

THE FAMILY TREE

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DIFFICULT PROBLEM IS HANDLED BY THE CLEARWATER FIRE DEPARTMENT A GOOD RECORD MUST BE MAINTAINED

"Fires in the mountains 'n' snakes in the grass" has eternally been a human cry of distress. Potlatch Forests, Inc., is forgetting about the snakes, but much effort and expense is directed down the alley of fire prevention.

"Fire prevention at the plants is one of our most difficult problems," says J. L. Frisch, superintendent of manufacture. "It is necessary to keep constantly alert on the fire hazard conditions around each plant and to keep the fire-fighting equipment in first class condition all of the time. With a relaxed point of view regarding fire protection, our jobs as well as the huge investments in any of our plants might be wiped out by fire within a few minutes."

Temporary fire departments were set up at the mills even during their construction to prevent loss by fire. In those days a fire department consisted of a few feet of hose, a pipe line, and a service pump to furnish water, and a watchman at night to find the fires. After construction was finished, it became necessary to increase the size of the fire protection in accordance with insurance agreements, economy of operation, and security through fire prevention. Along the way various steps in the development of the fire departments are outstanding.

Fire College Attended

One highlight in the lives of the Potlatch and Clearwater fire departments was their activity even beyond the limits of the operating units, during the summer of 1936, as members of the Central Idaho Fire College, at present a defunct institution.

Meetings of the college were held at the headquarters of one of its members. At the first meeting, the city of Lewiston Fire Department was host. Then the college met at Kamiah, Grangeville, the Clearwater mill in Lewiston, Moscow, and Potlatch.

Throughout the minutes of the col-

Extra Work Again

"The Lord helps those who help themselves."

According to various published estimates, there are several million unemployed men in our nation. The communities in which this company operates, like all other communities, are supporting their share of unemployed persons. Many of our crews are working part time.

Total figures of employment are impressive to me, but more impressive is the fact that, locally at least, the percentage of skilled men out of work is relatively low.

This is the time, it seems to me, that every unskilled man, whether he is working or not, ought to equip himself during spare time for a better job. Each man should spend at least part of his time getting ready for a step up the line. When times get better, we shall need all of our man-power to keep the wheels moving. The men who are ready will take the lead.

C. L. BILLINGS,
General Manager.

lege meetings are recorded discussions of fire control problems, types of fire equipment, advantageous legislation, and other subjects closely allied to the field.

Since members of the Clearwater Fire Department were sent to each meeting of the college, A. R. "Dick" Johnson, fire chief at the Clearwater mill, and J. L. Frisch, who is chairman of the Clearwater fire committee, were well impressed by the value of the college and believe that its continuation would have been beneficial.

Let's take a peek into the operation

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Clearwater Fuel Department Operates Hog Fuel Dryer

One of the newest developments of the fuel department at the Clearwater unit has been the putting into use of the sawmill hog fuel dryer. This new piece of machinery is making available about 28 tons of fuel for Pres-to-logs each 24 hours that it runs.

The principles used in drying sawmill hog fuel are those of exposure to high temperature and finely ground fuel. The fuel from the sawmill hog is re-ground at the dryer. It then passes through one phase of the drying process, and then it is re-ground and dried again.

Heat from the power plant smoke stack is used to dry the fuel. A series of five collectors gives the heated fuel's moisture a chance to escape. The drying process is so effective that fuel with a moisture content of approximately 130 percent can be reduced to about six or seven percent.

The dryer, installed under the supervision of R. T. Bowling, has been going most of the time during the last two months. It is operated by the boiler room crew.

Visitors

This month the general offices and Clearwater unit entertained Mr. and Mrs. Willard W. Trumbull of Spokane. While Mr. and Mrs. Trumbull were visiting in Lewiston few realized the significance of their visit. Mr. Trumbull and his associates homesteaded and proved up on timber lands that were afterwards acquired by the Potlatch Lumber Company. On his homestead was located the site of the town of Elk River.

From the Central Lumber Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, came Mr. E. A. Brackett to visit the general offices. He was accompanied from Spokane by Mr. Louis Shanks of the Weyerhaeuser Sales Company offices.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF HEADQUARTERS ACTIVITIES



(1) Horses at the Headquarters barn yard are healthy and happy. (2) This is a picture of a pile-driver. (3) Take a peek at Headquarters as you enter from Pierce. (4) A crew loading logs that have been picked up out of Camp 11. (5) Loading a "cat" on to a truck at Headquarters. (6) Camp 11 pickup crew loading a truck. (7) Camp 11 living quarters is pictured.

A Difficult Problem is Handled by the Clearwater Fire Department

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of the system of fire prevention and control used at the mills. Beginning where the sun is hottest and perhaps the fire hazard is the greatest, the following is a bird's-eye view of how the Clearwater fire department functions:

Working Man's Cooperation Effective

Speaking again, Mr. Frisch praised the Clearwater crew as follows:

"Cooperation with respect to fire problems is necessary to carry on a successful fire prevention program. All men working in the plant must respect the fire protection rules and every foreman or inspector must do his part in maintaining a clean unit.

"Numerous inspections are used at the Clearwater plant to keep everyone fire-prevention-minded. The safety-first supervisor, the foreman, a monthly plant inspection, and daily inspections by the fire chief are a constant check on house-keeping and plant sanitation.

"The Clearwater crew has constantly given their cooperation in keeping fire hazards down. A large part of the credit for Clearwater's good record with fire belongs to the workmen."

A large investment is represented by the Clearwater stationary fire equipment. It was costly to construct; it is expensive to maintain.

The water reservoir containing a reserve supply of water that is pumped from the Clearwater mill pond is located on the hillside south of the mill, and it is elevated about 250 feet. This huge water tank contains about 1,250,000 gallons of water, and it furnishes a water pressure at the mill of about 107 pounds per square inch. The water from the reservoir is never to be tapped for use except when an extreme fire emergency occurs. Clearwater firemen say that up to the present writing the reservoir supply has never been used to extinguish a fire. However, if it should be needed, a 12-inch main would carry it down to the mill.

Water used on the plant for other than drinking purposes is pumped from the pond by three service pumps with a capacity of 1000 gallons per minute each.

For use with fire only is one fire pump with a capacity of 1500 gallons per minute. Four boiler feed pumps with a combined capacity of about 1000 gallons may also be used in an

emergency. Half of the pumps are run by steam and half of them are electric powered, so that if the electric power should be cut off at any time half of the pumps would be left running.

Mains Circle Entire Plant

Water mains circle the entire plant and each separated building. They are connected so that a break in any main can be isolated and water supplied wherever it is needed. Water pressure is maintained in the mains by the service pumps filling the pipe lines from the pond.

Hydrants are located all around the outside of every building, and they are placed 300 feet apart. One hundred fifty feet of two and one-half inch hose is placed in each hydrant house. Hose valves with 50 feet of one and one-half inch hose are sta-

tioned on alternating 100 foot squares throughout the plant buildings, so that it is not more than one hundred feet between hose valves.



J. L. FRISCH

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An automatic sprinkler system is used to cover the roof and floor surface of the plant south of the tail-race with one sprinkler head for each 64 square feet of space. There are 83 separate sprinkler systems. Whenever a fire is started near one of the sprinkler heads, it automatically sprays the fire. It is believed that the sprinkler

system has checked or put out many fires that would otherwise have become huge conflagrations.

Located at convenient places about the plant are six hose cart houses containing 600 feet of hose, extra nozzle, an axe, and a crow bar.

Fire barrels, most of them filled with water, are placed about the buildings of the plant for use in case of fire. Fifty of the barrels contain calcium chloride, which does not freeze and evaporate as readily as water. All the fire barrels are inspected regularly, and, except in winter when the water barrels are not used, they are kept filled. Mr. Johnson at every opportunity insists that the fire barrels be kept in their place and that the two buckets be left with them all the time.

Electric Controls Operate

Whenever a fire occurs in a department it becomes necessary to close the power circuits of the department taking its electric power so that it is safe to use fire-fighting equipment and to prevent further spreading of the fire. At the power house electric switch controls may be used to isolate the power of various sections of the plant from the entire operation. Other switches in the sections may be used to further isolate smaller units of the operation; for example, the unstacker power may be cut away from the section in which it is included.

When A. R. Johnson, fire chief of the Clearwater mill, hears "toot—toot—toot, toot" he knows that there is a fire alarm being sounded from the second floor of the southeast corner of the stacker building. Anyone of the three signal horns may have told him, or he may have read the signal at either the fire hall or the power plant on a tape recorder.

The fire alarm system is divided into three units for convenience in coding the signals, that is, if a signal begins with one "toot" it is in section one, two "toots" in section two, and three "toots" the fire is in section three. When the fire alarm signal is sent in a gong is rung in the fire hall to wake the firemen, and one is rung in the power plant so the men on duty there will start the fire pump, and prepare to aid with the fire if they are needed. The registered signal on the tape at each place tells the firemen or the power house man by reading the signal chart where the alarm has come from.

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A Difficult Problem

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Under the title of moveable equipment the Clearwater fire department is well fitted. Starting from scratch a few years ago the department has built up to the point that it is able to handle almost any kind of a fire that comes along.

Eight machines for spraying carbon dioxide on fires, and 137 1-quart pyrene, carbon tetra-chloride guns, are in use. These machines should be used at the base of a fire rather than on the flame, and should be used on electric fires only, because the chemicals are too expensive for other use. Fire Chief Johnson has difficulty getting employees to keep from using the chemicals where water should be used in extinguishing fires.

A red fire truck for the department has been in use since the fall of 1937. It is equipped with 600 feet of hose, two carbon dioxide machines, two gas masks, two crow bars, two fire axes, one cut-off nozzle to cut off the stream through a hose while handling it, one fog nozzle used to spray on gasoline or oil fires, and one hose clamp to shut off a stream of water where a hose has broken.

Trained Personnel Always on Hand

The personnel of the fire department consists of a crew of 11 watchmen and 12 men who live at the fire hall. According to an agreement with the insurance underwriters it is necessary to keep the fire hall fully occupied with men trained in fire fighting. These men are trained by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Pritchard, his assistant, throughout the summer months. The firemen are subject to call for fire duty all of the time. They are paid monthly for living at the fire hall; the living quarters are made as comfortable as possible and the firemen alternate on one day at a time off duty. Since the fire hall training was begun, 114 men have served duty as firemen. At present 49 of those men, trained firemen, are employed in the Clearwater plant.

Assisting in the administration of the fire department is a fire committee headed by J. L. Frisch. The members include the fire chief and six other department heads at the plant. At each committee problems pertinent to fire protection are discussed; committees are appointed and other assistance and advice is given the fire chief.

Fire Committee Aids With Work

An example of the type of work done by the committee follows: At a

CLEARWATER FIREMEN ARE RARIN' TO GO



Above: A. R. "Dick" Johnson showing how to turn in a fire alarm. Dick says, "Follow instructions! Pull the lever down and let go." Below: The Clearwater fire crew. Their uniforms are on the grass near by.

recent meeting the fire committee minutes show that 21 subjects concerning fire control were discussed. Among these were reports about fire equipment being placed on regular maintenance schedules; foremen and regularly employed men in each department being trained in fire protection methods; the report on an investigation to find an evergreen growing grass to be planted throughout the plant that would replace weeds and make it possible to keep it short by grazing; and a discussion about controlling oil-stained surfaces and preventing the oil from spreading over them.

All in all the Clearwater fire department has a record that may be envied

by many professional departments. In fact on July 4, 1936, when the Lewiston City Fire Department held a contest among the departments of several towns, Clearwater took second place, only nosed out of first place by the tiny margin of one second in throwing up a ladder. In actual practice the department's record speaks for itself. The longest period that any fire burned in the plant was about one hour. With approximately 115 fires put out, a serious fire has not occurred.

Editor's note: Fire departments at Potlatch and Rutledge will be described in succeeding issues of *The Family Tree*.

North Fork Blow-Out Catches Cruisers

June rains stopped Potlatch Forests, Inc., and forest service cruisers from work near Bungalow Ranger Station, which is located above the logging scenes on the North Fork of the Clearwater river. To pass the time away four of the cruisers, Alfred Hansen, Walter Fields, O. B. "Bud" Calvin, of Potlatch Forests, Inc., and Fleming "Red" Stewart of the forest service, were riding up the river in company car No. 1 to see some plots of trees that the government has planted.

Heavy rains stopped them near a CCC camp for a few minutes while the storm passed and rocks or logs had time to loosen up and roll. A few minutes later, as they approach a small culvert where the road crosses a gully, a North Fork blow-out caught them.

Al Hansen, driver of the car, steered her to her doom down over the bank, over and over, mixed up with mud, rocks, and logs, while Bud Calvin sat hard on his seat and held the steel top from caving in.

"It seemed like a week," said Hansen, "before a stump stopped us and Bud was calm enough to get us out. It could not have been more than a minute though, because, while we were getting away from the car we had to watch out for rolling logs and rocks."

All married men, three of them with children, these fellows had just about given up their places on this earth. By the slim chance of a miracle did they avoid being crushed; one more turn of the car would have thrown them into the river. Hansen turned the motor off, or the car might have burned. Yet with minor scratches, and none the worse for the experience, these men came out of the car without losing anything. Three of them had unbroken glasses, and one an unlighted cigarette.

Potlatch woodsmen have nothing more to offer than, "Never let it be said that Potlatch cruisers don't live right."

Teacher: "Johnny, I'm only punishing you because I love you."

Johnny: "I wish I was big enough to return your love."

"How is it he never takes you to the theatre any more?"

"Well, one evening it rained and we sat in the parlor at home."

CAR NO. 1 MEETS HER MAKER



Walt Fields and Bud Calvin bidding farewell to Car No. 1

Rutledge Unit Notes

Two Potlatchers, at least know how much it costs to be an admiral in the Coeur d'Alene navy.

Ed C. Rettig, president of the North Idaho chamber of commerce, and G. F. Jewett, president of the North Idaho Forestry association, were "decorated" by a kangaroo court in the city by the lake recently and appeared in white caps with white coats emblematic of the royal sweetwater sailors. Coeur d'Alene is celebrating July 2, 3 and 4 in maritime style, hence the uniforms.

The Rutledge unit was visited during the latter part of the month by Mr. F. K. Weyerhaeuser, president of the Weyerhaeuser Sales company, and members of his family. Earlier in the month the merchandising division of the company, headed by Mr. T. L. O'Gara, spent the day at the plant. At that time the men handling the 4-Square marking of lumber had an opportunity to meet with the merchandisers and discuss their problems. The visiting party was also shown some of the new construction in Coeur d'Alene which has arisen during the past year.

Little dog watching the drip from an umbrella: "I'll bet I get blamed for that."

Clearwater Foremen Entertain Wives At Party

Frolicking like children the Clearwater unit foremen, general office department heads, and their wives tossed business and cares aside on the evening of June 11, 1938, to have what everyone described as a very pleasant evening at the Lewis-Clark hotel in Lewiston. The leader of the party was Glen Porter, who is chairman of the entertainment committee for the foremen.

Starting the party, a dinner danced at 7:30 p. m. with an informal get-together, the couples had soon found their way around to get acquainted. While dinner was being served, the orchestra and Walt Sewell, popular radio and vaudeville entertainer, kept everyone interested and happy.

After the dinner everyone joined in dancing until about 11:30 p. m.

For Mr. Porter and his entertainment committee the foremen have expressed their appreciation for the effort used in arranging such an enjoyable party.

Sweet Young Thing: "Ginger ale"
Bartender: "Pale?"
S. Y. T.: "No, just a glass."

THE INDIANS SAID: "EITHER SHOOT SQUARE OR WE WON'T TALK"

(Editor's note: This is the second of a series of thumbnail sketches of the Nez Perce Indian reservation land sale. How the Indians kept the record straight is told in this installment.)

By SID C. JENKINS

There was a great pow-wow in Lapwai on that day of December 5, 1892, when the Nez Perce Indians put three government commissioners over a barrel.

Said Commissioner Robert Schleicher, a resident of Lewiston and one who had been through the Indian wars:

"You have known for several years that a commission would be sent to buy your lands. The commissioners have now arrived to treat for your surplus lands, you reserving enough timberland for yourselves and children. The reputation which the Nez Perce Indians have borne, your advancement in civilization, leads us to believe we can make an agreement as behooves business men—that you will not ask anything unreasonable—that we will not ask anything unfair. We will proceed slowly so that everything may be understood. We now ask you the first question:

"Are you willing to cede to the government?"

Indians Waited

The question went unanswered for five months. It was received in stoic silence. The Indians had a lot of things in the bag that needed airing. Depredations by white men, faults of the government in keeping its word according to treaty stipulations; failure of the government to pay Indian scouts and warriors loyal to it in the wars. Rev. William Wheeler, an Indian spokesman, stepped forward:

"Committee has already made up their minds," he said. "Outside of any agreement between committee and commissioners no one else should be allowed to say anything with reference to selling the lands."

To this James Lawyer, another Nez Perce spokesman, added:

"It is not for us to listen with interest to all kinds of runners, but to such as have been commanded to come here I lend an ear. It almost fills me with shame that commissioners will listen to common people. Those who have been delegated to talk are the ones to

whom the commissioners should listen."

Then up spoke James Reuben, a Nez Perce with whom the commissioners were to deal with for many moons, a man who knew what he wanted:

"I would like the commissioners to know that these (spokesmen) have been selected and are the best. From all settlements and all localities they have taken care to select the best representatives and Archie Lawyer (son of a chieftain) has supervision over us."

It was seen that these men were determined to be the only ones heard. The commissioners were just as determined that all Nez Percés who came forward should have their say. But the stand taken by the councillors had put the commissioners temporarily over the well known barrel. Thoughtfully, sometimes mistakenly, they wriggled their way off, but it was not until May 1, 1893, did they get enough signatures to make the purchase legal.

Where the city of Nezperce now stands was once the center of a vast Indian domain containing 156,000 acres, more or less of range and timberland. Set aside under the treaties of 1855 and 1863, the reservation stretched as far north as to almost reach the mouth of Elk creek where it empties into the North Fork of the Clearwater river. The line ran from that point over to Oro Fino creek, thence south to a point about midway between Grangeville and Elk City, westerly to take in Lake Waha and north, across the Clearwater river in the vicinity of Hatwai creek, to the Genesee country and then east again to the North Fork.

Always there had been uncertainty as to the exact lines, due to faulty surveying, and the white man "muscled in" on the land claimed by the Indians. Throughout the negotiations for the sale of surplus lands there was a constant discord because of the ways of white men.

Days upon days of speech-making followed the opening of the council at Lapwai. Thousands and thousands of words were painstakingly written and in the end the agreement was frowned upon as not the work of the Indian hand, but of the white man's. Patiently and hopefully, as winter began to settle down over them, the commissioners listened. Thus it was on the third day, George Moses spoke up:

"I would like to know everything pertaining to what you commissioners were sent here. I do not wish under a misunderstanding to assent to anything you say.

"The treaty which our fathers made is contained in the under book lying there, telling us how we should do day after day. That which was laid down in that book to our chiefs has not been carried out, the promises contained therein. We would like you to show us what the government promises to us in this matter of letting them have the land.

"How will it be from time to time from this on in case we dispose to you of our land outside of the allotments. I consider that the land which we have left after the allotment is made belongs to us and our stock that runs on the land.

"I hear from you that the government has a friendship for us and I want to know what we can expect from the government from this time on from time to time."

Price Discussed

In the afternoon James Reuben spoke:

"This elderly gentleman with the glasses on (Cyrus Beede) I asked a question. I asked him what price per acre. His answer was 'we wish to hear your price first.' These Indians are before you and their minds are already made up not to sell to you."

Commissioner Beede:

"If I were to go to Mr. Luke or Mr. Webb and talk about buying some ponies he would naturally want to know how many I wanted, and if I did not want but one he would not ask me the price of a thousand. We have asked your price and we don't know how much you want to reserve. If I went to Mr. Luke or Mr. Webb * * * I would want to know what he asked for his ponies before I would tell him how many I would buy."

The Indians complained that since the allotments were made they had been given no patents for the lands allotted them; they felt insecure, "wagon loads of paper have gone to Washington" they said, and nothing had been done to drive off the white men who stole their cattle and horses. James Reubens continued:

"This teaches me that we must have and hold from the government. I go on and regard this treaty and have received no assistance. The left hand man with the glasses (Cyrus Beede) and we reverence him as resembling

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"Here We Are, Visible from Head to Foot," Indians Say to Commission



Gathered before a camera are Indians of the Nez Perce tribe and three government commissioners sent to buy their surplus lands. White men in the picture are Commissioners Robert Schleicher, James F. Allen and Cyrus Beede. Mr. Beede wore glasses and was revered as resembling the missionary and teacher, Rev. Dr. Spalding.

The Indians Said:

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Mr. Spalding, would not wish to take anything from us; but so long as we have no patents to show, they will not respect our allotments.

"This much I have said and I have great reverence for you."

Jonah Hayes referred to the binding words of the treaties and his desire to stand by them, but:

"I don't know whether or not in a year hence I will drink of the water that is going by us in this creek. The watering places on the reservation have been by the whites fenced up. I came on when I was a boy and I do not feel like breaking the treaty by making another."

Peo Peo Mox Mox:

"We have already talked for two days and have grown tired. I whose name is Peo Peo Mox Mox, I say we cannot spare the land or let it go, that which is unallotted."

On the fourth day Commissioner Schleicher proposed \$2.50 per acre as the price of the land. The price didn't cause a ripple of excitement among the Indians. George Moses heaved a monkey wrench in the machinery by saying:

"Show us the land that is outside of the allotments that you have come to purchase and then we will know."

"I think that perhaps nearly half of these Indians present have not got their lands, allotted to them, and I don't know but some of their lands lie on the cliffs and bluffs of the river."

Thus it went on for many days. The Indians expressed their feeling of weakness and fear that if left to their own resources and the work of white men for sustenance, they would not survive. Unfortunately one of the commissioners made the statement that if

the Indians did not sell, they would regret it, and the rest of that day's council was spent in explaining that he meant if they had not sold a pony when they had a chance, they might wish later they had the money. Hundreds and thousands of words were written as commissioners and Indians strove for an understanding on such simple matters as this.

The sixteenth and last day of the council, sessions having been interrupted and postponed several times, occurred on January 19, 1893. By that time the commissioners had secured 117 signatures. Bitterness and hard feelings, however, marked the sessions on the tenth day and to this was added extreme cold weather.

(The story of the tenth day will be told in the next installment, which will conclude the series of the negotiations for the Nez Perce Reservation.)

Federal Credit Union Has a Good Start

Potlatch No. 1 Federal Credit Union was one month old on May 20. A little over a month old the credit union now has fifty more members than there were in the start. Cash assets of the credit union total \$300 and loans outstanding, seven of them, total \$160.

According to governmental authorities the operation of this credit union has been normal. Off to a good start, the board of directors has already authorized the employment of an educational committee to keep Clearwater employees aware of the advantages that come by being a member of Potlatch No. 1 Federal Credit Union.

POTLATCH WOODS

Camp R, Swamp Creek

All of the cedar poles have been skidded to the flume at Camp R, and they are waiting until the water goes down in the river before fluming them. A crew has been piling brush, and this is completed. Part of the crew has been transferred to Camp S where preparations are now being made to get ready for logging at that camp.

Camp 32

After being shut down since last November, Camp 32 has now started logging operations. At present they are picking up down timber that was cut last fall. Two loaders are working and a crew of 100 men are in camp. Due to all the rain that we have had the past week or so, work has been slow in starting. No sawyers are on as yet but next week should see several gangs start. There are twenty teams and two caterpillar tractors skidding. Axel Anderson is in charge of this camp.

Dr. Jahn to Leave University of Idaho

Dr. Edwin C. Jahn, professor of forestry in charge of research in the chemistry of wood at the University of Idaho, is leaving on or about August 1, for his alma mater, New York University, to accept a position on the faculty there in the school of forestry.

A little girl had been playing in the water with some other children. Her mother asked if she were playing with little boys or girls. She replied, "I don't know, mother, they didn't have any clothes on."