

Chips

and

Sawdust

A NEWSLETTER
From

FOREST HISTORY
ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN, INC.
403 McIndoe Street
Wausau, WI 54403-4746

WINTER 1996

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FHAW'S TRAVELING EXHIBIT TO FEATURE SCHOOL FORESTS

Association members who read the November issue of "Chips & Sawdust", and the summary of the Board of Directors meeting of October, 1995, may have overlooked the explanation of a new project being undertaken. We need your help with this! The project, approved by the Board, is the preparation of a new display with the theme of "The School Forests of Wisconsin: Their Origins and Programs."

The display will consist of numerous photos, brochures and news articles mounted on the Association's 6 panel, 4' x 6' traveling exhibit board. Plans are to show it at various meetings and conventions of organizations whose members may have a special interest in this type of visual educational aide. Schools and libraries will also be able to borrow the exhibit for short periods of time at no cost.

FHAW members are asked to help in this newest of the Association's educational endeavors in this way: Contact a high school in your local area which may have a school forest and obtain copies of their brochures/pamphlets describing their programs and achievements, along with a few black & white photos, preferably 8" x 10", of an activity in progress in that school forest. Forward those materials to Secretary Fixmer. A special committee will select those school forests to be featured in the completed display. Also, any members having any historical information concerning school forests are asked to submit such material.

Here is an opportunity for members to take an active part in helping the Association to achieve one of its important goals, that of informing the general public of the history and contributions of school forests in the field of conservation education and environmental protection.

Materials should be submitted to: Frank Fixmer, 604 Ninth St., Mosinee, WI 54455-1317.

FHAW MEMBERS NOW BELONG TO THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

(Editor's note: Following is a letter from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The card provided in this mailing of C&S is explained in this letter.)

Dear Affiliated Historical Society President:

Through its Affiliate Member category, the State Historical Society has established a program designed to strengthen the bonds between our organization and yours. As one of the 287 historical organizations affiliated with the State Historical Society, every member of your society automatically becomes an Affiliate Member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

The Affiliate member cards enclosed with this letter entitle your members to a 10% discount for admission to any of the eight historic sites owned by the State Historical Society. To receive the discount, the Affiliate Members will be asked to show their cards each time they visit a State Historical Society site. This package includes enough cards to provide one to each of your members.

Each Affiliate Member card includes an invitation to join the State Historical Society as a regular member. We will return \$5.00 to your organization for each person who uses the invitation to become a new member of the State Historical Society or renews an existing membership. To date, response to this program has been very enthusiastic, and we feel the State Historical Society, your organization, and your members can all benefit from it.

Best wishes for a productive year in 1996. Thanks for your assistance in making the Affiliate Member program a success.

Sincerely,
Tom McKay
Office of Local History

HISTORICAL SOCIETY DIRECTOR JOINS WRIGHT

(from the Green Bay Press Gazette, Feb. 13, 1996)

H. Nicholas Muller III, director of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin since 1985, says he's leaving because of an opportunity he can't pass up: becoming director of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.

"My leaving has nothing to do with the society, which I love dearly," Muller said. "But I think Frank Lloyd Wright is the greatest architect in the history of the world, and this is an opportunity I just couldn't say no to," Muller said.

He announced his decision to resign Monday. The Historical Society is beginning a yearlong celebration of its 150th anniversary.

Governor Tommy Thompson said Muller helped the society gain a reputation as among the best historical societies in the nation. Muller has been credited with helping to bring increased funding and attention to the society by working closely with the Legislature.

Muller said he would take his new position as president and chief operating officer of the Wright foundation in March.

He said he would continue to reside in Madison during the summer, when he will be based at Taliesin, Wright's original home and studio, in Spring Green. During the winter, he will be based at Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona, near Phoenix.

The appointment of Muller, who has worked with the foundation and the Taliesin Preservation Commission, was greeted with enthusiasm by Richard Carney, chairman of the board of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.

"I feel very positive about this," said Carney. "Nick has been very active with the foundation and he knows what it needs. We simply couldn't find a better person to take the foundation into the 21st century and help it expand its national and international mission."

Thompson said there would be a national search to find a successor for Muller, who was paid \$96,400 a year.

WISCONSIN TREE FARMER/LOGGER WINNER IN NATIONAL "GAME OF LOGGING"

(Information from "Loggers World" magazine, Dec., 1995, published in Chehalis, WA.)

The finals in the national "Game of Logging" competition in October, 1995, in Nelsonville, Ohio resulted in a second place win and \$5,000. for Don Solin of Deerbrook, WI. Solin was recently named Tree Farmer of the Year for the nine state North Central Region. *(Editor's note: See Nov. 95 issue of C & S.)*

Solin was one of sixteen competitors who had qualified for the trip to Nelsonville after having completed intense training courses and won at regional levels, including \$1000. each to help pay expenses. Solin's 168 points finished second behind the top winner, Rick Smith of Summerville, WV, whose 178 points gave him the \$10,000. first prize.

Loggers who qualify for the annual event of the "Game of Logging" use the same skills in this competition that they use every day on the job. Among the various events included in the final national competition were carburetor adjustment, timed butt core cut, precision stump cut, spring pole cut and bucking.

PLAN WAUSAUKEE SOCIETY...

(from the Marinette County Historian, Dec. 1995)

Members of the Wausaukee area community hope to organize a Wausaukee Historical Society. . Plans are to retrieve photographs loaned for the village centennial celebration in 1987 and put them together with other historical materials in a permanent collection to depict the lumber era and village history. There is also interest in formulating an historical walk and/or museum to add Wausaukee to the list of museum tours on Hwy 141.

Arrangements can be made to photocopy old photos through Brian Hartnell of Graphic Impressions and owner of Hotel Wausaukee. The Hartnells are interested in helping organize the society. Emphasis will be on the 1800s and early 1900s, including industries, activities and images of mills and logging. Written historic recollections are also welcome.

For details Brian and Ann Hartnell may be reached at 715-856-5627.

TREES FOR TOMORROW PLANS TO EXPAND

(By Tom Murphy, Green Bay Press-Gazette, Jan. 1995.)

An \$883,300. expansion at Trees for Tomorrow, including a new dormitory and classroom/office building, was announced Tuesday for the education facility at Eagle River.

Trees for Tomorrow was founded in 1944 and is supported by Wisconsin paper companies, utilities and other businesses. It does not receive any tax dollar support.

Contributing businesses and organizations provide scholarships for state public and private school elementary, middle and high school students.

President Cathy Nordine of Land O'Lakes said the organization has raised \$350,000. of the \$900,000. target.

"We still need to raise \$533,300. in cash and donated building materials during the next 18 months, but we believe this is an achievable goal."

Nordine said the fund-raising campaign is planned for 18 months.

As Trees for Tomorrow achieved its original goal of reforestation promotion and development, it turned its energies to education, and today is one of the nation's best known conservation schools.

Youths attend camp in groups of 10 to 70 for three to five days. Visits to managed forests, wilderness areas, and saw and paper mills are part of the curriculum.

Hydropower plants, cranberry marshes, fish and wildlife habitat projects and marsh and wetland tours are scheduled.

Summer workshops are scheduled for teachers.

From the Marinette-Menominee Eagle-Herald, Dec. 16, 1995.

100 YEARS AGO: From Christopher Daniels, a foreman for the Holt Lumber Co., The Eagle learns of an immense tree that was cut in one of the company's camps. It was a white pine stub and measured 7 feet 2 inches at the butt. Daniels claims that it is the largest pine tree ever cut in these northern woods.

FROM THE BOOM

(The following article, written by George Crowell, is taken from "Badger Postal History", Aug. 1995. The article was provided by FHAW member Paul Brenner.)

During the late 1800s, rafts of logs made for heavy traffic on a 20 mile stretch of the Wolf-Fox waterway from Boom Bay to Oshkosh. Much has been written regarding the sorting process used to make up the rafts so that the logs would be delivered to the proper mill. The sorting took place at Boom Bay and was accomplished by a crew employed by the Boom Company.

During the navigation season, a frequent front page item in the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern was headlined "FROM THE BOOM." This brought news of log shipments by listing the towing tug, its captain, the number of rafts in a tow, and to whom each was consigned. Here is a typical report:

FROM THE BOOM Sept. 6, 1880

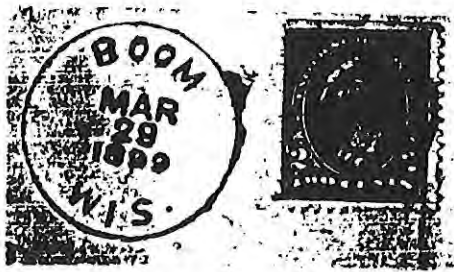
Huntress, Capt. Coburn		W. W. Neff, Capt Thrall	
Bray & Choate	15 rafts	Radford Bros.	3 rafts
Badger & Gould	2 "	A J. Yorty	4 "
T. E. Crane	4 "	Buckstaff Bros.	5 "
Conlee & Co.	3 "	Henry Sherry	3 "
Upham & Russell	5 "	G. W. Pratt	1 "
L. O. Rumory	1 "	Upham & Russell	2 "
Morgan Bros.	1 "	McMillan & Holl	4 "
J. H. Weed	1 "	Foster & Jones	2 "
		O. Beach	1 "
		Bray & Choate	1 "

William Spiegelberg operated a tavern-hotel and grocery store on the east side of Boom Bay in Section 36, Town of Wolf River, Winnebago County. Here a post office named ZOAR was established May 22, 1871. Spiegelberg served as postmaster until January 25, 1883, when the office was discontinued. Zoar mails were then handled from nearby Winchester. When the Winchester post office was discontinued on March 16, 1903, mail was delivered from Larsen, where the office is still operating. Postal business at Zoar fell off during the 1870s, as Spiegelberg's salary dropped from \$12. during 1871 to \$6.46 for all of 1879.

BOOM post office was established on March 29, 1898 at the same location as Zoar in Section 36. Alfred Swenson served as postmaster until April 14, 1903, when the office was discontinued. The Boom cover shown here bears what is likely the only type used during the five year tenure of this office.

According to Harney's History of Winnebago County (1880) logs rafted through the boom in 1879 contained 120,646,000 board feet of timber. From this material the mills at Oshkosh sawed just over 60 million board feet of lumber, several million laths, and 35 million shingles. Perhaps some of the rafts were towed to mills at Fon du Lac, Menasha and Neenah.

Boom Bay continues today as a bustling recreational center, with log rafting only a memory.



In Paul Bunyan's camp one particular summer, the mosquitoes were so prevalent and large that they greatly interfered with the operation of the camp. Some were equipped with proboscis so huge as to be able to impale and carry off the smaller of the men. Paul being wise in the ways of things, sent to Texas for some bumble bees to combat the mosquitoes. This, however, in the final analysis did not work out too good. The bees and the mosquitoes soon fell in love and intermarried. The progeny of this unusual union came into being with a stinger on each end. They later intermarried with fireflies so as to be able to carry on their infernal work at night. Just what Paul did about this curious situation has never been told.

CONSERVATIVE LOGGING

(Taken from "The Forests of the United States: Their Use", Forest Service Circular 171, by Overton W. Price, Associate Forester, overseen by Gifford Pinchot, Forester, issued Dec. 11, 1909. Yes, conservation was an important issue even at this early date.

Through careless and destructive logging on private forest lands, an average of 25 per cent of the merchantable timber is left standing, or otherwise wasted in the woods. On National Forests, from which has been sold yearly for the last three years an average of about 250 million board feet of timber, the total waste in logging is about 10 per cent. This timber was sold at prices no lower than those paid for timber of the same kind and quality on private forest lands. It was logged and manufactured by the lumbermen who bought it, and sold by them in the open market, in competition with lumber cut from private forest lands under wasteful methods. In 1907 the Federal Government was asked to sell at good prices, from National Forests, several times as much timber as it sold. That it did not make more timber sales was partly because the force on National Forests was not large enough to handle them. But if lumbermen can, with profit, buy timber at what it is worth from the forest lands of the people, and log it conservatively, they can do at least as well with their own.

Part of the waste in logging is unavoidable under present conditions. The following discussion deals specifically with those items of waste which it is practicable to avoid now, often with higher immediate profit to the owner of the land from which the timber is cut, and always with higher permanent profit from the land itself after it is cut over the first time.

Care for young growth. The loss to the value of the forest, through injury to young growth in logging, is larger than the waste of merchantable timber. A small part of this damage is unavoidable. Nearly all of it is avoidable without materially increasing the cost of logging. It costs no more money to fell a tree uphill than to damage young growth by felling it downhill. It does not cost much to release young trees bent over by the tops of felled trees. More logging roads, skidding paths, and snake trails than are really needed kill much young growth, and they do not make for cheap logging. Rolling logs down hill is seldom necessary, and it often breaks down young trees which are worth more than the log is worth to the lumberman who means to hold his cut-over land or to the men to whom he sells it. Young trees are

worth at least as much as it costs to replace them, or about \$10 an acre; and \$10 an acre spent in forest planting will seldom give us as good a forest as nature will grow for us, if we will take care of the young growth.

Leaving seed trees. How many and what seed trees to leave, and where, depends on the cost of logging, on the character of the forest, and on the power of its most valuable trees to reproduce themselves. There are no general rules which apply to all forests. It is seldom necessary to leave prime timber as trees for seed. Unsound trees which will probably live long enough to seed up the area, scrubby trees already bearing seed, but unfit for lumber, and thrifty trees too small to be logged with the highest profit now, generally serve the purpose well.

The lumberman who claims that it does not pay to leave seed trees to shed seed, or to take care of young trees, because we may not live to harvest them, forgets these things; that second growth grows much faster than first growth, and that cut-over lands suitable only for forest purposes, which bear young growth, already have a good market value, while cut-over lands bearing neither timber nor young growth have little or no value.

Saving immature trees. Poor grades of lumber come chiefly from small trees. As the tree gets larger the proportion of choice grades increases. A good many lumbermen are now cutting small trees at a profit, which, if figured against what they would make from the same trees in ten or twenty years, means not profit, but loss. Some lumbermen are cutting small trees at a direct loss. This is no more fruitful investigation for any lumberman than to figure from the cut of his own mill the volume and grades of lumber sawed from trees of different sizes.

The full use of standing timber. The failure to cut fire killed or otherwise damaged timber, to log inferior kinds along with the most valuable kinds, and the leaving of isolated patches which are hard to reach means an average loss to the owner of 1 million to every 10 million feet logged and often much more. It also means much greater danger from fire and insects and a second growth poor in kind and quality.

Clean work in the woods. Waste in the woods comes in part from leaving trees, which, though partly unsound or otherwise defective, are still merchantable. It comes in part from high stumps, from trees broken in falling and from lodged trees, from leaving timber in the tops, and from failure to cut logs into lengths so as to provide for the fullest possible use of each tree. It comes in part from leaving in the woods skid

poles, ties, camp logs, and other timber used in temporary construction, instead of saving it for pulp, for lumber, or for use again. Especially after deep snow scattered logs are often left lying in the woods, or even piled on the rollways. In the construction of logging roads and temporary building much waste occurs in the unnecessary use of timber of valuable kinds.

There are very few lumbermen in the United States who are not guilty of this waste in one or more forms. The remedy requires no detailed plan. It calls for thorough supervision, for the habit of thrift on the part of the operator, and the enforcement of thrift among his men. A logger who wastes timber in the woods for his employer should be sent out from them just as quickly as a wasteful edgerman or grader is sent out of the mill.

Economy in transportation. In railroad logging unnecessary loss occurs in the failure to pick up logs fallen from cars or scattered by wrecks. An average of probably 5 per cent of the timber put into streams for driving is lost. On long drives and rough streams a small part of this damage is unavoidable. But it can probably be reduced on the average by more than half by peeling and drying out logs of kinds that do not float well, by stream improvements, and by reasonable care on the drive itself.

THE CAMP COOK

(from the writings of Dan Carey, which appeared in a series of articles in the Lansing State Journal in 1950)

As may be surmised, the cook in a lumber camp is commander-in-chief or general manager of the kitchen and dining room. He orders all food supplies and has many responsibilities. Next to the foreman, he and the scaler (who is likewise the bookkeeper) are the high salaried men. Unless a cook could turn out his own baking in large quantities, he was just a can-opener cook and would not last long on big jobs. The cook was supposed to be able to bake bread, buns, fried cakes, two kinds of cookies, light and dark cake. And about 25 pies were made daily; these were made each morning and what were left from dinner were put on again for supper and sometimes for breakfast, if any had been left over - it seemed that the lads never tired of pie. I know of a certain fellow who claims he only cared for "two kinds of pie - hot and cold."

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER...

From the editor: I recently came across a set of letters that had been written by a man in the lumber camps of northern Wisconsin to his parents. The man's name was John Ziebarth and he writes to his family in Kunesch (near Green Bay). The letters are hard to read in places, but I have tried to reproduce them here as accurately as possible, misspellings and all. I printed the first letter in its entirety, but only included those portions of later letters which are more historically significant.

Blades camp. Menominee, Mich. December 17th, 1899. Dear Father and mother - I got your kind and welcome letter the 1 of Dec. I think you are all expecting a letter I am getting along allright and I hope you were the same We had a big snow storm Monday and it last all day I have 34 working days in I don't think of coming down Christmas I got myself a pair of rubbers they cost \$2.50 they are going to start hauling after newyears The fellow that used to sleep with me jumped Monday and helped him self at my drawes and a pair of mitts You need not trouble your self by sending any thing down I will see that I dress with that I got It aint very cold in the day time but heavy frost at night They are going to have two scigen (?) teams at work all winter I have had now kick come yet I like the board and it aint so very hard work I don't think you will know me in Spring for I am gaining very fast I expect to stay hear till in spring I thing I will close my letter now for I have not much to say but all I said is to let you now that I am well and hope you were the same Wen writing me a letter send me the news and tell me if all the rest of the boys is to home I bid Farewell with all my best regards to you Father and Mother so goodby to you all You need not expect me Christmas for I am going to stay here

Armstrong Creeck, Wis, Dec. 2th, 1900. I came down Thursday night with the 11.20 train and I met Uncle Richter stand ahead a Saloon door and I asked him were to go first because I did not know him and he told me to come with him and stay over night so it was 12 oelock wen I went to bed and I met Gus and Willie Kornosky and went to the Murphy lumber Co I like the place allright I have \$16 left of my big winters stack I am geting \$30 a month for noching and will stay here all winter that is if I can

Armstrong Creeck, Wis, Murphy lumber Co, Camp 2, Dec. 15. 1900. Uncle Charlie went to woods Monday morning and Willie is going to So ma did not go to Marinette for a viset I have all the clohts I need now for



The Saw On The Farm



a while But I will get my self a pair of rubbers yet everything is dear up here 1/2 pd of tobacco is 4 cents I am going to Armstrong Creeck Christmas and get my rubbers One pair of stoicking were stolen on me The timber is very heavy up here for it is all pine The grub is allright up here to we go to work at 6 oclock and eat our dinner in the camp and at night go in at 5

Armstrong Creeck, Murphy Lbr Co, Wise, Camp 2, Dec. 29th 1900. I have tryed to send you \$15 of what I had left but they charge 7 cents on a doller on a money order I think I'll take good care of it allright I am glad to hear that you settelt with Platan and are out of debt Gus Kornowski is a little homesick and entendes to quit Willie told me that he was to get married next spring Frank is working for holmes and Son in Dunbar he was up here Christmass So sealing did not have a kick coming against me and settelt it allright Tell Henry his chances is good to go to woods next winter for I'll stay to home the gripe is very bad up here and there is many of them laid up with it It has not come to me yet and I hope to God it will stay away Well Leonard keepe right on buyin doves at 5 cents a peace and sell them 7 cents a peace and mack money

Armstrong Creek, Murphy L. Co, Camp 2, Jan 13 1901. Henry I am glad that your horses are geting along allright and Leonard is doing good with his doves I soppose you aint doing very much Well have all the fun you want for next winter is your chance for I am sick of it know and I'll stay to home and do all the shores my self

Commenwealth, Florence Co, Wis, Aug 9th, 1901. I am thru haying and have started to cut lats Eddie Moores and August Grothe is here and helped me cut hay I suppose you will be time threshing the next letter that I get Well Pa. I'll try to get a job with the team the wages are pretty low and I have now ida (?) of working for \$65. a month Id rather work for \$30. a month

Postscript: Through a few phone calls, I was able to track down the sister of the man who wrote these letters. His sister's name is Gertrude Schultz. She is 87 years old and lives in Pulaski, WI. Gertrude told me that John died of a gunshot wound when he was 18 years old. He was accidentally shot by his partner while deer hunting near Marinette. Thus John must have been younger than 18 when he worked in the camps and sent these letters home to his parents.

SALE OF CERTAIN TIMBER ON
MENOMINEE INDIAN RESERVATION, WIS.

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Transmitting a Copy of a Communication from the Commissioner of
Indian Affairs Submitting Recommendations as to the Cutting of Certain
Timber on the Menominee Indian Reservation, in Wisconsin.

*(The following pieces are extracted from some legal documents from the
U.S. House of Representatives, 59th Congress. The first piece gives an
overview of the matter.)*

Department of the Interior
Washington, Jan. 3, 1906

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of
communication of the 7th ultimo from the Commissioner of Indian
Affairs, forwarding a draft of a bill prepared in his office, authorizing the
sale of certain blown down and standing timber on the Menominee
Indian Reservation, in Wisconsin.

The proposed legislation is based upon reports from
General Superintendent of Logging Joseph R. Farr; Mr. E. M. Griffith,
superintendent of forests of the State of Wisconsin; Superintendent of
Logging W. H. Farr, and Mr. Shepard Freeman, superintendent of the
Green Bay Agency, copies of which are herewith inclosed.

The correspondence shows that on July 16, 1905, a
cyclone swept through the western part of the reservation, uprooting and
blowing down between 25 and 30 million feet of timber, mostly
hardwood, including basswood, elm, hemlock, and maple; that the
blown down timber has not been damaged to any considerable extent and
will not deteriorate in value before the date of sale. It also appears that
there is a large quantity of standing merchantable timber in the storm
area, estimated at about 100 million feet, which it is thought should be
logged and sold in connection with the blown down timber, for the
reason that it will cost too much to log the latter separately.

In view of the facts shown in the correspondence,
indicating the necessity for the legislation proposed, I have the honor to
submit the matter with request that favorable action be taken thereon.

Very respectfully,

E. A. Hitchcock,
Secretary.
Speaker of the House

(The next piece discusses the matter in more detail)

Department of the Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Washington, Dec. 11, 1906

Sir: Relative to the blown down timber on the Menominee Reservation, Wis., and your informal request for a brief statement of the facts and my opinion as to what action should be taken and if it will be desirable that a bill be introduced at this session of Congress, I have to say that in former reports I have fully, and in detail, discussed the entire question, and in this report will endeavor to briefly state the more important features.

It is now too late to undertake timber operations this season. There is no question on this point. In logging timber that has been blown down it is necessary to cut and skid the same before the frost and snow, and in any logging operations the logging roads should be cut and graded before the heavy frost and snow. Timber is usually blown down by strong winds following heavy rains, when the ground is in a very soft condition. When the trees fall a portion of many of them become embedded in the ground, and if not cut and skidded before the frost and snow it is almost impossible to do the work later on, for the valuable portion of a large part of the timber will be frozen in and to the ground and covered with snow, making it almost impossible to saw the logs and remove them.

The bill passed at the last session of Congress is not practicable, and should be repealed and a new bill introduced at the earliest opportunity.

The blown down timber is estimated at 35 million feet, scattered over 30 sections, and these sections are located in several townships. The entire amount of timber, standing and down, on this district is estimated at 200 million feet.

One of the large expenses connected with logging is the making and keeping up of the logging roads, building the logging camps and stables, opening up tote roads for hauling supplies, and getting the necessary equipment on the grounds. It will take nearly the same expense and logging roads to pick up the 35 million feet of down timber on this territory as it will to cut it all. The 35 million feet of down timber will not carry this expense, while the 200 million feet will. A very large percentage of the down and standing timber on this district is hardwood, and will not float. Therefore it must be handled by rail. This blown down district is located from 4 to 15 miles from railroads, which will make it almost impossible, under present conditions, to transport either the logs or lumber at any reasonable cost to the shipping points. In considering transportation of this kind it must be kept in mind that straight lines can not be followed, as the country is rough. For instance, where a certain piece of timber in a direct line may be 3 miles from a shipping point, it may be necessary in making the road, owing to the roughness of the ground, to go a distance of 7 or 8 miles.

Thirty-five million feet scattered over this vast territory is not large enough to justify the building of railroads and the branches necessary to

pick it up, while if the 200 million feet be taken, the main line of a railroad may be extended through the territory and the necessary branches built so as to reach the timber without making the sleigh hauls unreasonably long and expensive.

If an effort is made to log and handle this down timber alone, the expense will absorb the timber, if not more. An operation of this kind can not fail to jeopardize the balance of the timber by extending logging roads, logging camps, and general operations throughout a forest of this kind.

It is the universal custom of lumbermen in handling their own timber if the percentage blown down is great enough to require action, to cut the lands clean, otherwise they leave the down timber until such time as the other is reached; and we can not improve on the methods of handling timber which prevail among lumbermen who have followed the business all their lives and have millions of dollars invested.

The percentage of down timber in this district is large enough to demand action and a bill should be passed permitting the honorable Secretary of the Interior to advertise this timber for sale to the highest and best bidder, with a privilege of manufacturing a part on the reservation and transporting a part for manufacture elsewhere; and driving by water such portions of the timber as will float. Of course the Secretary can reserve the right to reject any and all bids. The sale can be advertised for at least four months and the territory can be divided into groups of from three to five sections, which will give the small as well as the large contractor an opportunity to purchase, and bids can be also received from anyone covering the entire tract. This plan can not fail to secure the highest market price for the timber. Timber of this kind is becoming scarce, the market is good, and the amount is large enough to attract the strongest possible competition, and in case of a sale all Indians desiring to take part in the logging will have an opportunity to do so, for it is becoming somewhat difficult in the northwest to secure sufficient help for the logging camps.

Another feature which should be kept in mind is that all the timber, standing and down, on this district is mature and the market has never been better; and a sale is strictly in accordance with good business methods, even if a portion had not been blown down.

The Indians can not handle this timber. Every Indian who can log or will work in a logging camp is needed to put in the 20 million feet yearly, and it has always been necessary to hire white men to assist them, the Indian contractors receiving from \$1.50 to \$2 per thousand more for logging than would be paid white men for the same work.

The timber logged has been largely white and Norway pine of a very high quality and would stand a large expense for logging and then leave a nice profit, and the extra expense is not so important, as it goes to the Indians.

This is not true in the case of the timber on the blown down district, which does not include much pine and covers many varieties of timber which are not very valuable, and the logging is more expensive, especially the portion that is down.

At the last session of Congress a bill was introduced and passed the House which would permit the disposal of this timber along the lines above referred to. This bill was entirely changed in the Senate and became law.

When the original bill was receiving consideration by the Committee on Indian Affairs in the Senate, the business committee of the Menominee tribe of Indians objected to its passage for the reason, with others, that it provided for the cutting of the live and standing timber. After its passage this same business committee in drafting rules and regulations, as provided by the bill, insisted that the standing as well as the down timber be cut, and in their final draft of rules they placed the price for logging as high as \$9 per thousand, which is nearly double the price usually paid and goes a long ways to show that they are not competent to handle a timber proposition of this kind. In former reports I have fully discussed this feature of the case.

The bill as it passed provides that the business committee of the Menominee tribe of Indians may have the down timber on this district cut, and the logs delivered to certain points and there manufactured by portable mills, which are to be brought on the reservation. With \$9. for logging and from \$3 to \$3.50 for sawing and the expense necessary to make roads and transporting the lumber to points for shipment on the railroads, varying from 4 to 15 miles, it should be sufficient to satisfy anyone that operations of this kind can not be successfully carried out.

It is a grave question whether the most experienced lumbermen, fully equipped in every way, could carry out the provisions of the act and realize enough from the sale of the lumber from the down timber to pay expenses, and it is absurd to think the business committee of the Menominee tribe of Indians can handle this proposition without sacrificing the down timber and incurring a large expense, and even then it would be necessary, in order to complete the operations, to employ white men in the management and work.

For a more complete discussion of this subject, I invite attention to my former reports, and in conclusion will recommend and urge that a bill, in substantially the same form as the one introduced at the last session by Congressman Brown, with the addition of a repealing clause, be immediately presented to Congress and its early passage urged. I believe such a bill will receive prompt and favorable consideration by the House, and when it reaches the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate I will be pleased, if it is the desire of the office and Department, to appear before that committee and present the facts, and I believe that they are such as to satisfy that committee of the justice and necessity of the action requested.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to remain, yours, truly,

J. R. Farr
General Superintendent of Logging

(Editor's note: I would be interested to hear from some loggers of today on the preceding issue. Do the arguments sound reasonable? Or does this sound like a scheme to rook the tribe out of their good timber?)

CONSERVATION - THOUGHTS BY ERNIE SWIFT

(The following paragraphs were taken from A Conservation Saga, by Ernest Swift, 1967. Ernie Swift is a legend in the field of conservation. I highly recommend this book for some thought provoking reading.)

Elements of nature considered commonplace a decade or two ago are rapidly disappearing and the rising generations are becoming unfamiliar with them. It was from these natural resources that our fathers drew their strength and created our present standards of living.

Due to the amazing advancement of technology, many people are beginning to wonder where this progress of ours is leading us, and they are thinking that instead of creating a better place within which to live, possibly we are creating a place where, ultimately, we cannot live at all. For this reason the preservation of resources as an economic safeguard and also of large natural areas where people can once again be close to the earth and rehabilitate themselves from the frustrations and stresses of modern civilization is becoming increasingly important.

Is the soft belly of metropolitan life robbing us of this sense of individual responsibility and perspective? Tall buildings, acres of concrete, automobiles, airplanes and atomic power have given the human race a feeling of separation and superiority to all natural laws. Obsessed with the idea of his own completeness because of his technologies, man does not admit that by violating and adversely disturbing the processes of nature he will suffer from the consequences. Civilized man is not the child of the earth that he once was; far too many human beings today do not come in contact with the soil and the raw products of the soil.

The functions of a jet propelled plane or a computing machine have become a greater wonder and a greater interest to the average boy today than the sprouting of a kernel of grain.

Life in the seed is older than the mountains and is older than the mechanical brain of a computing machine. The sprouting seed is so common it raises no comment; the computing machine is a phenomenon. Life in the seed releases a series of endless and intricate reactions that go on and on and repeat and repeat. The mechanical brain when it breaks down or wears out is simply a lump of iron. It cannot reproduce itself before it dies. If it were not for life in the seed, that thing so common it raises no interest, there would be no mechanical brain, no atomic bomb, nothing but a dead planet.

The succession of involved processes that bring life into being is vastly more interesting than any machine conceived by man. Nature cannot create a violet, nor a sequoia, nor make a stream flow, nor produce a trout, nor a deer, nor a human being without a continuity of a million intricate and integrated miracles.

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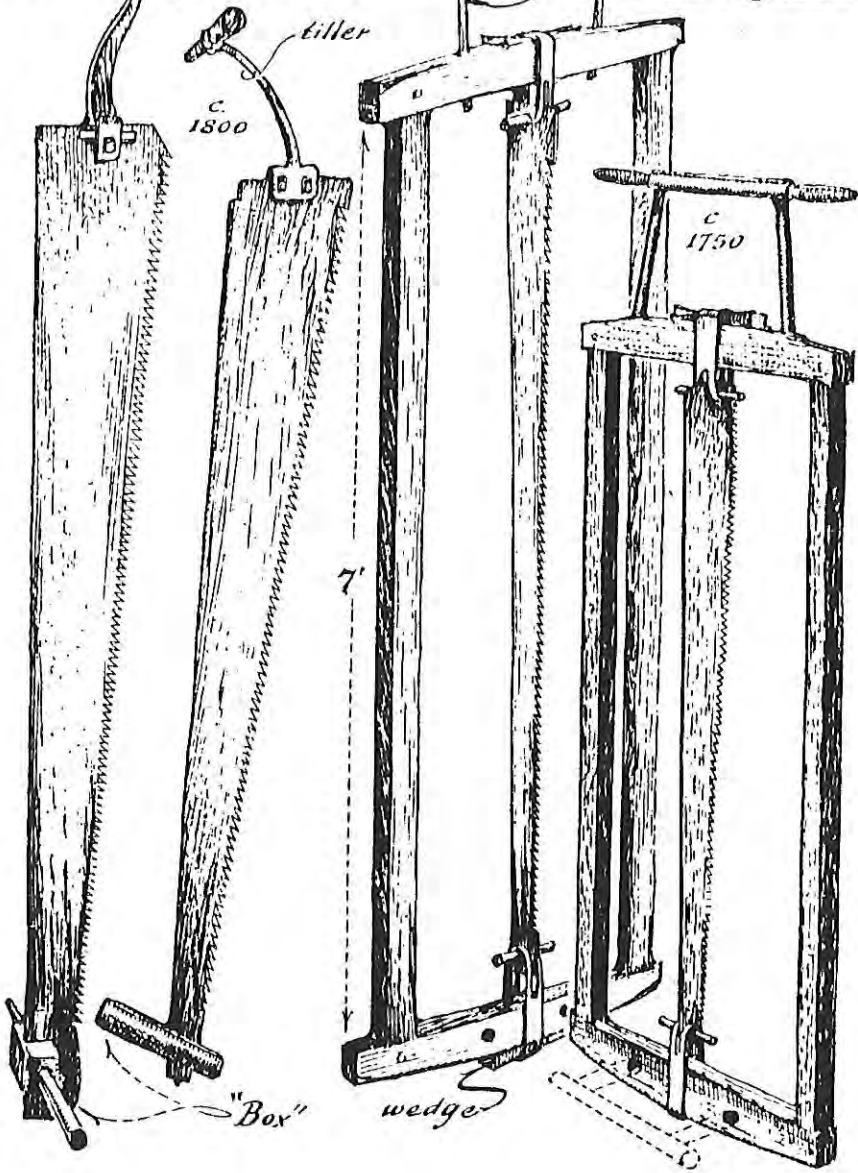
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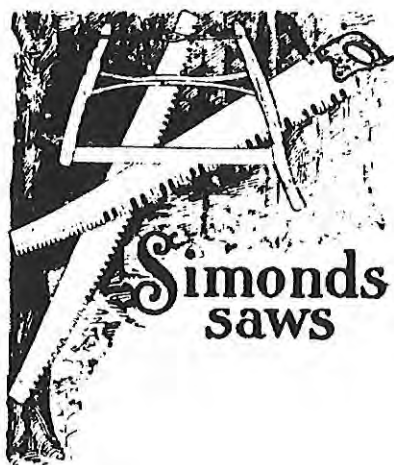
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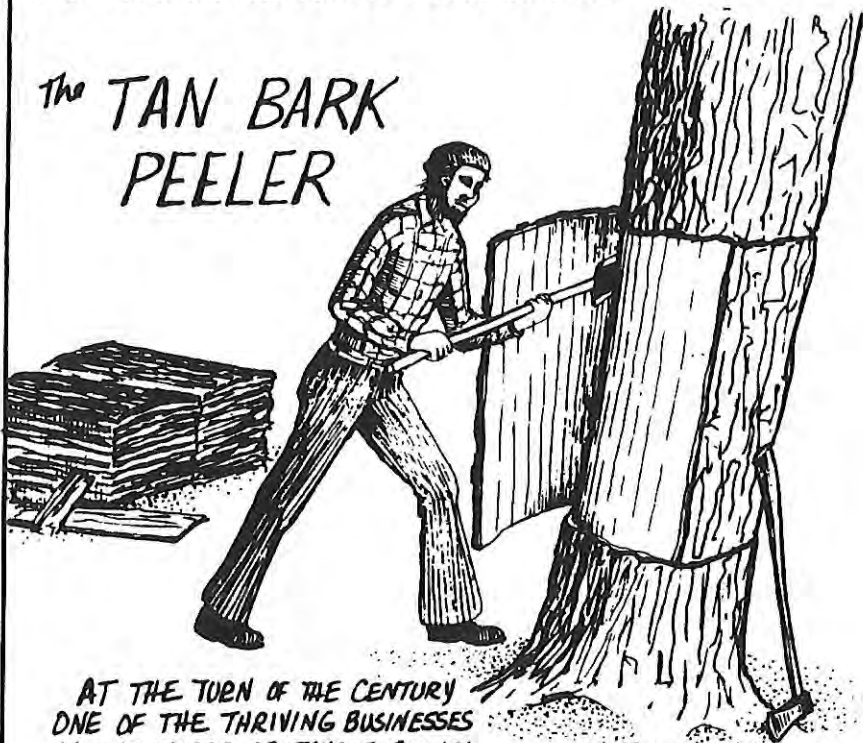
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THE "BARKING" SEASON RAN FROM SPRING TO JULY

The TAN BARK PEELER



AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY ONE OF THE THRIVING BUSINESSES IN THE WOODS OF TAYLOR COUNTY WAS THE HARVESTING OF THE BARK OF HEMLOCK TREES. "PEELERS" ARMED WITH AXES AND BARK SPUDS¹ STRIPPED FOUR FOOT LONG SECTIONS OF HEMLOCK BARK. AFTER DRYING, THE BARK WAS HAULED TO TANNERIES IN RIB LAKE, SPENCER, RICE LAKE, MEDFORD, AND PHILLIPS. IT WAS THEN GROUND INTO SAWDUST WHICH WAS THEN PUT INTO VATS OF WATER AND ALLOWED TO LEACH TO MAKE THE TANNIC ACID USED IN THE TANNING OF HIDES.

LOW & JOHAN
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SOURCE: LUMBERMEN ON THE CHIPPEWA, ROSHOLT. ROSHOLT HOUSE, ROSHOLT, WIS. 1982

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