

Lumber's Future in Klamath

Our Renewable Resource Will Keep Industry Going, If Given a Chance

An address by Ralph Macartney, Manager, Weyerhaeuser Timber company, Klamath Falls branch, on the occasion of the dedication of the Weyerhaeuser-Klamath Tree Farm, Klamath Falls, Oregon, August 4, 1943.

By RALPH MACARTNEY
Manager, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company

Tonight the men and women of Weyerhaeuser Timber company share with every man, woman and child in the Klamath Basin the privilege and honor of having the chief executive of the State of Oregon dedicate in person, the first Tree Farm to be certified by the Western Pine association.

In establishing this first Tree Farm, the Weyerhaeuser Timber company seeks to apply a conscious, organized plan of good forest management to definite areas of forest land for the purpose of providing a perpetual supply of wood for conversion into useful forest products.

In America there is a fine quality about being first. It is something that can be shared. We all take pride when the boy from OUR school wins the race; when OUR side of the street places first in the sale of war bonds; when OUR community does something ahead of other communities.

And so, when an organization like the Western Pine association, which represents the bulk of the privately financed Pine forest industries in all the eleven western states, issues Certificate No. 1 for a Tree Farm located in the Klamath Basin, the honor goes to the community as a whole. No community, in my opinion, deserves it more, for the Klamath Basin has for a number of years led the nation in the production of Western Pine lumber. That is another FIRST which all of us can also share.

Klamath Basin Has Long Been A Tree Farm

For centuries—no one knows how many—the Klamath Basin has been a vast natural Tree Farm. The cones have cracked open, the seeds have fallen, seedlings have sprouted, great Pine trees have matured, ripened with old age and finally withered in death to fall again to the ground. If we want to put it that way, Nature has always had its own sustained-yield system, perpetually balancing growth with loss.

But, the Klamath forest was static. No one cut a stick of lumber in all those centuries and yet the amount of timber in all that forest remained always about the same. There was a crop, but no harvest.

Finan McDonald, a trapper employed by the Hudson Bay company, lived along the Klamath lakes during the winter of 1825-1826. He was the first white visitor of record. He took the first harvest by a white man from the Klamath forest—a little firewood and perhaps a few shakes to build a shack.

First Saw Mill in Klamath

The movement of more white men into the Basin led to the establishment of the Indian reservation in the 1860's—and incidentally the first sawmill to

Called to Catch Men

Time: Early morning.
Place: By the Sea of Galilee.
Event: Peter and his brother, Andrew, had fished all night and taken nothing. Now comes Jesus and tells Peter to launch out into the deep and let down the net for a draught. What? After all that long fruitless night, fish again?

"We have fished all night and have taken nothing," said Peter. "Nevertheless at Thy word I will let down the net." So it was done and now the net inclosed such a catch that it broke.

A signal brought the partners along side and the fish filled both boats so that they began to sink. No wonder Peter was filled with awe. Peter who could curse and be so human, out on the deep in a little boat with the Christ of God. No wonder that the man falls at Jesus' feet, with—"Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." Now Jesus speaks the word that wins His man—"Fear not, from henceforth thou shalt catch men." He was to quit the fish business and take men for God. And when they had brought their boats to land they left all and followed Him.

Three years later, after Christ had suffered for our sins, we hear Peter, now an Apostle say of our Lord, "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby ye must be saved." Acts 4:12. Truly, the Risen Christ SAVES—KEEPS-SATISFIES. Have you a clean slate and a new life? Do you live by Power From on High?

GEO. N. TAYLOR,
Cloverdale, Oregon.

This space paid for by Oregon businessmen.

Editor's Note

Because of the many things of local significance included in the address given by R. R. Macartney at the recent tree farm dedication ceremonies, the full text is presented herewith.

Weyerhaeuser Timber company, for which Mr. Macartney is Klamath manager, owns more than half a million acres of Klamath forest lands and operates here one of the nation's largest mills.

cut Klamath Pine. That first mill was a very modest undertaking, but it marked the beginning of a great lumber manufacturing industry. Built in 1863, and located at old Fort Klamath, it cut only 3 or 4 thousand board feet per day.

In 1877, the Moore brothers built the first sawmill in the Klamath country for the purpose of manufacturing lumber for general sale. Like the many mills that were to follow it in the next half century it was financed with private capital. Some local people wanted lumber so the Moore brothers sought the profits while accepting the risks of invested capital. Situated somewhere along the Link river and operated by water power, it could cut around 7 M board feet per day. The great Klamath Pine forest could grow timber faster than that.

Coming of the Railroad and Beginning of Major Lumber Industry

Such was the early beginning. However, it was not until 1909, when the Southern Pacific ran its rails into Klamath Falls, that the full-scale harvest of Klamath Pine by man really began. Pelican Bay Lumber company began cutting in 1910. Then followed, in quick succession, many familiar names—Klamath Manufacturing company, Ewauna, Algonia, Lamm, Big Lakes, and others. And now at last the harvest was getting ahead of the growth.

Our own organization, the Weyerhaeuser Timber company, was the last of the "big" mills to begin cutting in the Klamath Basin. Plant construction was started in 1928 and somewhat more than a year later production began. Our company is quite proud of the fact that, except for three months in 1933, its mill has never entirely shut down from that day to this—and we hope that it never will!

Our company had been a part of the community for a quarter of a century before it cut its first log. Shortly after organization in 1900, it began the purchase of Klamath forest lands, utilizing the services of Mr. Jackson Kimball—Jack Kimball to all of us.

A Policy of Holding Cut-over Lands

For 40 years, our company, through the payment of taxes to the local governments on its forest lands, has been a part of the community, helping maintain the schools, highways and other essential public services. We made a rough, incomplete check the other day and found that Weyerhaeuser had paid to Klamath county through the years nearly \$3,000,000 in taxes on real and personal property.

Not only have we paid taxes on our forest lands for 40 years, but we have retained, and continued to pay taxes on practically every acre, even though a first crop of timber has been harvested in many areas.

Sometimes we have purchased land from which timber had already been removed by others. A case in point is the recent purchase of the Long-Bell holdings where we acquired approximately 43,000 acres of cut-over lands as well as some virgin timber.

The business of GROWING timber—as distinguished from acquiring timber already grown—is at best an uncertain investment. Timber grows very slowly. The necessary capital is tied up for an extremely long time. The hazards are many. There is but little definite experience to go on. The probable rate of return on investment is low. Timber GROWING is not an attractive field for speculation.

Why, then, if timber growing is so unattractive an investment, has our company acquired extensive forest lands and held on to them? Why has it made extensive outlays of money for protecting from fire the young, immature trees as well as the old growth timber? Why has it added to the problems and costs of logging by bothering about such things as selective cutting, seed trees, restocking and beetle control cutting? Why does it employ a full-time forester and staff?

The answer is that only by being sure of our supplies of raw material—logs—can we plan

for steady and continuous manufacturing. We have planned as carefully as we know how to make ours a PERMANENT wood-using industry in Klamath Falls. We believe all this is simply the exercise of good, common-sense business practice by our company. We believe also that it makes good business sense for the community of citizens who live in the Klamath Basin.

In sum, it is just a case of trying to keep the harvest in step with the growth.

The Three Worst Competitors—Decay, Fire, Insects

Long before the time of Finan McDonald and the Moore brothers, the Pine forests of the Klamath Basin were standing still. Trees were growing, but the forest as a whole made no increase in saw timber. The reason? Three busy "loggers" were always at work, removing timber at about the same rate at which it was growing. They are still at work. They are the worst competitors of lumbermen and the community as a whole.

One of these loggers is DECAY. It is still at work in all the old and as yet untouched forests. It is one of the objectives of Tree Farming to beat this competitor.

The second of these loggers is FIRE. Once he had to depend on lightning. Now he has the help—unfortunately—of thoughtless citizens who toss away live cigarette butts. Fire destroys an average of 87 million board feet of saw timber in the Ponderosa Pine region annually—the average fire loss locally is about 13 million. But, worse than that, it destroys decades of TIME when it runs through young growth and kills young, immature trees. To minimize this competition, by improving forest fire protection, is also an objective of Tree Farming.

The third of these loggers is a nasty little fellow. He has "logged" billions of board feet of Klamath timber, yet he has never paid a dime in wages to men—except those spent FIGHTING him. He is sometimes referred to as the "PINE BEETLE LOGGING COMPANY." In 1932, this outfit "logged" an estimated 525 million feet of Ponderosa Pine on the Klamath Plateau alone—to use a forest term commonly meaning Klamath and Lake counties. Wage-earning loggers in the same two counties, for the decade 1925-1936 averaged only 429 million board feet. But, with good help from the Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, progress is being made in controlling the waste he causes. A third objective of Tree Farming is to foil the beetle.

Timber Growth Increased By Tree Farming

The realization that these three tough competitor "loggers" were steadily at work on Weyerhaeuser timber, taking out millions of feet every year, whether or not we had a man in woods or mill, led to our decision to start logging and manufacturing operations. We foresaw the inevitability of cutting during the first years at a rate far greater than the ability of the land to grow new timber. Our cutting at first would be on a "hurry-up" basis, particularly to offset losses by pine beetles and by decay in old, over-ripe timber. However, we now have confidence that if we log the mature trees with a thought for the forest of tomorrow we can INCREASE timber growth.

A recent report by the U. S. Forest Service on the Ponderosa Pine region of Washington and Oregon gives us some of that confidence. This report states that net growth added to one average acre of SECOND GROWTH pine is only 59 board feet per year. However, under intensive forest management the average acre can be made to produce double that yield of saw timber—130 board feet.

These are figures which strike averages of the good and the poor in two states. Here, in the Klamath region, Man and Nature, working together, can do better than the average. That is the belief of such competent foresters as Stuart Moir of the Western Pine association, Nels Rogers of the State of Oregon and others. It is our own opinion, too.

The application of sound forest management appeals to us as a

worthwhile objective. However, even though the best of forest management is applied to every timberland acre in the Klamath Basin—by the Indian Service, by the U. S. Forest Service, by the O. & C., and by private owners—it is common knowledge that the total potential growth in this region is considerably less than the present cut.

In other words, the region is not in balance now. That is an inescapable fact.

In plain language, it means that when the pressure of cutting for war needs is over and when the pressure of first cutting on old timber—in order to avoid further losses through decay—is over, then eventually Klamath Basin's PERMANENT forest industries will find a natural balance between growth and cut. The timber harvest will equal but not exceed the timber crop.

If that picture seems a bit dark at first glance, bear in mind that the war has demonstrated the vital national importance of wood, has called into being many new uses. Research on wood—the great natural, RENEWABLE resource—has only begun. The Western Pine association, in its privately financed laboratory at Portland, is discovering many new values in the Western Pines. Our own new laboratory at Longview, which we believe to be among the best of its kind financed wholly by a single timber company, stands back of the Klamath Tree Farm.

There are still other laboratories, each adding their bit to the greater knowledge of wood. As citizens of a forest industry community, we should all have much faith in the chemists' test tube and the engineer's slide rule. Though fewer logs will be cut around Klamath in the future, undoubtedly more will be done to such logs as are taken. Our company expects to maintain a substantial payroll indefinitely.

The Objectives of Tree Farming Summed Up

A recent report on the Western Pines by the U. S. Forest Service rather sets the Tree Farm pattern:

"Continuity of tenure, including a consciousness of the public interest in all forests, is the key to sustained-yield management of forest resources in both public and private holdings . . . The concentra-



R. R. Macartney

tion of the most productive land and the best timber in private hands causes an added responsibility to conserve this valuable resource through management for continuous production. Private owners are aware of this responsibility and some are making a conscious effort to fulfill their obligations."

In keeping with American traditions, the establishment of Western Pine Tree Farm No. 1 is definitely a private venture. The bulk of the forest lands held within its boundaries are private, taxpaying lands. The risks and expenses accepted—such as those for fire protection with its incidentals, lookout towers, the purchase and maintenance of equipment, etc.—are those of private capital. The responsibility for management is private.

Nevertheless, there is about this whole pioneer undertaking an atmosphere of unescapable public interest in which the private company must operate and upon which it must, in fact, depend.

By its very nature, a Tree Farm is a cooperative enterprise which depends for success on sound understanding and working relationships between private enterprise, the citizens of the community and of the State, and the local, state and federal governments.

In a sense, the dedication taking place creates an unwritten understanding between a private company on the one hand, as

LOCAL SOCIAL SECURITY AT WARTIME PEAK

The eighth anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act, August 14, finds the Klamath Falls office at the peak of its war-time work schedule, Charles L. Maginnis, manager, said today.

Carrying a heavier load than ever before, because of workers streaming into war industry and other essential work, the local social security board office is issuing 20 per cent more social security account cards per week than in 1940, besides accepting and investigating claims for old-age and survivors insurance benefits and providing information about their social insurance rights to workers, or their survivors.

The act created a federal old-age benefit system, a state-federal system of unemployment insurance, and a state-federal program for assisting the needy, aged, the needy blind, and dependent children. In 1939, the old-age benefit system was changed by congress to old-age and survivors insurance, providing additional benefits to the families of insured workers.

Klamath Falls' local office was opened on May 24, 1937, to serve workers and employers in

steward for certain forest lands, and the citizens of the Klamath Basin, of Oregon, and of America on the other hand, as participants in the harvest from those lands. It is a many-sided undertaking for mutual advantages, with corresponding responsibilities delegated to each side. Together, we can make it work.

Note—Forest Statistics on beetle loss, fire loss and growth are from "Forest Resources of the Ponderosa Pine Region," by U. S. Forest Service.

this area on old-age and survivors insurance matters.

According to Manager Charles L. Maginnis, more than 7325 workers in Klamath Falls have social security accounts, and are accumulating wage credits which count toward old-age and survivors insurance benefits. For the country as a whole some 45,000,000 employees earned wages and salaries last year in jobs covered by the system.

SALEM, Aug. 14 (AP)—Only 40 per cent of the 500,000 workers covered by unemployment compensation during the year ended September 30, 1942, had earnings in each of the four quarters of that year, the state unemployment compensation commission said today.

About 70 per cent of the workers had social security cards issued in Oregon, indicating that 30 per cent of them came here from other states.

Of those working in the lumber and shipbuilding industries, almost half worked throughout the year. But workers in the food canning industry worked only 12 per cent of the year, and the figure was 19 per cent in the construction trades.

Layton Trial for Rape-Slaying Opens in Dallas Monday

DALLAS, Aug. 14 (AP)—Richard Henry Layton, 36, former Monmouth police officer, goes on trial here Monday for the rape-slaying of Ruth Hildebrand, 17, Dallas, whose body was found in the Willamette river two months ago.

Layton is charged with first degree murder, which carries the maximum penalty of death in the lethal gas chamber.

Layton will use insanity as a defense.

A special venire panel of 50 jurors was drawn Friday to supplement the 18 jurors on the regular panel.

MINE PILLARS SAVED

Tons of ore can now be recovered from pillars left in mines by a new method of determining rock pressures based on "listening" to sub-audible sounds in the rock.

LAST OF 1943 CRITICAL IN TIRE SHORTAGE

The last part of 1943 and the first half of '44 has been termed the critical period in the matter of tires, information released to the war price and rationing board reveals.

The stockpile of natural rubber is so low at the present time that the government has ordered all passenger tires—both civilian and military—made entirely of synthetic rubber. Although authorities agree that there will be plenty of raw synthetic rubber by the spring of 1944, this does not necessarily mean there will be enough tires by that time.

Conservation of present tires was urged in the report, stressing careful driving and having tires checked regularly.

The report predicted that by the end of next year, enough synthetic tires would be available to keep all essential cars and trucks on the road. As yet, no satisfactory all-synthetic tires for trucks have been produced, and no satisfactory inner tubes have been built of the all-synthetic rubber.

ALL OUT

CULDESAC, Idaho, (AP)—Operations are somewhat uncertain on the Camas Prairie railroad between here and Reuben, Idaho.

Grasshoppers cover the tracks. Where the grade is steep, locomotive wheels just spin.

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If the man at your house is one of the lucky ones to go fishing--and come home with fish--here's a tip on how to make it fill in a bigger gap between use of meat points. And the recipe is just as good for fish you buy the year 'round.

S-T-R-E-T-C-H Your Points with BREAD!

Recipe for "Glamour Fish"

Remove that fishy stare—and the remark, "fish again!"—this way:
1 large section of fish (or whole trout)
3 cups small bread cubes
1 teaspoon savory
1 teaspoon sage

Salt and pepper to taste
1 finely chopped onion
1 cup water
3 tablespoons melted butter
1 lb. grated or finely diced cheese
8 tablespoons seasoned flour

Parboil onion in water. Pour over bread cubes with butter, seasoning and one-half of the cheese. If dry, add more water. Pack dressing firmly into the fish.

Then dredge with similarly seasoned flour and bake with hot water in bottom of pan (for gravy) until nicely browned and tender, basting occasionally. While fish is baking: Cream 4 tablespoons flour, 4 tablespoons butter. Add 1 lemon, 3 tablespoons sugar, 1½ cups water.

Cook in double boiler until thick and smooth. Add to gravy with remainder of cheese, and baste fish again with gravy.



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