



## "CHIPS AND SAWDUST"

A Newsletter from the Forest History Association  
of Wisconsin - 403 McIndoe Street - Wausau, WI 54401

VOLUME IV - NO. 1

MAY, 1979

### DID YOU MISS "C & S" LATELY?

We regret that we are rather late with the first 1979 issue of "Chips and Sawdust". But, when we published this newsletter for the first time in 1976, we said that its appearance would be more or less "sporadic", although our objective would be to publish quarterly.

However, we headed for warmer climes for the winter and were mighty busy exploring the mountains and deserts of southern Arizona, sampling the tequila across the Rio Grande from Texas and hill-billying in the Ozarks of Arkansas. Now we are glad to be home again and eager to resume normal activities in general and Association affairs in particular.

### ASSOCIATION MEMBER HONORED

One of the first professional industrial foresters in Wisconsin and Lake States forestry history was honored last fall on the occasion of his 50 years of membership in the national Society of American Foresters. EMMETT HURST, a charter member of the F.H.A.W., was recognized for his half century of service to the benefit of society. Hurst became a leader in Wisconsin reforestation efforts when he started one of the first tree nurseries in the region with the establishment of Consolidated Papers' nursery at Biron in 1930. Under Hurst's direction, Consolidated Papers acquired 230,000 acres of forest land in Wisconsin and during his 38-year career with the company prior to his retirement in 1968 was responsible for the planting of 13 million trees on company lands.

### STATE RECORD TREE ON MEMBER'S PROPERTY

A recent issue of "C & S" suggested that members take a more active interest in reporting potentially record size trees that they may have heard about or know about personally. A list of current state record-holders is maintained by Guy W. Rodgers, supervisor of private forestry, Wisconsin Department of Natural



Resources. The list includes a balsam-poplar (*Populus balsamifera*) on PETER WEBBER'S property near Porterfield in Marinette County and has a circumference of 9' 8", with a total of 216 points for its combination of circumference, height and crown spread.

### 125 YEARS AGO

With its bustling combination of agricultural, industrial, academic and business activity, present-day Stevens Point bears practically no resemblance to the growing logging community of 125 years ago. This is what the WISCONSIN GAZETTEER of 1853 had to say about "Point":

"Stevens Point, in Portage County, on section 32, Town 24 N., of Range 8 E.,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Plover, and 120 miles north of Madison, on the Wisconsin River. It is the principal depot of the lumbering trade of the Upper Wisconsin (River), from which most of the lumbermen make their outfits both for the pine forest in the fall, and for St. Louis, with rafts, in the spring; it is beautifully situated, is proverbially healthy, and rapidly being built up. It will probably be the first point at which two great thoroughfares will meet---a rail road from Chicago to Ontonagon, of the Lake Superior, and from Green Bay to St. Paul's, of the Mississippi. A plank road is about to be commenced from Green Bay to this place....."

### LADY LOGROLLER

If you were one of the many thousands fortunate enough to be able to attend the World Lumberjack Championships at Hayward last summer you may have seen member ALICE KMIOTEK compete in the logrolling events and win a second-place prize in the women's novice division.

Ms. Kmiotek moved to Connecticut last fall, where she is employed by ITT Rayonier as a market research analyst in forest and wood products.

### F.H.A.W. NOW IN ALASKA

We have Association members in a majority of the states from coast to coast, from Maine to Florida to California to Washington. With the relocation of CARL MARKON, Alaska is now represented. Carl's special interest is the locations and types of historic timber stands in Wisconsin. He is presently employed by the State of Alaska's Fish and Game Department and is mapping vegetation along the proposed gas pipeline route from Prudhoe Bay to the Canadian border.



EARLY AND LATE FOREST HISTORY

A timber and financial management plan for the Goodman Lumber Company of Goodman, WI. was prepared by the U.S. Forest Service in 1938. The plan covered a "working circle" of 152,000 acres, encompassing the villages of Goodman, Armstrong Creek, Tipler and Long Lake and approximately 1,000 families, all largely dependent on the Goodman Lumber Company for their subsistence.

At the time, the company had been practicing selective cutting in most of its timber holdings for the previous ten years. In analysing the prevailing situation as a prelude to the permanent adoption of a sustained yield policy, the Forest Service's report paid particular attention to the local attitudes toward forestry, as follows:

"Few areas in the Lake States have people as 'forestry-minded' as those living in and near the Goodman Working Circle. This is evidenced by their excellent cooperation in preventing woods fires, and suppressing those that do start. Incendiary fires and timber stealing are two handicaps with which this area is not seriously afflicted. The people have seen the Goodman Lumber Company cut virgin timber selectively for ten years. The local residents have learned that clear cutting of virgin timber, with subsequent fires, results in economic devastation of the land. In contrast to this, they have witnessed one of the outstanding private forestry operations in the United States."

"The town of Goodman is no ordinary lumber town. A sense of stability is established by the appearance of the homes and attitude of the people which reflects the benefits of a policy of sustained yield production of lumber. It is hoped that this policy becomes permanent, and that its resulting social and economic stability will be maintained in years to come."

WHERE IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT HISTORICAL SITE?

A friendly argument developed at one meeting of the Board of Directors over which site and/or particular event rates as "the most important" in our state's logging and forestry history. A leading candidate for that distinction seems to be Beef Slough and the "war" that developed between sawmillers along the Chippewa River and log-rafting interests further down-river on the Mississippi.

The Board would like to hear from the general membership on this question. Send your opinions to "Chips and Sawdust", c/o Forest History Association of Wisconsin.



"Chips and Sawdust"

MAY, 1979

"FIRSTS" IN WISCONSIN FOREST HISTORY

A new project of the Association will be the preparation of an educational leaflet---perhaps the first of a series---which will list and describe some of the historic "firsts" in Wisconsin forest history. As an example, there is the fact that the first rural land zoning ordinance was enacted in Oneida County in 1927. Another example would be that the first school forest was established near Laona in 1929.

A special committee has been appointed by President Saemann to begin work on this significant project. However, in-put is also needed from the membership at large. If you know of some historic "firsts", drop us a note and we'll pass it on to the committee.

REMINDER

By the time you receive this issue of "C & S", you should have received a copy of the official program of the Great Lakes Forest Symposium to be held in Madison June 6 - 9 under the sponsorship of the national Forest History Society in cooperation with a number of state and regional organizations, including your Association. If you did not receive it and are interested in the details, send us your request.

The objective of this symposium will be to "...reexamine the causes, nature and impact of changes and adjustments (in the forest environment) before, during, and since the logging era in order to assess past decisions and implications for the present and future in land management and resource policy."

ANOTHER REMINDER

Our November issue of "C & S" requested nominations from the general membership for potential recipients of the Association's annual distinguished service awards. To date, none has been received. The Awards Committee would appreciate having your proposals in this regard.