

Spokesman-Review -1/28/06: "Company Monopolizes All--not a single lot is for sale". 4/5/06: "Trust Grips Palouse--Lumber Company Charged with Advancing Prices--Controlling Supply, Weyerhaeusers are Alleged to Have Put Screws on Hard." (Common rough lumber had been advanced \$4.00--from \$11.00 to \$13.00 per M advanced up to \$15.00 and \$17.00.)

Moscow Evening Journal--2/10/06: C.J. Munson, State Land Commissioner reported: "Potlatch a Busy Burg-- Before another year Potlatch will be the busiest town in the Inland Empire....The rules of the company regulating the conduct of daily life of the men are very rigid-- Last month several men were caught cutting ice for family use. Several days after the incident each was served with notice that if they did not discontinue this work they would promptly be discharged. Every employee belongs to the company, body and soul."

Troy News--3/16/06: In an editorial regarding time extensions of cutting rights on timber purchased from the State: "Lest We Forget--It looks as though the Potlatch Lumber Company proposed to repeat their underhanded deliberate attempt of last election by which they sought to steal extension from the people-- By a promise never intended to be kept the timber people bribed the business men of Moscow into betraying their county and state...The timber people lied to the people and deceived them once. The same motive will exist again next fall, and if opportunity presents itself will the Potlatch Lumber Company not repeat the old game?"

Moscow Evening Journal--3/19/06: W.M. Morgan, Mayor of Moscow, in reporting on a personal inspection trip to Potlatch and Princeton reported in an article headlined: "System at Potlatch Works for Good": "In common with a great many citizens in this community, I have been prone to criticize as un-American the plan of the Potlatch company to refuse to sell a town lot, or to allow anyone to become a property

holder in Potlatch. This is a mistake. The three or four hundred men who are working in this town are well fed, well housed, well paid and contented. Signs appear in the bunk-houses that gambling will not be permitted on the premises. Any man is summarily discharged who violates this rule, or the rule that intoxicating liquors shall not be brought there. The result is that these men are the most capable lot of men I have ever met, and the village is entirely free from the tinnhorn element which is so prone to gather in places of this kind with the view of filching from a community of laborers their hard earned coin-- all is cleanliness, sobriety, enterprise and prosperity.

"It might not be amiss for the average citizen to make an unbiased investigation of our new neighbor and fellow citizen, the Potlatch Lumber Company, with a view to arriving at a just and fair conclusion as to whether it is a desirable or undesirable addition to our common wealth. By the enterprise of this company the population and taxable property of Latah County will be doubled within the next very few months and, if the company is encouraged and assisted by the county in its efforts to prevent gambling and the sale of liquor in unincorporated towns, villages and rural communities, the expense of government will not be increased, but will be diminished. If this company is permitted to carry out its present plans it will furnish no lodgement for the undesirable class of persons who seek to leech upon society and will be able to avoid the destruction of life and property, which has been so detrimental to the mining communities of this state, and so expensive to the taxpayers."

Palouse Republic--4/20/06: "Big Things at Potlatch--Rapid Progress Made in Building Many Structures-- Developing a Rich County--All will add to the commercial importance of Palouse, Because of City's Gateway Location." (The press at Palouse was consistently friendly and cooperative with company efforts.)



A COMPANY TOWN (Continued)

Moscow Evening Journal--7/13/06:

"Make Them Wince--Potlatch Lumber Company, May Be After Abusive and Maligning Politicians. What is regarded as one of the most important political moves in Latah county in years and one which will cause many politicians to quiver at the thought of it was consummated yesterday when the county commissioners created the new Potlatch precinct. The creating of this new precinct is reported to have been brought about by Potlatch Lumber Company and it would not be surprising if many politicians who have seen fit to abuse and malign this corporation in years past were made to feel for their past sins. With the men at work in the timber, on the railroad and at the mill at Potlatch, the Potlatch company has a political strength of about 3000 votes. It is not believed, and there is no reason to even think, that the Potlatch Lumber Company intends entering the political field for legislative purposes but, in certain quarters, it is felt that the corporation regards certain treatment as personal stings and may repay in kind.

"It is not the intention of the corporation to influence its employees in the matter of voting, but it is regarded that the men, satisfied with the treatment received at the hand of Potlatch company, will of their own free will vote on certain issues in line with the best interest of their employers."

From the time that William Deary landed in North Idaho, around the turn of the century, to acquire timber lands and lay the ground work for a white pine operation, the labor situation in the mines had been riotous--with dynamitings, property destruction and murder being rather common incidents. The period is recorded as the "Labor Wars in the Coeur d'Alenes". Full recognition of the radical Miner's Union demands for the operators was the point at issue--and it worked into a position of deadlock. Law enforcement had cost the taxpayers large amounts. The spread of violence into new industries and other communities was feared by industry and the public.

On April 29, 1899, the Bunker Hill & Sullivan mine, mill and office were completely destroyed with explosives by union rioters--a ton and a half of dynamite, moved in by box car, was used on the mission. Governor Steunenberg requested President McKinley to send troops, and Shoshone county was placed under martial law. Many suspected miners fled to the woods. Work in the mines was denied by the state to any member of the Miner's Union. Threats against Governor Steunenberg were made at this time.

On December 30, 1905--six and a half years after retiring from office, ex-Governor Steunenberg was killed by a tricky dynamite bomb placed on the gate at his home--the pay-off for his stand against the union. Harry Orchard, a professional dynamiter, confessed to setting the bomb. Suspected of instigating the crime were Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, officers of the Western Federation of Miners. Their trial in connection with the Steunenberg case brought Clarence Darrow to Idaho as defense attorney. Darrow also appeared as defense attorney for Steve Adams, accused of the murder of Fred Tyler on Marble Creek earlier in 1905--both cases were closely connected with the troubles in the Coeur d'Alenes. The Steve Adams case brought Darrow to Wallace and Rathdrum--the trials were sensational--the cost to the public were tremendous. One of Potlatch Lumber Company's attorneys and legal advisers during this early formative period was a young lawyer, William E. Borah. His name attained state and nation-wide prominence during the mine-labor troubles in Idaho by reason of his services in behalf of the state. In 1906, he was elected to the U. S. Senate--and prior to taking office he voluntarily resigned as company attorney by formal letter to Allison Laird, returning all unused portion of his annual retainer fee. At this time, Eugene V. Debs was decrying capitalism and corporations in the Socialistic press.



Editors and politicians were confronted with the direct question, "Are you for the corporations and against the unions, or where are you?" Stands had to be made and it was often difficult to straddle the issue. An editorial in the Spokesman-Review in 1899, in answer to the question, fairly stated their position: "Corporations and labor unions are alike, formed for the benefit of those who constitute them, by their stockholders or members. The Spokesman-Review is for them both, provided they are organized for legitimate purposes, obey the laws and live within the rights that state has accorded them.... There are some labor unions in which the Spokesman-Review does not believe, just as it does not believe in some corporations which are arrogant, grasping, oppressive and indisposed to accord fair treatment to the people. The Coeur d'Alene miner's union is one of them. That organization has kept the mining district on the verge of out-break....has become a public nuisance and ought to be suppressed as such...has thrown discredit on union labor everywhere...has been run on ideas of anarchistic intolerance, and not according to orderly common sense fair dealing and the best notions of civil and political morality. Such a union is as much a menace as is a modern trust organized to corner a necessity of life and hold the public at its mercy."

To view a rather typical lumber town in Idaho fifty years ago, we might consider Harrison, the largest lumber producer in North Idaho, with four mills, three box factories and four shingle mills in 1904. The town produced about half a million board feet daily with about sixty percent going into the mining region, the balance being shipped out via O.W.R.&N. The town itself at this time has been described: "Harrison had three churches and sixteen saloons. Bawdy houses flourished above the saloons and fancy women were seen on Harrison streets. Respectable families considered the downtown section unsafe for their children to visit-

alone at night. Housewives of the town were scandalized to see the pink silk undies and silk stockings of the immoral women hung out to dry--for no decent woman wore anything but white muslin and cotton stockings."

Labor drifting into the mines and woods at that time were largely boomers--closely trailed by tin-horn gamblers, adventurers, gold-diggers and riffraff playing for the easy money on paydays. The company was concerned in procuring good, reliable workmen to operate its new mills and protect its investment. The public was concerned in the type of man being employed and brought into the community--they feared a repetition in the woods and mills of the violence that had taken place in the mines in adjoining counties. A company owned town offered the best solution to the problems and responsibilities confronting management.

The company did not enter into a company town to "monopolize" and channel trade through a company store, bank and boarding house--as some believed,--or, as an investment for money profit. It was a necessary investment and proper step in labor relations and community improvement.

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#### AN INTERESTING FACT

Incidentally, at 10:30 p.m. the night of Friday, Sept. 26, 1913, the Logging Congress Special left Spokane via Palouse-Potlatch-Bovill for Elk River, returning to Potlatch the 27th. It had "11 coaches and 2 locomotives and carried 237 excursionists". Actually, it had 8 standard Pullman sleepers--dynamo baggage car-observation cars--and 2 locomotives.. Our Anniversary Special was about the same size!

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DRAWING MADE: All those who visited the plant during "Open House" week registered in a guest book, and each name was numbered. Corresponding numbers were put in a box and 5 drawn out. Winners: Vernon Thorne, Mrs. Helen Whitney, H.H. Caldwell (Moscow), Mrs. Virgil Roe, Miss Linda Stone.



## AMONG THE ILL

Elmer Suddreth- hernia operation  
Ed Muhsal - hernia operation  
Wade Martinson - ill in hospital  
Joe Clyde - sick  
William Culton - sick  
George Whitney - eye burn  
Bernard Moser - cut finger on  
grinding wheel

- - - -  
The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold  
Crumley cut his tongue quite badly  
while he was with his father last  
Sunday. Several stitches were need-  
ed to repair the laceration.

- - - -  
Blaine Jones suffered severe burns  
while rendering lard at his home.  
He was taken to Gritman's.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Congratulations to the O. C. Mills  
family upon winning the Welsh  
pony "Nifty" at the Latah County  
Fair. He surely is!

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Youmans, Jr. and  
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Nirk attended  
the Pendleton Roundup September  
16 and 17th.

\* \* \*

Art Sundberg, Sr. took his vacation  
this month and worked building his  
new garage. From all information  
it looks like a very good job.

\* \* \*

Arthur J. Sundberg and Art Sorweide  
took their vacation during this  
past month.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Donahue motored to  
California on their vacation. They  
visited their oldest son, Royal, who  
is Assistant Manager at a Sacramento  
Motel.

\* \* \*

Wedding bells rang for Miss Holly  
McCowan and Dale Davie last week.  
Dale works in the Planer department.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Segersten  
visited the Marvin McManamas this  
past month.

\* \* \*

C. M. Andrew took a week of his  
vacation during World Series.  
We all imagine he stayed mighty  
close to TV.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Waide motored  
to Pendleton for the Roundup and  
went on an extended trip on their  
vacation.

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The Company had souvenir napkins  
made at their Pamona Plant, and  
handed out a package to each  
visitor of the plant during OPEN  
HOUSE.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Tharp traveled  
to Portland, Seattle, and Pasco,  
visiting friends and relatives this  
past month while on Mr. Tharp's  
vacation.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Eleea motored  
south on their vacation, stopping  
at Salt Lake City to do some sight-  
seeing, and Reno, Nevada to do a  
little...well, let him show you  
a picture of what he looked like  
when he left! Anyway, they had an  
enjoyable trip.

\* \* \* \* \*

Miss Eddie McCuistion is flashing  
a diamond!

\* \* \* \* \*

Miss Mary Eccher and Miss Amelia  
Sanaia had a week's vacation  
the first of the month, going to  
Seattle and then taking the boat  
trip to Victoria, B. C. The Empress  
Hotel was their lodging place--very  
nice, they report, as was all of  
Victoria. They enjoyed its English  
atmosphere.

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ogan motored  
to Gering, Nebraska, to visit rela-  
tives. Among those visited was  
Bob Cook and family, a P.F.I.  
salesman, now living there  
Many Potlatchers know Bob.

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Tom Youmans was guest speaker at  
the Spokane Chapter of the Pacific  
Northwest Personnel Management  
Association, at their opening fall  
meeting, Wednesday evening, September  
21st, at the Desert Hotel in  
Spokane.

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HUNTING SEASON is on and we would  
like to know how you hunters "fare"  
so we may get your names in the  
paper!



## TWO OCTOBER DINNERS TO ATTEND

Lutheran Ladies Aid will serve a ROAST BEEF DINNER, and BAZAAR will be held at the School Cafeteria on SATURDAY NITE, OCTOBER 8th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Price: \$1.25, for adults and  
.50, for children under  
age 12

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CHICKEN DINNER will be served by the Potlatch Working Women at the School Cafeteria on Saturday, OCTOBER 15th. Laundry Cart to be raffled off.

Price: \$1.25 for adults  
.50 for children under  
age 12

Serve 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## IN MEMORIAN

Harvey Shaffer, well known to all the old-timers and many of the younger men at the mill, died last week following a lingering illness. Harvey worked at the mill for 46 years and at the time of his retirement he had the longest period worked for the Potlatch plant.

He has been made Man of the Month in our Pine Cone and has received honors in the Family Tree.

Mr. Shaffer, during his 46 years worked, missed only eighteen days-- this all at once, as he was down with the mumps. To compensate for this, however, he worked many shifts of 16 hours each. A wonderful record! We extend sympathy to his family, along with a host of friends.

## IN APPRECIATION

"We wish to thank Lee and Dale Lisher (who came with their tractor and disc), the Onaway Fire Dept., the alert telephone operators, and the many friends and neighbors who responded when we had our fire."

--the Bill Syron family

## CAN YOU IMAGINE?

Potlatch Foremen...tired of doughnuts  
Ed Moser .... not covered with paint  
Ted Millick....without his pipe  
Tom Osborne..without any white face  
cattle

Jim Hylton ....without any dimes  
Wayne Hemmelman..without his tool kit

## MEN OF THE MONTH

Perry E. Colvin was born in Almota, Washington, in 1887. Went to school at Albion and upon completion of school started farming. He farmed until 1910 and then came to Potlatch to work for us on the Pond in 1910. He was transferred to the Woods for one and a half years, but came back to the Potlatch mill, working on many jobs. In 1915 he was made teamster on the loading dock; later transferred to the Green Yard and continued in this job until the horses went "out". Perry drove the last horse that was used and owned at the mill.

He then went into the Dry Sorter as ground man and has held that job ever since. He lives in Potlatch but owns a farm South of Princeton. He has seven children, and the youngest one is in the service.

Perry tells us that he plans on improving his farm, getting a few head of cattle, working a little each year, and mainly enjoying life.

Nearly every man on the plant knows Perry, and a great many friends and co-workers wish him well in his retirement.

Upon completion of his last shift, the Dry Sorter crew, with whom he had spent so many years, presented him with a three-burner camp stove and accessories.

MILO G. KING was born in Mondovi, a small town between Reardan and Davenport, Washington. He moved to Reardan at the age of two years, living there for 23 years. After finishing school he went to work as a delivery boy in a General Store. While there, he met Miss Helma Finrow, whom he married March 14, 1915. One son, Harold, was born July 27, 1917. Soon after their marriage, they moved to Othello, Washington, as Manager of a Dry Goods Department. In 1918 they moved to Waverly, Washington, as Manager of a store owned by A. G. Ferguson. In 1920 Mrs. King was taken ill and was confined to Edgecliff Sanatorium.

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