairs were made to the sawmill. As an evidence of the original sturdy construction and the durability of wood, the framework and decking of the green chain were renewed for the first time. The tank also underwent remodeling and new aprons designed which effect saving in the use of Lignasin, the preventive used.

The mill started cutting on a supply of Idaho White Pine logs which were at the mill but will soon go to Ponderosa Pine for a period of 5 to 6 weeks.

Company Doctor at Bovill

Dr. Allan Towner has been employed by the Western Hospital Association and reside in Bovill and care for the hospitalization of Potlatch Forests employees. He will also engage in private practice in Bovill in addition to his service to Potlatch Forests.

Dr. Towner will maintain an office at Bovill but the cases requiring hospital treatment will continue to be sent to the Potlatch hospital.

Hailing from Kansas, where he received his medical education, Dr. Towner had been associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps at Hamman, Idaho, prior to his acceptance of the Bovill position.

Clearwater Woods Activities

The Beaver Creek main line is expected to be plowed out any day now. This will mean the opening up of Camp 14 and Camp "O." At the time this goes to print, this line will probably have been plowed out and the first supplies and men taken in. So far, the water has been too low to think about a drive for this spring.

CAMP 20

More construction work is being done at the present time, and the crew has been enlarged 12 or 15 men in the past month. With the construction work, the output has gone up a quarter of a million over February:

February	3,216,000
March	3,488,000

We have one cedar maker and he reports that he can see the end of the cedar making from where he is working at the present time.

The smaller timber has been logged during the winter and at present, the men are working in a little better sized timber. The snow is fast disappearing, making the skidding somewhat more difficult. The trees being of better size and standing more closely, have made possible the quarter million gain.

There are 22 teams skidding at the present time, 18 teams skidding to landings and four skidding to two 22 Cats—which complete the trips to the landing. Two large Cats are being used to bring in tree lengths to landings directly.

CAMP 21

Camp 21 proved its versatility of talent by producing both white pine (1,381,290') and cedar poles (3,455 pcs.) last month.

Our crew pulled a \$5.00 suit act and shrank considerably since the last writing. There are now 43 cedar makers in camp and 24 Cat men, plus four cedar checkers who practically don't count. We are experimenting on skidding poles with Cats, and it seems to be working out fine. With the spring rains, all we have to do is boom the poles up, and drive them down the skid road.

What with the snow melting and the Tom Cats wailing at night, we're beginning to believe the calendar when it says spring's here.

CAMP 22

About three weeks' skidding remain at Camp 22. The camp will run, how-

ever, for several weeks to make cedar and pile brush. Eighteen cedar makers have worked for the past three weeks and produced 1900 poles during the month of March.

A total of 3,051,070 feet of pine was skidded during the month of March, bringing the total for the camp to 12,903,670 feet.

Snow on the south slopes has nearly disappeared, but about four feet remain in the draws on the north slopes.

The dray haul will end in a few days and the remainder of the timber will be skidded direct to the railroad.

POIRIER & REIDT

REED'S CREEK

Snow is going fast, being down to 4' in the woods and about 18" at camp.

Logs are coming in very good considering the condition of roads, which are breaking up quite fast. Some places are down to ground and some still have a foot or two of snow yet.

This month, we will have over 1 1/4 million.

Our recreation car is surely being used to good advantage. The radio is a great help and enjoyed by the whole crew.

Sickness has been less this month than last. Had one accident—a log rolling over one of the teamsters and broke his ankle, putting him in the hospital in a cast.

The burned logs are coming out fairly well but don't look too hot, although some good stuff will be sawed out of them.

This ad. was seen in the Lewiston Tribune—"Capable man who can operate Cat and wife for a ranch. No children. Only dependable ones need apply."

Will see you next month.

Visitors

Visiting Potlatch Forests during the past weeks were:

Bill Connolly, Weyerhaeuser Sales Company, formerly of the Klamath Falls region and recently transferred to Zanesville, Ohio.

Henry Klopp of the White Pine Sash Company of Spokane. Incidentally, he bought a few cars of lumber.

Louis Shanks, in charge of the Spokane Office of the Weyerhaeuser Sales Company.

Nels Sanford and Peter McCue of the Edward Hines Lumber Co. of Chicago.

Change in State Unemployment Insurance Law

An amendment which removed the .9 per cent deduction from employees' wages was made to the Idaho Unemployment Insurance Law during the past session of the State Legislature.

Employers are still taxed for the support of this fund but the amendment removed the employee contribution requirement.

As a result of the scarcity of accurate information concerning this amendment while it was awaiting the signature of Governor Clark, various and sundry rumors have been circulated and gained more or less acceptance. To clear up two of the most common of these, Mr. Torsen has issued the following statement to the Family Tree:

"On March 22nd the Unemployment Compensation Division of the State of Idaho Industrial Accident Board wired Potlatch Forests, Inc., as follows: 'Attorney General has ruled employee tax collectible by this department from January first through March seventeenth nineteen thirty seven payrolls for March to be prorated as above indicated.' On March 25th a further wire set forth information to be furnished the state covering each employee who has worked any time between January 1st and March 17th showing his account number, name and total wage paid during the period. This report is being prepared and must be furnished the Unemployment Insurance Division by April 25th together with payment in full of the tax collected from employees as well as the employer's contribution for the full first three months which is at the rate of 1.8 per cent or twice the employees' tax." Rumor had it that these deductions stopped immediately when the amendment was passed and that those collected for January and February were to be returned. Such was not the case.

Also Mr. Torsen stated, in answer to the question, that the Idaho State Unemployment Insurance Law was still in effect and would continue to operate as originally set up with the one exception that employees no longer had to contribute. In passing this amendment, Idaho has followed the example of a majority of the other states in not requiring contributions from employees.

Theodore Fohl

*E. C. Rettig Sketches Life of
Pioneer Lumberman*

If the Clearwater Unit of the Potlatch Forests, Inc., has a father, Theodore Fohl must be given the credit. He was on the Clearwater Timber Company payroll from its inception in 1900 until its operating existence was terminated in 1931 with the formation of Potlatch Forests, Inc. That company now proudly claims him as one of its organization.

Born in Schorndorf, Wurttemberg, Germany, on November 18, 1863, he just recently passed his 73rd birthday. Being of a progressive nature and feeling that herding the little band of cows belonging to his parents was not his life's ambition, he migrated to America in 1878 at fifteen years of age. Possibly the lack of shoe leather and having to warm his feet in fresh cow dung as he herded the cows on frosty mornings helped him to decide that the United States offered better opportunities.

Toledo, Ohio, was his objective, where he resided with a step-sister for all of two weeks. Left one day to hoe potatoes, with a supposedly empty wine barrel in close proximity, his step-sister returned from a visit and found no hoeing done but an intoxicated young man sleeping soundly.

MIGRATES TO MICHIGAN

Feeling a greater opportunity awaited elsewhere he packed his turkey and made his way to Grand Rapids, Michigan. There, he worked for about six months in a furniture factory as a varnisher.

Leaving Grand Rapids, he went to McCosty, Michigan, and secured work as an offbearer and edgerman in a sawmill, sawing white pine. Here is where his first experience with white pine started and although leaving it a few times to try his hand at other things, he always returned.

Other ventures included the operation of a shingle mill at Bay City, Michigan, for a year and then he switched his activity to harness making, which trade he followed until his 21st birthday.

Upon reaching 21 years of age, he went to Cadillac, Michigan, and secured his citizenship papers and then hastened to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and in that year of 1884 took up a preemption claim on the



*Theodore Fohl, the Father of Clearwater
Timber Co.*

Bruillegrand River in Houghton county. Much of the land in this area was under contest between settlers and a railroad company. During that time pickings were very slim. The settlers or squatters could neither secure work from the railroad company, which was in its construction period, nor buy supplies from its stores or camps. As there were no roads and the nearest settlement over 40 miles away, the settlers did their utmost to exist by stealing from the railroad. Even then pickings were poor and beans flavored with porcupines instead of bacon or ham, and discarded scraps of food of the construction crews were highly prized morsels. However, most of the settlers stayed with their land, toughing it out as best they could, and finally won out in 1887 after three hard years.

Following his fight for his preemption claim, he heard about some timber land in Wisconsin on the Michigan Iron Land Grant. The land was to be given, by the Federal Government, to the Michigan Iron Land Company who in return were to build a state highway, which they did not do. Fohl examined the area, organized a gang of men to file on the land and had his crew at the land office at Rhineland, Wisconsin, the day the land was open for filing. However, squatters rights prevailed at that time and

a bunch went out the night before the opening of this grant for settlers squatted on the land and beat out the who had filed.

BUYS GENERAL STORE

Returning to the Upper Peninsula he did a little logging and clearing land by ox team. Disposing of the land, containing both white pine and hardwood timber, he acquired a general merchandise store at Kenton, Michigan, and sold it in 1894 to the Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Co. Kroll was Chas. Kroll, later of Spokane and Maries, a well known lumberman in this region.

After selling his store he came West to Moscow, Idaho, in company with C. O. Brown and his son Nat. Fohl and the Browns examined lands in the Bovill country where they located homesteads and Fohl also located one for himself. On this claim, grew the largest white pine tree so far found in Idaho. It was cut a number of years ago by the Potlatch Lumber Company but its memory is still preserved in pictures and on the back of decks, playing cards distributed by Potlatch Forests, Inc., last year. Fohl spent much time admiring that tree and was so large that years later, on a trip to the Coast to view some large Douglas fir the size of that timber did not deceive him, must to the astonishment of his Coast friends.

From 1894 to 1900 he located homesteads, did some cruising, located timber land for the State of Idaho and endeavored to interest the Weyerhaeusers and Humbirds in this country.

Finally in 1900, John A. Glover, Weyerhaeuser partner, came to Moscow and spent some time in the timber with Fohl and Brown. Mr. Glover was impressed with the timber and in August of that year the Weyerhaeuser interests acquired a large amount of Mt. Rainier unsurveyed scrip from the Northern Pacific Railroad and Fohl and the Browns placed it on Beaver and Washington Creeks.

WEYERHAEUSERS INSPECT TIMBER

In the fall of 1900 Frederick Weyerhaeuser and his son Charles came to Idaho and went with Mr. Fohl to Beaver and Washington Creeks to inspect the timber and scrip filings. They traveled by horseback across country chopping what trail was necessary and they went. Snow was on the ground and at their camp on Beaver Creeks

Meadows, Mr. Fohl sat up and kept fire all night to keep the others from freezing.

Locating unsurveyed scrip was a difficult job and Fohl had to run transit lines for many miles from the nearest surveyed land, which at that time was the northeast corner of Township 37 N., R. 5 E., a point between Pierce and Headquarters. The lines run by Fohl's men checked out fairly closely with the later government survey. Ben E. Bush, at a later date State Forester, was one of the transit men.

The Clearwater Timber Company was organized in 1900 and this company placed many thousands of acres of scrip during the years 1900 to 1903 inclusive. Some was placed at later dates also, but the real land rush was from 1900 to 1903.

FOHL GETS FRESH MOOSE MEAT

During the many years with this company Mr. Fohl has had a wealth of experiences which if collected and told as only he can tell it, would make a book well worth reading. During the winter of 1900-1901 he and his party were camped on Washington Creek near the mouth of Moose Creek. Pulling their supplies and grub on a hand sled was the method employed at that time and as a result only the essentials of life were taken on these trips. Running short of grub on this trip, Mr. Fohl came upon a fresh moose track, and forgetting his cruising for the time being, he took after the moose. The snow was quite deep and snowshoeing was better than wading, as the moose had to do, so Mr. Fohl soon jumped the animal and finally ran him into Moose Creek (the creek received its name from this incident) where the running water had kept the creek open in spots. Here the moose stopped and turned upon its foe. Mr. Fohl cut a club with his pocket knife and decided to slaughter Mr. Moose. With the first exchange of blows, which actually was a charge by the moose, striking the ends of Mr. Fohl's snowshoes as he stood on the bank, but fortunately missing him, the moose seemed to be the victor as the foe vanished rapidly down the creek. Soon however, Mr. Fohl was back, after going to camp, securing a piece of rope, an axe, and some assistance. He then proceeded to rope the moose and killed it with the axe.

Mr. Fohl and Ben E. Bush, mentioned previously, ran a line by chaining and triangulation in 1903 (he



Headquarters before logging operations started.

thinks) from the northeast corner of Township 40 N., R. 6 E., which is near the mouth of Beaver Creek, across Pot Mountain to the high backbone between Kelley and Fourth of July Creeks, within the Clearwater National Forest. They chained from the place of beginning to Elk Prairie on the head of Skull Creek by the way of Mallard Lake. On Elk Prairie they established a base line, triangulated to Pot Mountain and from there to the high divide between Kelley and Fourth of July Creeks at a point where Mr. Fohl had established a flag or monument.

Doing this work it was necessary to cross the North Fork River quite often and as the two men were a perfect Mutt and Jeff in stature (Mr. Fohl being Jeff), the fording of the river was relatively simple for Mutt but not so for Jeff. As a result Jeff, quite often, had to weight his pack sack down with rocks in order to make his feet touch bottom.

During the early years and until his death in 1902, Mr. C. O. Brown was in charge of the company activities. At his death his son, Nat, succeeded him until 1911 when Mr. Fohl assumed charge.

FORM TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Fohl assisted in organizing the Clearwater Timber Protective Association in 1906. He served as fire warden for years and is still secretary-treasurer.

This story would not be complete without a short resume of his record as fire warden. He has fought and actively directed the fighting of hundreds of forest fires, very few of which

ever succeeded in reaching greater proportions than what is termed a spot fire or one of less than 1/10 acres in area. When he retired in 1926 as fire-warden he turned over to his successor one of the most beautiful and least fire-scarred areas in our great north-west.

During the early years the Association area was much greater than today. Originally it covered portions of the Clearwater and St. Joe National Forests. The Bungalow district on Orogrande Creek, Weitas Creek and Fourth of July Creek, all within the Clearwater National Forest, and Fohl Creek, named after Mr. Fohl, now in the St. Joe National Forest, were originally a part of this Association and under Mr. Fohl's protection. Within a very few years after the transfer of these areas to the Forest Service, fires gutted them until today they resemble a vast graveyard with their tall grey snags as tombstones.

Resigning as fire warden in the spring of 1914 to devote his full time to the Clearwater Timber Co., he had to don his fire-fighting togs before the summer was over to stop a very disastrous fire on Washington and Scofield Creeks. The writer, from personal knowledge, is positive that this fire would have been no more than a small spot fire had Mr. Fohl still been fire warden.

In 1918 the Association experienced another bad fire season and in 1919 Mr. Fohl again assumed active charge as fire warden. In 1926 he relinquished his duties as fire warden for the last time, but has at all times kept an of-

ficial eye on things to minimize any possible errors by his successors.

SECRETS OF SUCCESS

Mr. Fohl's fire technique was simple but very effective. The following are some of the more important factors accounting for his success as fire warden:

1. Ability to pick an efficient organization.

2. He immediately opened up his area with lots of rough trails and saw that all prospector and homesteader trails were kept open. As time permitted, the trails were improved but not until he had first covered his area with a close network of rough ones.

Time or speed in reaching a fire are factors he stressed. He was convinced that many rough trails covering his area in a fine network rather than a few good ones many miles apart would materially reduce the lost time in reaching a fire. The Forest Service operated on the opposite principle for years, even neglecting to keep open existing prospector and homesteader trails. In recent years, after a very disastrous fire history, the Service is now practicing what Fohl figured out many years before.

3. He insisted on one general principle in trenching fires and that was to force that line of mineral dirt as close to the fire as humanly possible to do. He would, where possible, subdue a flame or flames with dirt in order to get the trench against the fire and thus there was little possibility of its spreading. Except for burning logs, snags and trees the fire would soon burn itself out. Burning snags and trees were felled as rapidly as possible.

4. He insisted that his men always attack the head of a fire and it had to be a very serious hazard indeed if this principle was not adhered to.

5. He insisted on at least two men going to a fire. He felt two men had a tendency to bolster the morale and courage of each other and neither would be so apt to give up in subduing a fire as when working by themselves. I feel many small fires were corralled and put out in this manner that would otherwise have reached serious proportions had only one man been sent to put them out.

A LIFE DEVOTED TO PUBLIC SERVICE

As fire warden, Mr. Fohl assumed a public trust and the many thousands of acres of green timber within his domain at his retirement is the real answer to his faithfulness in protecting

a great public heritage. Burning the shirt from his back, the soles from his shoes, living on berries or frying fish on a shovel when food ran out, was all a part of the day's work and done cheerfully in order to protect the great domain that was entrusted to him. We, of this generation, reaping the benefits from the years of toil and privation of Fohl and men of his caliber little realize what they have gone through to assist us. Possibly their reward is the personal satisfaction in knowing they have done their task well. Space does not permit or I would enjoy picturing the development of the Association under Mr. Fohl from a vast wilderness area with a few trails, no telephone lines or roads, to the present time when glass enclosed lookout cabins dot all major peaks and many minor ones, trails rapidly being converted into roads and telephone wires connect all the lookouts with the Association Headquarters and the outside world. Today, also, railroads with puffing locomotives and screeching car wheels, groaning trucks, chugging cats, the swish and then thud of timber being felled, all attempt to combine and blend their respective noises to drown out the weird, lonesome cry of the cougar, always heard by the occasional tenderfoot intruder in his few nights sojourn in the woods but seldom heard by the grizzled old woodsmen. The rapid passing of the old days filled with privation and hardship must cause a real pang of sorrow in the hearts of those old sourdoughs as it causes envy in us can-

openers of the present generation who listening to the tall tales as told by those old timers when two or more get together.

A number of the present organization of Potlatch Forests, Inc., started their career with this company under Mr. Fohl. A few of them are, the late Ivan Doyle, Chester Yangel, H. Torsen and E. C. Rettig. The present fire warden, Mr. A. B. Curtis, is also a product of Mr. Fohl's training.

He was associated with and has seen the passing of many well known lumbermen, such as Frederick Weyerhaeuser, John A. Humbird, John and Charles Weyerhaeuser, sons of Frederick, William Deary, A. W. Laird, George Rubedew and others too numerous to mention.

His life with this company, dating from 1900, has been one filled with hardship and grief. Except for the past year when illness weighed him down and necessitated a serious operation from which the doctors did not expect him to recover, he has been actively engaged as the head cruiser of this company. Fighting his illness and beating the doctor's judgment, he today looking fit to repeat again in almost 37 years of service with the company of which I claim he is the father.

Sales Predictions

With a full order file to carry over April will not find Potlatch Forest shipping suffering from the slight slump which is being experienced during the current month.

Reports from the East say the condition is temporary, according to Pratt, and its cause is attributed to various reasons. Nervousness over the effect of the fashionable "sit-down" strike and previous overbuying by shippers are two of these reasons which have been suggested. To partially destroy the latter suggestion, Mr. Pratt remarked that the requests to rush shipment on orders previously placed would indicate that some of them at least were not "overbought."

Potlatch Night Shift

The Potlatch sawmill started a night shift on April 1st, which affords work for about 150 men in this and other departments. The shift is running efficiently and cutting lumber like a seasoned crew. This additional shift will help absorb the oversupply of logs in the Potlatch pond.

