

THE RED CEDAR SHINGLE & HANDSPLIT SHAKE BUREAU'S
ROLE IN THE WESTERN RED CEDAR INDUSTRY

An interview with Virgil G. Peterson
conducted by Elwood R. Maunder

Forest History Society - Santa Cruz, California
1975

Copy No. _____ of _____

Forest History Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1581
Santa Cruz, California 95061

Copyrighted © 1975 by Forest History Society, Inc.

All rights reserved

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	v
CHARLES PETERSON: IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA AND SHINGLE INTERESTS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, 1889 TO 1930s	1
VIRGIL PETERSON: YOUTH, EDUCATION, AND EARLY EMPLOYMENT WITH THE RED CEDAR SHINGLE BUREAU, 1927 TO 1940	5
DISCOVERY OF WESTERN RED CEDAR AND ITS USE BY INDIANS AND PIONEERS	8
CEDAR SOURCE AND SUPPLY; USE IN SHINGLES AND SHAKES; RESEARCH	13
HISTORICAL NOTES	23
THE SHINGLE SQUARE PACK	30
INDUSTRY TRADE PROMOTION	32
INFLUENCE OF CEDAR LOG EXPORTS ON AMERICAN SHINGLE PRODUCTION	41
THE BATTLE OF THE WOOD SHINGLE	50
LEADERS IN THE INDUSTRY	62
TRADE ASSOCIATIONS	68
THE TRADE PRESS	74
CHANGES IN SHINGLE MILL EQUIPMENT	77
SHINGLE GRADES, KILN DRYING, AND TRANSPORTATIONS COSTS	80
EFFECTS OF ECONOMIC DEPRESSIONS AND WARS	84
CANADIAN/AMERICAN: TARIFFS AND UNIONS	92

PRODUCTION COMPETITION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GRADING RULES	95
BROR L. GRONDAL AND THE SEARCH FOR A FIRE RETARDANT	99
ORDERLY MARKETING	103
CEDAR LOG EXPORTS	107
CHIEF INSPECTOR FRED MONTE	110
A UNIFIED INDUSTRY	112
BY-PRODUCTS OF CEDAR	117
SAWYER COMPETITION ; W. W. WOODBRIDGE; BUREAU RETIREMENT PROVISIONS	119
FIRE RETARDANT FORMULAS AND FASHION TRENDS	121
TRANSPORTATION OF SHINGLES AND SHAKES TO MARKET	126
LABOR AND UNIONS	128
CONCLUSION	133
APPENDIXES	138
INDEX	145

INTRODUCTION

Clouded by the vagaries of ancient historical evidence, the origin of the use of split pieces of wood as roofing and siding in homebuilding is unknown. Certainly shingles and shakes were familiar to the earliest immigrants to America. American Indians, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, had long employed split red cedar in their dwellings before the white man's coming.

In the early decades of this century wood shingles came under attack by those who contended that wood roofing was a serious fire hazard. Frequent attempts have been made to outlaw their use in homebuilding. While other forest products industries have faced competition both among themselves and from manufacturers of substitute products, only the shingle and shake industry has repeatedly faced attempts to legislate it out of existence.

With the survival of the industry at stake, the shingle and shake manufacturers formed alliances to confront their competitors and to challenge the allegations of their detractors. By improving their products and by waging aggressive informational campaigns, they have been largely successful.

Today the Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau is one of the most active and effective trade associations within the forest products industries complex of trade groups. In 1973 the Forest History Society turned to the Bureau for access to greater documentation regarding its history and that of the western red cedar industry at large. As a result of that appeal, the older records of the Bureau have now been assigned to the care of the Historical Manuscripts Collection of the University of Washington Library in Seattle. A further result was the Bureau's support of a series of oral history interviews with four men of the Pacific Northwest who approached the subject from different vantagepoints. This volume presents one view, that of Virgil G. Peterson, long-time secretary-manager of the Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau. Other oral history interviews in the series were made with Harold M. Stilson, retired shingle weaver; Charles Plant, a Canadian manufacturer; and Paul R. Smith, president of the largest shingle manufacturing company in the United States. A separate volume has been produced for each interview and published by the Forest History Society in 1975.

The interviews with Mr. Peterson were made in December 1973 at his home on Mercer Island, Washington. Portions were published in article form in the April and July 1975 issues of the Journal of Forest History under the titles, "Red Cedar Shingles & Shakes: Unique Wood Industry" and "Red Cedar Shingles & Shakes: The Labor Story."

Virgil Peterson was born in 1916 into a family which was actively involved with shinglemaking. Peterson's earliest childhood remembrance is of the celebration of the 1918 Armistice when the men in his father's shingle mill tied down the mill's whistle to salute the good news. Growing up in the business involved the young man in the many work assignments that go with harvesting red cedar from the woods, bringing it to the mill, manufacturing it into shingles, and enduring in the process the constant threat that the saw posed for shingle weavers in those days. In January 1934 he went off to the University of Washington and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism. When he graduated in 1939, jobs were scarce. He returned home to work again in his father's mill, but new writing skills he had acquired soon drew him into active work for the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau under W. W. Woodbridge. In October 1953, Peterson succeeded Woodbridge as secretary-manager.

Peterson's record as head of the Shingle Bureau is widely regarded as one of the best in the trade association field. He has successfully welded a membership of both Canadian and American producers into an efficient organization which has marked steady growth and overcome most, if not all, of the problems peculiar to the industry. Discussed in the interview at some length is the industry's short life expectancy. This derives from rapidly diminishing supplies of old-growth red cedar coupled with the ever-growing popularity of red cedar products with architects and builders. These and other problems of the industry are given examination in this work.

Here the scholar of forest history will find Peterson's description of the past and present technology of the red cedar industry, the industry's efforts at trade promotion, the influence of log exportation on American shingle production, the battles with substitute shingle manufacturers, the impact of the trade press, the establishment of standards and of monitoring product quality, the effects of economic depressions and wars, the tug-of-war over tariffs, the relations between labor and management and resolution of their conflicts, the impact of research resulting in both upgrading products and improved marketing methods.

My thanks go to the many people who have assisted in this project. Eleanor L. Maunder typed preliminary notes and the transcription from the

tapes. Barbara D. Holman researched the Forest History Society archives in Santa Cruz, and final processed the interview, including the preparation of the index. Virgil Peterson provided illustrations and additional documentary material, and opened the Bureau's files for my further research. Richard Berner and Karyl Winn of the University of Washington Archives indicated important sources of industry and labor history.

All uses of this work are covered by a legal agreement between the directors of the Forest History Society and the directors of the Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau. The work is thereby made available for research purposes. No part of the work may be quoted for publication without the written permission of the executive director of the Forest History Society.

Requests for permission to quote from the publication should be addressed to the Forest History Society, P. O. Box 1581, Santa Cruz, California, 95061, and should include identification of the specific passages to be quoted, anticipated use of the passages, and identification of the user. The legal agreement with Virgil G. Peterson and Elwood R. Maunder requires that both be notified of the request and allowed thirty days in which to respond.

Elwood R. Maunder
Executive Director
Forest History Society

Santa Cruz, California
July 14, 1975

Elwood Rondeau Maunder was born April 11, 1917 in Bottineau, North Dakota. University of Minnesota, B.A. 1939; Washington University at St. Louis, M.A. (modern European history) 1947; London School of Economics and Political Science, 1948. He was a reporter and feature writer for Minneapolis newspapers, 1939-41, then served as a European Theater combat correspondent in the Coast Guard during World War II, and did public relations work for the Methodist Church, 1948-52. Since 1952 he has been secretary and executive director of the Forest History Society, Inc., headquartered in Santa Cruz, California, and since 1957 editor of the quarterly Journal of Forest History. From 1964 to 1969, he was curator of forest history at Yale University's Sterling Memorial Library. Under his leadership the Forest History Society has been internationally effective in stimulating scholarly research and writing in the annals of forestry and natural resource conservation generally; 46 repositories and archival centers have been established in the United States and Canada at universities and libraries for collecting and preserving documents relating to forest history. As a writer and editor he has made significant contributions to this hitherto neglected aspect of history. In recognition of his services the Society of American Foresters elected him an honorary member in 1968. He is a charter member of the international Oral History Association of which he was one of the founders. He is also a member of the Agricultural History Society, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, and the American Forestry Association.*

*Adapted from, Henry Clepper, ed., Leaders of American Conservation (New York: The Ronald Press Company, 1971).

CHARLES PETERSON: IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA AND SHINGLE INTERESTS
IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, 1889 TO 1930s

Elwood R. Maunder: Virg, would you give some of your personal history, where your family came from, what its background was, and how you happened to get into the line of work that you have been in all your life.

Virgil G. Peterson: My father was born about 1865 in northern Sweden. He was one of a large family of ten or twelve children. In those days people had a tough time making a go of it and getting enough food to eat. There were literally famines. America was the promised land and there was a lot of immigration from Sweden to America.

My father decided to come to the United States, but in order to immigrate, he had to serve in the Swedish army for a year and a half. He finally got visa clearance and enough money, said goodbye to his family and left Sweden. Rather pathetically, he never saw any of them again. He went to Stockholm and took passage in steerage on a sailing vessel. Six weeks later, May 1889, he arrived in New York.

There was a spell of hot weather in New York when he was released from quarantine on Ellis Island. He had never seen it so hot before. A Swede he met on the streets and who could speak his native tongue, told him that if it was too hot in New York that he'd better go out to the Pacific Northwest where it never got hot. So my father got on a train. In those days Seattle didn't have train facilities and the western rail terminus was Tacoma. When Dad got to Tacoma he boarded a boat for Seattle and arrived in June 1889 with fifty cents left in his nest egg. He spent the fifty cents for a room. He arrived a few hours before the great Seattle fire of 1889 which wiped out much of the town.

I'm a little vague on my father's history but know he worked in a stone quarry for a year and then went over to the western end of Clallam County where he homesteaded a timber claim. In order to gain title to the claim, he had to live on it a year and

a half. He built a cabin in the woods not far from Ozette Lake and close enough to the ocean so that when it was storming he could hear the waves crashing at night. It was a pretty primitive existence. The nearest store was in Clallam Bay, a twenty-mile hike. He'd hike out there one day and then the next day he would hike back carrying maybe a hundred pounds of provisions. My father was a very active, energetic individual and he was in excellent physical condition all his life. The only time he was ever ill was his terminal illness at age eighty-seven. Then he was only sick for three or four months.

After Dad got title to the timber claim he returned to civilization, to the Seattle area. Exactly how he became involved in the shingle industry, I don't know. But at any rate he invested in a shingle mill in Snohomish County near Hartford around 1901 with another man who eventually became my uncle. The two of them operated a shingle mill on the Pilchuck River which flows into the Snohomish River at Snohomish.

ERM: When your father homesteaded did he stay only long enough to establish his claim and then sell his timber off?

VGP: He only lived there long enough to establish ownership. It was kind of a sad thing. He paid taxes on that property for fifty years and finally in 1940, when he was about seventy-seven years old and my mother was ten or twelve years younger, they decided that if they were going to get any money out of that claim they had better sell it. So they sold the timber only on a ten-year cutting deed to Ozette Timber Company. During that ten-year period both he and my mother died, and my brother and I gained title to the property. We eventually sold the logged-off land to Crown Zellerbach. To show how timber values increased, the logged-off land was worth more than my father's sale of the timber in 1940.

ERM: What kind of timber was on the land?

VGP: There was largely Sitka spruce and some hemlock and cedar.

ERM: Was your father married at the time he homesteaded?

VGP: No, he didn't marry until 1907. My mother was born in Wisconsin of Norwegian parentage and came out to visit her brother who was my father's partner in the shingle mill in Snohomish County. She never went back to Wisconsin, but stayed on and married my father.

Around 1911 my father and some partners established a mill fifteen miles away, near Arlington, Washington. I was born there in 1916.

ERM: What led him into the shingle business?

VGP: I don't know, except possibly his exposure to timber during his homesteading. He split the shakes and built the cabin he lived in. As a matter of fact, before he died, Dad and I took a trip over there and we located the site of his old cabin. All that was left were a few remnants of cedar shakes and some parts of the old stove that he carried in on his back from Clallam Bay. He homesteaded in 1891 and 1892 and we were there around 1947, over fifty years later.

My earliest remembrance as a child was the armistice in November 1919 when I was three years old. The men at my father's shingle mill tied the mill whistle down when they heard the news of the armistice. There was great excitement and it made an impression on me. We were living at a shingle mill camp out in the woods. Last year my son and I went back and located the millsite only because we found the cement block on which the steam engine sat that powered the mill. Everything else was grown over with trees. Some of the trees are a foot in diameter.

The millsite was right on a little lake. It was a cedar swamp and nobody thought they could log cedar in that huge swamp. My dad had the idea that he could lay a narrow-gauge railroad up that swamp. It worked. They used a wood-burning steam locie, called a dinkey, for power. I remember when they pulled the rail trucks loaded with shingle bolts out of the swamps, at times the roadbeds would be depressed and go under water, but not sufficiently so they couldn't use it. They logged cedar in that swamp until 1921 when we moved into Arlington. We lived there for many years. Dad owned and operated several small shingle mills in the area during the next twenty years.

ERM: Was he fairly successful in his business?

VGP: He was successful only to the point of being able to persevere at it. He made a living; that's about all he made. He was not a man of affluence. He made a comfortable living for his family, no more and no less.

ERM: How many people did he employ in his mills?

- VGP: He had at least six or eight mills over the years, with as many as two or three at one time, but they were all small. A three-machine mill running two shifts would employ possibly thirty people. I think the mill he had during World War I was a four-machine mill that ran two shifts and employed fifty people, including the shingle bolt cutters and the teamsters. They hauled the shingles with horse and wagon from the millsite down to the railroad several miles away.
- ERM: Did your father cut timber that he bought in most cases, or did he do business with independent loggers who cut it and sold it?
- VGP: During World War I he cut his own timber.
- ERM: As he cut out one area would he move on to another one?
- VGP: Yes, and he'd also establish another shingle mill.
- ERM: Would he move the mill machinery to the new location?
- VGP: Not necessarily; he might buy other machinery. He established a mill on the Stillaguamish River at Arlington about 1922, ran it until 1926 or 1927, and then shut it down because the cedar timber thereabouts presumably was gone. During the depression there was nothing else to do, so he rebuilt this mill and ran it for ten years on salvage timber. Truck logging had become popular and more efficient than railroad logging. The railroads had been limited as to how far up the sides of the foothills they could get and they left pockets of timber. For ten years my father ran that two-machine shingle mill on the river at Arlington, using timber that had been bypassed because it wasn't economic to log it in the early days of railroad logging. Dad had several mills up the north fork of the Stillaguamish, one near Port Angeles, and one in eastern King County. They were small mills, and sometimes he would run them for a couple of years, sometimes longer.
- ERM: Was he a member of any of the early associations involved in the shingle industry before the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau which was formed in 1926?
- VGP: He was a member of the Bureau for as long as I can remember. The Shingle Branch of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association was founded in 1915. Whether he had been a member or not, I don't recall and I've never encountered anything in the records.

VIRGIL PETERSON: YOUTH, EDUCATION, AND EARLY EMPLOYMENT WITH
THE RED CEDAR SHINGLE BUREAU, 1927 TO 1940

ERM: What is your earliest recollection of your own involvement in the shingle business?

VGP: I was in grade school, around twelve years old, in 1927, 1928. Dad had a mill up in Skagit County and I would go up there on Saturdays and nail bands (nail the metal strips onto the wooden strips) which were used for assembling bundles of shingles. I would make a dollar or two doing this. I remember, though, earning a quarter some years earlier for greasing the skids of a skid road used for hauling shingle bolts out of the woods with a team of horses. They piled the shingle bolts on wooden sleds and dragged them out of the woods.

I went off to college in January 1934. I'd go for a quarter or two and then run out of money. I'd go home and would fortunately have a job. Dad could always make room for me in the mill for three or more months, until I had enough money to return to the University of Washington.

ERM: What was your major in college?

VGP: I was graduated in journalism in March 1939.

ERM: You weren't inclined to go into the shingle business?

VGP: No, that had not been my intention.

ERM: Were you on the school newspaper?

VGP: Yes, I was, and I ended up as the sports editor of the paper. I also played some basketball, and was active in intramural sports.

ERM: That sounds like a chapter out of my life. I majored in journalism at the University of Minnesota, got to be sports editor of the paper, was active in baseball, and played a lot of intramural sports.

VGP: What year were you there?

ERM: I was there from 1935 to 1939.

VGP: The University of Washington played football against Minnesota in those days.

ERM: That was the time of Minnesota's greatness in college football. It has declined since because they de-emphasized football.

VGP: When I emerged from the university in 1939 it wasn't easy to get a job. I went back home and worked part-time in my dad's mill.

Since my dad had been a member of the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau, I knew of its work. It was largely advertising and promotion, so I went in and applied for a job. The manager who hired me was my predecessor, W. W. Woodbridge. I remember going to see him and giving him my qualifications and background in the shingle business, how I had worked in my dad's mill and knew all about shingles and the manufacture of them. He interrupted me and said, "That doesn't make any difference, what education have you had?" It was rather comforting to be able to tell him that I had a college degree. His next question was, "Do you drink?" I stammered and finally said, "Yes, I do, but I know how to drink." That was apparently the right answer. His next question was, "What's your favorite book?" This was a very unorthodox interview. I told him something, a Victor Hugo book, maybe. He said, "There's a typewriter over there. A fellow down in Salt Lake City by the name of Todd was secretary of the Utah Lumber Dealer's Association and he just died. Our board of directors is going to adopt a resolution expressing regret over his passing, and I want you to sit down and write a resolution that they can adopt and send to the association."

All this occurred within five minutes after I had walked in and applied for the job. I sat down to the typewriter and wrote two resolutions, one very flowery and one more down to earth. I handed them to Woodbridge and apparently he was impressed. I don't know if he ever used either of them, but he said, "Well, we don't have a job now, but if we have an opening I'll get in touch with you." A couple of months later I got word from him that the Bureau needed a traveling fieldman in the Midwest. The job paid seventy-five dollars a month plus expenses, and I accepted it without hesitation. That was in July 1939.

I was around here for about a month and then went back to the Midwest. I traveled about six states. Not having anything

better to do in the evening, I would write articles and short stories. I sold one to Nation's Business on shingle weaving as a trade and I sold another one to American Home.^{*} I also wrote one about the romance of the shingle industry and sent it back to the office. Apparently Woodbridge was reasonably well-impressed with it, because he had an opening in the office for a publicity man and moved me back to Seattle, January 1, 1940.

ERM: When were you married?

VGP: I was married in 1940, not long after I came back into the office from the Midwest. I met my wife in college. Her name was Jane Berkey and she was from Spokane. We have three children. The oldest, Carol, is thirty-two years old. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters aged seven and five. I have a son, Dale, twenty-nine years old. He's unmarried and lives here in Seattle. For five years he traveled in the Midwest as a sales representative of Olympic Stain Company. My third child, Mark, is sixteen and a junior at Mercer Island High School.

ERM: What did the work of a field representative for the Bureau consist of?

VGP: In those days it consisted largely of calling on lumber dealers. The Midwest was farm country and the farm market was a very substantial part of our business. Recently there has been a consolidation of farms and you don't have as many farms in the Midwest as you had forty years ago. The productive capacity of the farms is greater now than it was then because of mechanization. Every small town had a lumberyard and catered to the needs of the local farmers and to the local townsmen. Occasionally I made a reinspection or checked on a roof complaint. There were a variety of things I did, largely promotional. Once in awhile I got involved in a building code problem.

ERM: How has the nature of that job changed?

VGP: In those days we had ten or twelve fieldmen. We now have seven. The men today spend nearly all of their time in or near metropolitan trading centers and very infrequently get into a small town. The home building action by and large is in suburbia, on the periphery of towns like Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Dallas.

^{*}Virgil G. Peterson, "Men Still Boss Their Machines," Nation's Business 29 (May 1941): 118. For a copy of this article see Appendix A, p. 139.

DISCOVERY OF WESTERN RED CEDAR AND ITS USE BY INDIANS AND PIONEERS

ERM: I would like to trace the early history of the red cedar shingle and shake industry as you learned it from your father and other old-timers. To what extent was the industry in this area influenced by the Indians' knowledge and use of the wood in building their homes? Have you ever run across evidence of the white man learning this skill from the Indian, or was it something he brought with him from previous experience?

VGP: Are you familiar with the discovery of cedar for the white man? I got this from a reference of the late Professor Edmund S. Meany. Archibald Menzies, the ship surgeon and botanist of the Captain George Vancouver Expedition of 1792, first discovered and identified western red cedar. Menzies was actually a botanist, but, in order to become a member of the expedition, he signed on as the ship's surgeon. He apparently had some scientific background which qualified him. When Vancouver was in Puget Sound, Menzies was ashore identifying as much of the flora as possible. He noted cedars and was impressed by them. He left a written description and identified the tree as cedar. There was some reference to it in Vancouver's log. That is supposed to have been the first recorded observation of western red cedar by any white man.

Making shingles out of wood is not restricted to western red cedar. Western red cedar came along late in our history, bearing in mind that Lewis and Clark came out here around 1805. Wood shingle making antedated cedar shingle making, and it started with the Pilgrims. Their Plymouth Plantation has been rebuilt near Plymouth, Massachusetts, and includes some of the old crafts: candlemaking, pottery making, and cutting boards with a whip saw. Shake splitting is one of the crafts that is demonstrated. I recently received, from the curator at Mount Vernon, a shingle that came off George Washington's home there. It is cypress from the Dismal Swamp of Virginia, and it was applied, as best they can tell, in 1754 by George's father. By good fortune, after Mount Vernon was built, they remodeled the structure and erected a roof over the original roof, which

accounts for the fact that this shingle was preserved, because it had a protective roof over it.

ERM: The first white settlers out here then were people who, perhaps, had some experience in the trade and knew what it was all about.

VGP: I would think so. For example, General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo is known to have introduced the use of redwood shakes in northern California in the early part of the nineteenth century.

ERM: There is the example of the Indians using cedar in the Pacific Northwest.

VGP: Yes. Certainly the pioneers observed the widespread use that the Indian made of this species. The Indians called it the Tree of Life because they used it for so many purposes. They even wove clothing out of the cedar bark.

ERM: And they made baskets, utensils, and totems.

VGP: Yes, and dugout canoes. Back in the 1920s, my father hired Indians to drive shingle bolts down the Stillaguamish River and they used dugout canoes. I remember we took one of these long canoes which had been hollowed out of a cedar tree; we cut it in half and sealed up the end of it, and made a rowboat out of it. The canoe had been about thirty feet long, and we made a fifteen-foot rowboat out of it with a stern where we had cut across the dugout. I used that boat on the river for a good many years. Dugout canoes were very common up and down the river in my youth. I'm sorry I didn't preserve a few of them.

ERM: Are there any to be found?

VGP: Yes, in museums. There probably are some found on old farms along the river.

ERM: What personal experience did you have as a youngster growing up with the Indians in the area?

VGP: I went out once with my father on the north fork of the Stillaguamish River. He was going to inspect some shingle bolts that an Indian wanted to sell. The Indian took us across the river in his dugout canoe, and I remember that I was petrified with fright crossing that rapid river with this strange Indian holding a pole, not a paddle. My father was not frightened. I must have been five or six years old at the time, about 1920.

My father had a shingle mill a few miles up the river from Arlington at a little place called Cooper's Spur. Directly across the river from the mill was an Indian village, and the chief of that village was a man I remember vividly. He was about five feet tall, hunched over, with a wrinkled face, and his arms almost reached the ground. He was a powerful man but very short of stature. His name was Jimmy Dorsey, and he was at least ninety years old yet very active. He had a son who was in his seventies and also very robust. His name, believe it or not, was Tommy Dorsey. These were the very same names as those of the Dorsey brothers of musical fame years later. This particular Indian tribe would drive shingle bolts for my dad on occasions when they had shingle bolt drives.

ERM: Were the Indians employed in any other capacity?

VGP: They didn't seem to adapt to shingle mill business. They were river men, fishermen. They smoked their fish and stored them for the winter.

ERM: Has it been generally true throughout your industry that Indians have not provided any important part of the labor other than in driving logs and bolts?

VGP: Well, there were Indians working in the woods cutting shingle bolts, but I don't recall very many of them in the mills. Apparently they felt at home in the woods and on the river. Maybe they also felt alien to the belts, driveshafts, and pulleys in the mills.

ERM: I suppose, too, there was more competition for the jobs in the mills.

VGP: Yes. Shingle milling all these years has been a hustle bustle proposition. It's been "busheling," piecework. You are paid by the amount of shingles you produce, basically. I think the white man more readily adapted to that type of activity than the Indian.

ERM: Did that stem from the very early days when the settlers made shingles as a cottage industry operation in the wintertime when they had few agricultural activities? To earn extra money they would make a few shingles and sell them, and this grew up as a kind of piecework thing. Would there be any historical merit in that notion?

- VGP: It may be, but that would be conjecture. I can't say. Incidentally, it is still a cottage industry to some extent. Within two hours I could take you out and show you at least ten "mills" in the rear of houses where they are cutting and splitting shakes in the evenings or on weekends. So it is a cottage industry. They will sell these to some broker who will accumulate them in carload lots.
- ERM: Where do they obtain their bolts? They don't own much land from which to draw.
- VGP: In some instances they steal it. I believe that most of them buy it from loggers. For example, you can buy a truckload at a time from Scott Timber Company up on the Skagit River. They'll scale it out and away you go to convert it into shakes. Other logging companies do that, too.
- ERM: Then there are quite a number of small, one-man operations?
- VGP: Yes. They tell the story about the woman in British Columbia whose husband was in the business. She spotted a dress in a local store that she very much wanted and asked her husband for money to buy the dress. He said, "No, I can't spare it. Why don't you split some shakes and earn some money?" So she did and finally had the money. She went down to try on the dress, and she couldn't get her right arm through the sleeve because the muscle had developed!
- ERM: I take it that splitting shakes is something that can be done relatively easily without much precision.
- VGP: You need a certain amount of precision, but it can be done by anyone who takes a little time. It is not a difficult thing.
- ERM: And, of course, the shake is the thing that brings the top price.
- VGP: Yes. There are different types of shakes. The taper-split shake, which is the type you make with mallet and froe, is a cross between a shingle and a shake. It is a rather smooth shake. However, the resawn shake is the big seller, the shake that dominates the market. It's the shake that you split from blanks or boards, then diagonally resaw each board on a band saw, making two shakes out of one. It's more rugged and more textured. It's the big seller as opposed to the taper-split shake the pioneer used.

The pioneer also made what we call the straight-split barn shake, with the same thickness at both ends. If you take the cedar block and split it from the same end each time, you will get a straight split, the same thickness at both ends throughout. If you turn the block each time you split, you'll get a taper split. Pioneers would take these straight splits, often forty-eight inches long, and lay them up double. That's called the pioneer style of application. But that's not the way the shakes were made for Mount Vernon. Their cypress didn't split to a taper properly. They would clamp one end of the straight-split shake in a device which they would hold through the action of their foot. Then they'd take a drawknife and draw it off to a taper. This was the common way of making shakes in the East years ago.

To give you an example of the dominant role of the cedar shingle industry in the early history of this area, let me quote from Whitfield's History of Snohomish County, Washington:

There were 234 mills in the state, capable of manufacturing 16,515,000 shingles per day. . . . The sawmill interests were distinctly in second place in the manufacturing end of the lumber business in 1895, shingle manufacturers being much more active.*

Whitfield goes on to say that in August 1895 the Snohomish County Assessor published figures which gave the number of sawmills in the county as eleven compared with forty-four shingle mills.

*William Whitfield, History of Snohomish County, Washington, 2 volumes (Seattle: Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, 1926), pp. 709-710.

CEDAR SOURCE AND SUPPLY; USE IN SHINGLES AND SHAKES; RESEARCH

- ERM: Why is the red cedar found in such a limited area?
- VGP: It would have to be because of adaptation to certain climatic conditions.
- ERM: It is found mainly here in the state of Washington, British Columbia, and to some limited extent in northern Oregon. What about in Alaska?
- VGP: You find some cedar in southeastern Alaska. We have one Bureau member mill in Ketchikan. But you get much more north of this and you run out of cedar, that is, in commercial quantities. You'll find some cedar in eastern Washington and even in western Montana.
- ERM: Does it extend across the Bering Strait into Asia?
- VGP: To my knowledge it doesn't.
- ERM: I understand there is a tree in Japan that is quite similar to it. It is a cedar and it's partly the reason the Japanese have cottoned so well to the western cedar, because it's a wood they are familiar with.
- VGP: They also buy large quantities of Port-Orford-cedar which is very restricted and limited in its geographic location to the Coos Bay area in Oregon. You don't find it this far north, but you'll find some yellow cedar here extending up north into Alaska. It's a great boat-building wood. You'll even find a type of cedar in North Africa. The cedar of Lebanon doesn't look much like a cedar tree as we know it; it looks more like a pine. Wise King Solomon built his miraculous temple with the cedars of Lebanon. The Bureau exploits that a little bit in its promotion.
- ERM: There has been conjecture over the years about the supply of western red cedar and when it might run out. It is my understanding that, because the species is very slow growing, it doesn't lend itself well to forestry practices in the same way that other species in this area do, like Douglas-fir and western pine. What is your best judgment about the life of the species and particularly

the life of the industry?

- VGP: Certainly it is limited. As you say, there is no artificial replanting of cedar. It will mature in two hundred years, and nobody can justify planting a crop that takes that long to mature. Whatever regrowth that is occurring is through natural regeneration, and it is quite limited. We are cutting cedar faster than it is growing. However, it has been called the longest wake in history, because people have been predicting for the last fifty years that we are soon to encounter the last cedar tree in our forests. We're still producing a lot of cedar. But the years of the industry are limited, and just how limited remains to be seen. We do have less cedar cut today than we did thirty years ago, and thirty years ago there was less cut than thirty years before that. I think the cedar shingle and shake industry crested about 1910, 1911, 1912. Cedar was the dominant species in the Northwest in the beginning, and the cedar industry, shingles and shakes particularly, was more dominant than lumber manufacturing.
- ERM: Was that because it grew in accessible valleys and flatlands?
- VGP: Yes. The rivers were the mode of transportation in those early days. Another factor is that, in converting a tree into shingles or shakes, you reduce that tree into relatively small pieces, shingle bolts, which can be handled manually. If you want to convert that tree into lumber, you need long logs and it takes equipment they didn't have in those days. They had ox and horse teams dragging shingle bolts out of the woods.
- ERM: Cedar wood is light and lends itself to water transportation.
- VGP: Some of it is light, but it can be very heavy, too.
- ERM: Until it's dried and seasoned.
- VGP: Yes, then it is lighter than many other species. It is ideal for shingles where you have alternate wetting and drying, because it is a stable wood. Cedar is far more stable than any of the other local species. It will shrink and swell far less with changes in moisture content than fir or hemlock. It has almost the same shrinkage coefficient as redwood and cypress. And these also happen to be durable. They are the three durable woods: tide-water cypress, California redwood, and western red cedar.
- ERM: You say that this species does not lend itself to profitable tree farming in the same way that Douglas-fir does, but that the species

is regenerating itself. I have the impression that it is not regenerating very greatly either. What does this portend as far as the species' life is concerned? Is it dying out?

- VGP: Yes, it is. When you consider that it takes two hundred years for this species to come to maturity, and when you also consider that it has been about ninety years since we started cutting trees out here, that leaves a gap of one hundred ten years. The first cedar were cut in 1865 or thereabouts, over a hundred years ago. That means there is another hundred years between now and the time any natural regrowth of that era reaches maturity.
- ERM: Are certain stands of this particular species set aside as museum pieces?
- VGP: There are parks where there are large quantities of western red cedar, like Olympic National Park and Mount Rainier National Park. And there are some private parks where cedar is held unto perpetuity, so to speak.
- ERM: There is no immediate or foreseeable terminus of the species?
- VGP: No. There are hundreds of thousands of cedar trees of different ages regrowing now from natural growth.
- ERM: Where does the industry derive most of its supply from today?
- VGP: The U. S. industry derives most of its supply from the Olympic Peninsula. There is also a tremendous volume of cedar left in British Columbia. I have been told that cedar comprises possibly 25 to 30 percent of forest stands in the coastal areas of British Columbia, which is considerably higher than the average in Washington. The farther south you get, the thinner it gets. Down around Eugene and Roseburg, Oregon, you're down to 1 percent of the forest stand. South of Roseburg you run out of cedar.
- ERM: Would you say that the prime area for growing cedar is to the north in British Columbia?
- VGP: Yes, here and in British Columbia, where you have wet, cool climates. The western red cedar encountered in eastern Washington, northern Idaho, and western Montana, is a much smaller tree though the same species botanically. You don't get the humidity and moisture there.

- ERM: Does it always grow at the lower elevations?
- VGP: No, you'll find cedar at higher elevations like two thousand or three thousand feet, and maybe higher. There is more silver fir and hemlock in the higher elevations.
- ERM: At what point in time do you think your industry recognized the finite limits of the resource that it depends upon?
- VGP: I think they have always known it. Maybe they haven't articulated it. I recall my father saying over and over that someday this timber was going to be valuable. He told me two things that I remember. The first was, always tell the truth; that was a phobia with him. And the second, someday this timber is going to be valuable. That day has come, I guess. Of course, we don't know what the future holds, but it will probably become even more valuable.
- ERM: From what lands do you derive the source of your material? Are they still principally private lands, or is most of the product now being cut from public lands?
- VGP: Public lands both here and in Canada.
- ERM: Has most of what remained on private lands been pretty well cleaned out by salvage operations that picked up the pockets that were left?
- VGP: Most of it, not all of it. One thing about cedar that accounts in large part for the longevity of the industry is that the dead and down cedar will lay there for years and wait for the logger. Whereas, when hemlock and fir are down, you have to get at them right away or they'll degenerate on the forest floor. I remember when my dad had the timber claim in Clallam County. There was a big blow in 1922 or 1923 and fortunately his timber was in a little pocket where the wind didn't get at it, but when a stand of hemlock blew down, if you didn't get in there and log it within a couple of years, it was gone. Cedar will wait for you, laying there for many years. Because of its oils, it does not deteriorate. There is a tremendous amount of salvage even yet, which the loggers back in the old days of logging didn't bother to drag out.
- ERM: How long will a downed tree last before it begins to deteriorate?
- VGP: It begins to deteriorate immediately, but very slowly. You'll get

some rot on the outside and some in the middle, the heart centers. Most of the mature cedars are hollow, they have deteriorated on the inside and you have a large shell. You take a nice looking cedar and you'll almost always find it's over-ripe, hollow in the middle. Cedar can lay there one hundred fifty to two hundred years and still be usable.

ERM: If it's buried in the mud will it last longer?

VGP: They are resurrecting cedar from the swamps of New Jersey today and cutting it into shingles. It was quite an industry back there years ago. It's a different species from our western red cedar, but it has some of the same properties and characteristics.

ERM: When the industry developed a recognition of the finite nature of the resource, did it make this known to the rest of the world or did it try to keep it quiet for any length of time?

VGP: I would say neither. They didn't broadcast it, nor did they conceal it. It is a situation that no one is particularly responsible for. Cedar now grows in mixed stands; it comes out of the woods with other species. In the beginning there were solid stands of cedar up the valleys and along the rivers.

ERM: Is there any new frontier for this industry?

VGP: I suspect there is. We have engaged in a good deal of research developing chemical treatments which will impart fire resistant characteristics to cedar shingles. Once you find something that is economical and will not leach out, you're only a short step away from imparting durability characteristics to the product and you can approach the longevity of cedar on a chemical basis with other species. You can chemically impart to other species the same characteristic that cedar has naturally, durability. Also, I think it is only a matter of time before we grind trees up and press them into the desired shapes, including lumber and shingles. With some kind of glue we'll glue them together; we'll chemically create the product that we now get through nature.

ERM: That will open up opportunities for making a much larger use of what remains of the resource. Does this species or anything closely related to it exist in other areas of the world where industry people have made exploration to see whether they can carry on their work with investment of capital?

- VGP: There has been some interest shown by people in our industry toward the resource in Chile. There is a type of cedar there that resembles our cedar. And I believe that shingle-making equipment has been shipped to Chile. Of course, you have an unstable, at least unique, political situation in Chile and I don't think that the time is now propitious to get into shingle making there. A shingle mill was established recently in the Philippines to cut a species of lauan. There are also species in Central America, which might be suitable.
- ERM: Has there ever been any systematic search made by the industry through the Bureau for such sources?
- VGP: To my knowledge there hasn't been.
- ERM: What are your estimates of the amount of commercial red cedar that still remains to be drawn upon? How long will that last?
- VGP: In terms of board feet, I don't know. Of course, there is Canada to reckon with. Their cedar resource is greater than ours. I'm sure they have some estimates, but I don't know. There is a big competition in our industry for the cedar. The cedar shingle and shake industry, the cedar lumber industry, the cedar plywood industry, the cedar pulp users, all compete for the raw material. When it becomes more economical to convert the cedar into boards than it does shingles and shakes, you'll find that the life of our industry will be effected.
- ERM: The Bureau's research is limited primarily to cedar shingles and shakes. In other words, you're not very much involved in exploring the potential use of the resource in other, more exotic uses that might be more profitable.
- VGP: No, we're not. There has been talk of expanding into a cedar bureau as opposed to a cedar shingle and shake bureau. At one time we did invite the Cedar Lumber Association, which was in the process of closing its offices, to become a part of our group. But they allied themselves with the Western Wood Products Association.
- ERM: Is that because the production of red cedar lumber was a function of an industry that used all kinds of species in its manufacturing process, cedar being only one part of it? There aren't many cedar lumber mills per se, where they only make cedar lumber. Have there ever been enough of them to merit the funding of their own association?

- VGP: Yes, there were quite a few of them in the 1920s. Their number has greatly declined. I don't know of any now in the United States which produce only cedar lumber. There may be one or two smaller ones. Actually, the cedar shake industry has come along and has constricted the raw material available to cedar lumber mills. Cedar shake producers take a grade of cedar which cedar lumber mills have traditionally used. In the beginning the pioneer cut shakes. Shingle making started in the 1880s, particularly when the railroad reached out here. Incidentally, the Northern Pacific is celebrating its one hundredth year. The first northern transcontinental railroad arrived in Tacoma 100 years ago this week.
- ERM: The railroad provided a new market and a lucrative one for the shingle industry. The shingle, I gather, was a popular product primarily for rural use on farms.
- VGP: Also for houses in the cities.
- ERM: But the urban use lagged behind the rural use, did it not? It wasn't until sometime after the mid-twenties that the real urban use began to blossom.
- VGP: Perhaps. But in the meantime the shake almost went out of existence. The only people who used shakes were those who couldn't afford to buy shingles and they split their own shakes. In the mid-thirties there began a renaissance in the shake business. Shakes have really taken off since the middle of the 1950s. Now, shake making is a bigger industry than shingle making.
- ERM: To whom do you attribute the fashion for using shakes in the 1950s and 1960s? Was this a function of the growing interest and involvement by architects?
- VGP: Yes, and ranch style architecture in California. When the shake industry first organized and became a part of our Bureau, and we assembled our first distribution statistics for the year 1956, we could hardly believe what we saw. About 90 percent of the shakes that year were shipped to California. Now, even though we have a larger total production, about 45 percent go to California. The shingle market has gone east and midwest and southeast.
- ERM: That's partly due to the architect and it's partly due to popular magazines like House Beautiful and Better Homes and Gardens,

that feature California homes which people in other parts of the country have set about imitating.

- VGP: Yes, that is true. The West Coast, particularly California, but also Portland and Seattle, is the fountainhead of modern architecture. We have so many progressive architects here that much of the architectural style originates here and rapidly spreads east. In recent years there has been a phenomenon of big builders in the East importing architectural talent from the West. You find that in New England and the Midwest today.
- ERM: Coming out from the East five years ago myself, I recognize this is an area of many seminal ideas. They seem to grow out of this area and have an impact on the rest of the country.
- VGP: The trend has been from west to east.
- ERM: A few questions about the physical aspects of the cedar tree itself. What's the largest tree of the species on record?
- VGP: There is one on the Olympic Peninsula that is described as the largest cedar tree in existence. It is a huge thing in circumference, it must be one hundred to two hundred feet, but it does not go up very high, and it is broken up into segments. It is hollow, as all cedars are. It must be fifty feet in diameter. On the average, big cedars will go ten or twelve feet in diameter. It is a very unimpressive tree. I'd rather prefer that they wouldn't attract the public to it, because it doesn't come near to being as impressive as redwoods or sequoias.
- ERM: I gather it wasn't uncommon to find trees twenty or twenty-five feet in diameter in the early days.
- VGP: That's right. A cedar stump on the highway north of Everett has been hollowed out and you can drive a car through it. That tree came off the Stillaguamish flats. The cedar is a big tree, but it does not grow as tall as the fir, though its girth is larger than any other species, save redwood.
- ERM: What qualities do commercial users look for in the raw material? Are these fairly uniform from tree to tree or do they vary a great deal?
- VGP: Trees vary a great deal. Some are light in weight and others are saturated with moisture. The qualities that the buyers expect

from shingles and shakes are durability and stability of each piece under changes in moisture content.

ERM: What does the commercial buyer of shingle bolts look for?

VGP: Mainly grain characteristics. A lot of limbs or knots reduce the value of the product. In fact, it isn't economic to convert a low-grade tree into shakes, and frequently it isn't economic to convert it into shingles. When you cut it on a shingle saw, you can use a lower grade than you can for shakes.

ERM: Can you determine what those characteristics are by looking at the raw material as it stands in the woods?

VGP: Yes, you can size up a tree by glancing at it. A skilled timber cruiser can pretty well tell.

ERM: Were trees cut on an individual basis in the early days, or were they all yarded out?

VGP: They would take them all if they were after cedar, but they would leave the small trees. In the old days you could use most of the tree, except for the very tops.

ERM: You have been back to those old areas that your father logged; what is happening there now?

VGP: There is largely cedar regrowth, but it is only fifty years old and it has another one hundred fifty years to go. Many times alder takes hold and that slows down the growth of cedar or fir, because alder shades out the growth. Once the cedars and firs take hold, they'll grow taller and take the sunlight and eventually kill off the alder. As you know, there is competition between species for the sun. Alder is considered less desirable commercially than the coniferous species.

ERM: To what extent has your industry been responsive to the knowledge of professional forestry?

VGP: Very little. Ours is a by-product industry. Very few of our members own their own timber and relatively few of them do their own logging at the present time. Therefore, they do not employ their own foresters. A number of our members are large companies who do have foresters, but shingle and shake making is a small part of their total enterprise. I'm talking about

people like Weyerhaeuser, MacMillan-Bloedel, firms of that ilk.

ERM: Has there been much research and development in the business as compared with what's going on in other branches of the forest products industry?

VGP: No, I'm sorry to say. For example, the plywood industry, through the American Plywood Association, has established a large laboratory in Tacoma. They do a lot of research work. We do relatively little. We employ Stanford Research Institute and we have worked through FMC Corporation on certain projects from time to time. But overall our research and development budget is quite modest. This is a reflection of the finite nature of our raw material. We don't talk about it and we don't conceal it either. It's a fact of life.

ERM: Is there a red cedar apart from western red cedar?

VGP: Oh, yes. As a matter of fact, I read someplace that western red cedar is not a true cedar. There are four true cedars, one of which grows in the Atlas Mountains in northwestern Africa. There are various branches of the species. Juniper is a branch of the cedar species, and of course, there is the eastern cedar and northern white-cedar.

HISTORICAL NOTES

ERM: In Forest and Range Policy, Samuel T. Dana cites an 1817 law on red cedar forests in the United States in which Congress authorized:

the Secretary of the Navy, with the approval of the President, to reserve from sale public lands containing live oak and red cedar for the sole purpose of supplying timber for the navy of the United States. The unauthorized removal of any timber from such reservations or of any live oak or red cedar from any other public lands was punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 and imprisonment for not more than six months. Administration of the reserves was placed under the Navy Department, . . .

Thus did the United States embrace the principle of Great Britain's hated Broad-Arrow policy. The kind of trees and the regions involved were different, but the underlying philosophy that government has the right to exercise absolute control over the use of public lands was identical. The American government went even further in its restrictions than the British by reserving not only particular species but entire areas from unauthorized use. White pine could not have been reserved, even if there had been fears as to the adequacy of the mass supply, since the entire stand in the Northeast was on state or private lands; but all live oak and red cedar were specifically protected from illegal cutting on all lands which the Federal government did own and all kinds of trees on areas set apart as reservations. These provisions materially strengthened the general prohibitions against entry on the public lands embodied in the anti-trespass act of 1807.*

*Samuel T. Dana, Forest and Range Policy (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1956): 46-7.

I realize that at the time this act was passed, they were dealing entirely with a vision of forest resources that were then growing on the eastern edge of our country and as far south as Florida, where there were some live oak and red cedar stands that were particularly important.

This act was never very effectively enforced, especially as the country grew and gradually extended its population from coast to coast. The question that came to my mind was whether the red cedar reservation clause in this very old act has ever risen in your memory or that of members of your industry in recent times, especially during wartimes when government priorities are pushed up to the highest levels, and sometimes exclusive position of rights and needs are taken into account. Have the red cedar operators in this area ever looked upon the existence of that old law as containing any potential threat to their own existence?

VGP: No. As a matter of fact, I've never heard of it. I have no indication that anybody else is aware of it. Being of 1817 origin, the law doubtless referred to eastern red cedar.

ERM: It was originally put into effect because of the important role timber played in shipbuilding. The time of the wooden ship, of course, long ago ceased to be a factor of importance in national defense.

VGP: I doubt very much if that law could be implemented today.

ERM: I suppose the closest thing we might have to it was the imposition of controls over the spruce industry during World War I when the Spruce Production Division of the United States Army was put in control of the spruce industry.

VGP: That was for aircraft. In fact, I think W. E. Boeing got his start from the spruce industry at that time.

ERM: An old reprint from The Timberman for April 1932 on the early history of the industry in this area credits superannuated employees of Hudson's Bay Company with being the first red cedar shingle producers. Their means for making a living after they were no longer fit for trapping was to be employed in making shakes and shingles. These were exempted by the company stores in exchange for supplies and provisions at five dollars per thousand. They were packed in bundles of a thousand each and shipped to California or around Cape Horn to the Atlantic

Coast. Shingles evidently became a staple article of commerce out here on the Pacific Coast, particularly in the first one hundred years of white occupation. That fact has been brought forth in some of your own promotional literature from time to time.

VGP: Yes. For example, consider this quotation from Pioneer Reminiscences of Puget Sound by Ezra Meeker in 1904.*

ERM: Another milestone to be pinned down is the transition from the primitive shaved shingle to the block shingle by machine manufacture. What can you tell about that change? When did it come and from whence did it come?

VGP: It must have happened in Michigan and possibly New England in the middle of the nineteenth century, prior to the Civil War in America. They still make white cedar shingles in northern New England and in Quebec in eastern Canada. Up until recently the market for these white cedars was largely along the Atlantic Coast as far south as Connecticut or Cape Cod where white cedar shingles are on the exterior walls of many buildings. They weather to a nice silvery grey. Recently there has been a renaissance in the white cedar shingle industry and we have encountered these pesky white cedar shingles as far east as Syracuse and Buffalo, New York, where they are now marketing them. They are cut out of small trees, and their best grade of shingle is equal to our No. 3 grade of shingle. I don't know when shingle cutting with machinery started, but it must have been one hundred fifty years ago. It may have started in New Brunswick, Canada or Bangor, Maine, where we had our first lumbering in the United States.

ERM: In certain areas of your own West Coast shingle history, there are evidences that British Columbia manufactured and shipped red cedar shingles to the east coast of Canada, since the New Brunswick shingles were being marketed in New England.

In Whitfield's history of Snohomish County there is a good deal of description of how the industry developed as a cottage industry, providing the settlers with winter employment and a supplementary income to their main pursuits as farmers.**

*See Appendix B, pp. 140-141.

**William Whitfield, editor, History of Snohomish County, Washington (Seattle: Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, 1926), p. 687.

He credits Blackman Brothers with building the first sawn-shingle mill in Snohomish County, October 26, 1885.* Do you know, or have you any evidence as to whether there were earlier sawn-shingle mills in the Northwest? If so, where were they and who owned them?

VGP: I believe there was at least one earlier mill on the Green River which flows into Elliott Bay, out of Seattle. It was a water-powered mill and was owned by a man named Hight, whose son or grandson sawed fancy butt shingles for Seattle Cedar Lumber Manufacturing Company at the time of World War I, and who many years later operated his own shake mill here in the Seattle area. I believe this water-powered shingle mill dated back to the 1870s.

Blackman Shingle was undoubtedly on Blackman Lake near the town of Snohomish. That would be relatively inaccessible from the arteries of commerce, mainly the rivers and Puget Sound itself.

ERM: More than likely the sawn shingle mills were set up on the Columbia River before that.

VGP: Yes. Olympia was a very early trading spot, too.

ERM: Has any historical group in this area concerned itself with these early mills and set up markers to identify them?

VGP: To my knowledge they have not.

ERM: Are you acquainted with any local projects that might give important information on the early history?

VGP: In the archives of the weekly newspapers that were published around the Northwest there is a wealth of information. For example, years ago I was browsing through some old issues of the Arlington, Washington Times and came across an article stating that several shingle mill operators in or near Arlington got together and donated a carload of shingles for shipment to San Francisco to help the victims of the 1906 earthquake.

ERM: The government appointed official scalers in the 1880s, but the mills refused to accept this authority and used instead their own scales.** Do you recall hearing your father or other old-timers talk about this?

* Ibid., p. 691.

** Ibid., p. 698.

VGP: No, but I would imagine that the same principle applied then as now, and that is, if logs are in short supply, the logger can dictate the scale. If there is a surplus, the owner of the mill, the log buyer, can dictate the scale. It is a matter of economics at the particular moment.

ERM: The Puget Mill Company adopted the government scale in September 1887. I wonder whether there had been any great acrimony over this, and if you or your father had been aware of it?

VGP: It goes back too far. There probably was some acrimonious debate, but I don't know about it.

ERM: By 1918 the state of Washington was producing three-fourths of all U. S. shingle output through 158 mills.* Why was this state so prominent in the early development of the industry? I realize, of course, that a great deal of the red cedar was found here, but then there was a good deal of it, too, across the line in British Columbia. Was it because the forests here were more accessible and the arteries of trade were better developed?

VGP: I think you could make almost exactly the same statement today, that three-fourths of the shingles produced in the U. S. are produced in the state of Washington by approximately 158 different mills. It is because the cedar is here and because of Puget Sound. Puget Sound was a tremendous stimulant to the settlement of the area. There were no natural harbors like those along the Oregon coast. True, you could go up the Columbia River, but getting across the Columbia bar was hazardous. Here, you could sail your boats right into Puget Sound, load and unload in sheltered harbors. Several rivers came into the Sound, and the valleys were forested. It was an ideal place for early development. And the cedar was here. The settlers were confronted with it, and in many instances they would cut it down, pile it up, and burn it to get it out of the way so that they could plant crops. In the fall of the year the air was heavy with smoke from the settlers burning trees that had been cut down and left to dry. This was merchantable timber, huge piles of it. For their time that was probably the only thing they could reasonably do. The forest was an enemy. It was something that had to be cleared in order to make a living out of agriculture and grazing.

*"General News of Associations and Clubs," Lumber World Review 39, no. 3 (August 10, 1920): 41.

I would say that 75 to 80 percent of the wood shingles in the United States today are produced in Washington, the other 20 to 25 percent are produced in Oregon and Idaho. But you do have quite an industry in British Columbia.

ERM: Is it growing?

VGP: The shake industry in British Columbia is growing and the shingle industry is constricting. The same is true in the United States.

ERM: More and more of the raw material is then going to go into shakes as time goes on?

VGP: Yes, because it brings a premium price and you can get greater realization out of the log.

My background in the industry is pretty much what I've read or heard about. I wasn't there. I wasn't in the industry prior to 1930. The great days of our industry were World War I vintage and prior to that. Since then we've been going a little bit downhill because of the resource situation.

ERM: I think generally that people in the business community, and this is true in the professional world, too, are inclined to think that history is something that happened a long time ago, back when Grandpa was a boy, rather than anything that happened in their lifetimes. They tend to denigrate their own experience as being of any great moment as far as historical information is concerned. What you're talking about, the time during which you've been a vital part of this industry, is going to be as much the subject of interest someday to people. Other people will look back on your time and say, "That was the heyday!"

VGP: Yes, I guess so. I remember some of the historical experiences I had as a kid, like seeing the Indians driving shingle bolts down the river. That was a common occurrence in those days. I never thought anything about it. But now, it's a phenomenon. It's gone forever. The last log drive, I think, on the Clearwater over in Idaho, was last year. There are no more drives in Maine, of course.

ERM: Are the Indians now out of the picture?

quite a population of Indians up the river here and there in Indian communes, but they're gone. They've been assimilated into the population or they have died off.

ERM: I see quite a few Indians on the streets of Seattle.

VGP: Yes. They are a big factor in the shingle and shake industry now because the Quinault tribe owns a tremendous amount of timberland which is heavy to cedar.

THE SHINGLE SQUARE PACK

ERM: At what point did the shingle square pack come into use?

VGP: About 1931. Prior to that it was the thousand pack, which was five bundles that contained the equivalent of 1,000 either three-inch or four-inch wide shingles. Of course, they weren't three or four inches wide, but of random widths. These five bundles, though, would contain that many lineal inches. It had no relationship to the end use of the product, so we went to the square pack, which is four bundles. And those four bundles at the standard recommended weather exposure will cover 100 square feet of roof area, or a square. It was a marketing and merchandising tool.

ERM: Was there much opposition to this?

VGP: Oh, yes. The Bureau got the Department of Commerce to establish square pack commercial standards, and some of the mills resigned from the Bureau. Fortunately, practically all of them came back to the Bureau when they converted to the square pack themselves. It wasn't too long before the buyers insisted that shingles be square pack. There was no coercion from the government itself other than the fact that they did establish a square pack commercial standard.

ERM: This provided some means of insuring greater uniformity in marketing methods, but was it in any way related to shipping charges or the shipping methods that were used to get the product to the market?

VGP: No, it had to do with utilization. It didn't take very long before we had 100 percent of the industry with us. A couple of years ago the Bureau took the lead in establishing five bundles as the basic number of bundles per square of shakes. Many of the mills were packing their shakes into four-bundle squares, others in five-bundle squares. This resulted in a chaotic marketing situation. This standardization change was relatively painless. We lost only one or two members as a result. Now, in shakes, five bundles constitute a square and in shingles, four bundles constitute a square.

ERM: Is that only applicable in red cedar shingles?

VGP: I think it applies to shingles of all species, but I couldn't speak for the white cedar or the redwood shingles because I don't encounter them that much.

ERM: They aren't that great a factor on the total market?

VGP: I would say that 99 percent of all shingles and shakes used in the United States are western red cedar.

INDUSTRY TRADE PROMOTION

- ERM: At the Annual Red Cedar Shingle Congress held in Washington in 1919, it was announced that the West Coast Lumbermen's Association had spent one hundred thousand dollars in a three-year period, 1916, 1917, 1918, for various advertising and publicity campaigns for wooden shingles.*
- VGP: I know in the 1920s and 1930s the shingle industry was doing more advertising than the lumber industry, even though we were much smaller than the lumber industry. The reason was because we had more direct competition than the lumber industry did. Competition came early to us and we reacted with advertising programs.
- ERM: You mean competition from substitute materials?
- VGP: Yes. When the horseless carriage was invented they had to develop petroleum products to power the automobile, and a by-product was low-grade oil which found use in asphalt shingles. The result was that we had direct competition as far back as seventy years ago. It started about the time of World War I. Prior to that the wood roof was the dominant roof. During the 1920s we steadily lost ground to the asphalt shingle.
- ERM: I've seen graphic illustrations in the publication of the Rite-Grade Shingle Association which showed how the impact of the substitute paper shingle had moved in on the market and gradually nearly completely overshadowed the wood shingle's total production. Did the one hundred thousand dollars the West Coast Lumbermen's Association claimed to have spent over the three years constitute the entire budget of its Shingle Branch for those three years?
- VGP: I do not know. That would be about \$35,000 a year and it doesn't seem like that would be a very large total budget.
- ERM: In the light of experience, has your industry been generous in its support of trade promotion, product advertising? Or has it been cautious and unwilling to risk capital in that kind of enterprise?

*"Shingle Branch of West Coast Lumbermen's Association," Lumber World Review 36, no. 2 (January 25, 1919): 38.

- VGP: I think it has been very generous when you relate it to other segments of the industry. Compared with the lumber industry, for many years we have spent far more money for promoting our product than the lumber industry has. The reason is because we are faced with the direct competition that the lumber industry has not been faced with. Nobody spends money advertising unless it's for their own benefit. Necessity triggers this.
- ERM: In other words, lumber has been a product that has practically sold itself.
- VGP: Right. It is pretty hard to find a substitute for studs. They are now finding substitutes in terms of steel and aluminum studs, but this is a recent phenomenon. The lumber industry today is beginning to feel the type of competition that was felt sixty years ago by the shingle industry. When you relate it to the size of our industry, to the gross sales value of our product, we're spending far more than any other branch of the industry.
- ERM: Do you attribute that perhaps to the movement of the industry into the establishment of a separate and distinct association of its own in 1926, when it moved out of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association? Do you suppose the people in the industry felt that perhaps there was not quite an energetic enough program being done for them?
- VGP: It might have been. I really don't know why they split away from the West Coast Lumbermen's Association. Maybe it was some unrelated factor. Right now, for example, our budget, largely a promotional one, is going to be a million dollars next year. I would guess that the West Coast Lumbermen's Association budget is on the order of six million dollars. Their industry is more than six times bigger than our industry, maybe twenty-five or thirty times bigger. And yet they don't mount that kind of budget because they don't tax themselves to the extent the shingle producer taxes himself. And the reason he does is because he considers it a necessary investment to stay alive.
- ERM: Are the competitor products also doing the same thing? You have very intensive competition.

VGP: Yes, but not through an association. The asphalt roofing association does relatively little. The individual companies do it. There are relatively few of them but they are big companies, and they do it on a company basis rather than a trade association basis.

They have their own advertising staffs and public relations organizations. In an association such as ours, advertising becomes functional because the industry is made up of a large number of small elements that can't do the job on their own, so they band together and do it through a trade association.

ERM: Who are the largest of the organizations in your group?

VGP: Shakertown Corporation, MacMillan Bloedel, Canadian Forest Products, Weyerhaeuser Company, Evans Products Company, Hoh River Cedar Products, M. R. Smith Shingle Company, British Columbia Forest Products, Rayonier of Canada, these are some of them.

ERM: What is the range of their total production in shingles per year? How do they relate to the total of the industry?

VGP: Although we have about four hundred member mills, the fifty largest account for over half of our dues income, which is based on shingle and shake production.

ERM: How is the quality of the product established?

- VGP: By us.
- ERM: So that there is little to choose from between one brand and another as far as quality.
- VGP: We don't say that, and certainly the producers don't say that. Some mills make a better grade than others. We just establish a minimum and some of them do a better job than that, and we encourage it.
- ERM: Can you provide me with figures that would illustrate red cedar shingle and shake production over the life of the industry in the Pacific Northwest?
- VGP: Yes, I can.*
- ERM: How many total members have been in the Bureau?
- VGP: We have over four hundred member mills, which is a record, but many of them are very small mills.
- ERM: In any Bureau delineation emphasis has been in regular annual expenditure. Have there been any dramatic changes in this or has it followed a similar pattern percentagewise over the years?
- VGP: We are very promotion oriented and we spend every dollar available over and above our overhead expenses for trade promotion and advertising.
- ERM: So that administrative costs and the rest would all be lumped together as being contributive to trade promotion? It would be hard to break it down.
- VGP: Yes. Everything is related to trade promotion. For example, my salary. Part of my job is administrative, but part of it is trade promotion. The same with my assistant and even our bookkeeper. The reason she keeps books is so that we can collect money for advertising.

*See Appendix C, p. 142.

- ERM: Have advertising and trade promotion work been done entirely as a function of the staff of the Bureau or do you get outside help?
- VGP: We get outside help.
- ERM: Has that always been true?
- VGP: Yes. In fact, we had the same advertising agency for forty years. It was Botsford, Constantine, and Gardner. It is now known as Botsford Ketchum, Inc. and their offices are in San Francisco. We no longer have them as our agency.
- ERM: When did you part company and for what reason?
- VGP: We parted about twelve years ago. It was felt that we needed new stimulants in advertising, a new approach, a fresh approach.
- ERM: To whom did you turn?
- VGP: To a local agency known as Baker and Stimpson, which later became F. E. Baker, and which is now N. W. Ayer/F. E. Baker, Inc. and is a national organization.
- ERM: Are they still serving you?
- VGP: Yes. In the long history of the industry, we've had only two advertising agencies. The late C. P. Constantine was a pioneer advertising man. He first interested the industry in advertising back in the days of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association. He was an account man with the first agency, which was possibly known as the C. P. Constantine Advertising Company in those days.
- ERM: How have your advertising patterns changed over the years?
- VGP: In the beginning we did a great deal of consumer advertising. We were one of the early users of the Saturday Evening Post back in the 1920s.
- ERM: In other words, you were promoting directly to the home builder, the home buyer.
- VGP: The home buyer, yes. The home builder in terms of the consumer. If there has been one basic change in our advertising, it has been toward the trade element, because it is a reflection of the professionalism that's come into the home-building

industry. No longer does an individual say, "I'm going out and buy a piece of land and I'm going to hire carpenters to build my house." This generally isn't done these days. You look in the pages of the newspaper and find out where the houses are for sale and you go out and buy one or order one from an array of models.

ERM: You see no trend of a different nature developing, a return to individualism?

VGP: There still is individualism. You still have your custom home builder. You still have architects designing houses for individuals. But the trend is away from that. On the other hand, these people are very important, because in many cases these will be the trend setters. They set the new styles. So you can't overlook this custom architect. In fact, I suspect that there are ten architects in this country who set the style for all the other architects. These other architects will deny it vigorously, but I'll bet there are ten topnotch architects whom the other architects emulate.

ERM: Name a few of those whom you see as being the prime movers in the architect field.

VGP: Charles Callister, Worley Wong, Barry Berkus, Cliff May. May is considered the father of the renaissance of the ranch style house. You have people like Richard Foster and Christ-Janer in the East, Clovis Heimsath in Texas, and in Honolulu you have Wimberly, Bradley, Aotano. Here in Seattle we have Al Bumgardner and Ralph and John Anderson. Look in the yellow pages under architects in San Francisco and Los Angeles and you'll come up with some great names in architecture, like Moore. Of course, there have been some transplants to the East from the West Coast who are doing a great job.

ERM: To what extent is your work an endeavor to make direct and intimate contact with these individuals? Do you reach them through means other than personal contact?

VGP: Both. Through personal contact and through the pages of their trade magazines. Today our accent is more on the architect than on the lumber dealer. It is just a matter of a basic promotional philosophy which I happen to hold. My predecessor, W. W. Woodbridge, held to the philosophy of promoting the product to the dealer. Times have changed and I think we have reacted to that change. The architect, in our opinion, is of primary importance.

- ERM: Is this the result of the change in the building field? Back in the days when you were in the field, houses were built one at a time by the homeowner. He didn't hire a contractor and he very often didn't have an architect. Today, houses are built in tracts and architects are designing them.
- VGP: There were architecturally designed homes in those days, but the architect was not the influence in residential construction then that he is now. In many instances people would be their own contractor and they would subcontract construction of the house.
- ERM: When did you see the change taking place?
- VGP: In the late thirties. Then after World War II the trend was very pronounced; the exodus from the farm and the professionalizing of house construction. Big builders came into the picture and the trend is still continuing. We are going to see more and more big builders and fewer small builders. It is a different industry now from what it was in the late thirties and early forties.
- ERM: Do you think the shingle industry and the lumber industry have responded as quickly as they might have in approaching the architects, or has it been a slow process of adapting to that change?
- VGP: I can't speak for the other segments of the industry but I think that we have reacted adequately and with sufficient alacrity. We have always been high on the architect side. For example, we are one of the oldest exhibitors at the annual conventions of the American Institute of Architects, which are held annually.
- Everybody is important in the ultimate selection of a roofing or a siding material. With a limited budget you try to pick up the elements that are the most important. The money lender is important, too. The loan officer in savings and loan associations sometimes has something to say about materials.
- ERM: Do you exhibit at their annual meetings as well?
- VGP: No. We exhibit at the National Association of Home Builders annual meetings.
- ERM: Who represents the Bureau at these meetings?

- VGP: Usually there will be either myself or my assistant, Marshall Ritchie at the AIA or the NAHB shows, plus several of our field-men. Next month there will be the annual meeting of the NAHB at Houston. Ritchie will be there as well as our southeastern man Harry Abney, our Texas man Sam Olsen, and our Midwest man Hugh Loth. We'll have a total of four men there. We like to have two men in the display at all times.
- ERM: Do you show a different display every year?
- VGP: We usually make them last two or three years. We have a gimmick at these shows that has always proven to be successful: we literally split shakes in front of our display. We ship to the meeting in advance, selected cedar blocks that will split properly. The noise, the action, and the aroma involved draw people to the display like flies.
- ERM: Is this a handsplitting demonstration?
- VGP: Yes. It is product-oriented action and an ideal thing to do at these shows. Conventions are a small part of our overall activity, a small segment of our promotion. Most of our money is spent on advertising.
- ERM: Have you and your successors in the industry been able to set up annual budgets and carry them out as anticipated and as planned?
- VGP: We do establish a budget, and have for as long as I can remember, prior to the start of the year. For example, we are now in mid-December, and we had a budget committee meeting three weeks ago to establish a 1974 budget and we'll hold to that budget. We may over-spend it or we may under-spend it. But over a long period of time, our expenditures will have to be in balance with the budget. Now this past year, we accumulated some extra funds and when the market began to soften in mid-year, we spent an extra one hundred thousand dollars for advertising. It was not originally budgeted but it was deliberately added to our program for 1973. We dug it out of reserves, and as a result, our reserves are now about one hundred thousand dollars less than there were a year ago because of that extraordinary expense.
- ERM: How long has the Bureau had a reserve?
- VGP: We have always had a reserve. When it gets below one hundred thousand dollars we become nervous because our monthly expenditures sometimes exceed that.

- ERM: Are the Bureau's yearly dues payable at the start of a given fiscal year or are they spread in payments throughout the year?
- VGP: The members pay dues monthly based on either their production or their shipments of the previous month. The formula is so many cents per square.
- ERM: How has that formula changed per square over the years?
- VGP: Every three or four years we have to adjust it upward to keep pace with inflation. It is now 19¢. Back in the late thirties it was 5¢.
- ERM: How does that compare with the percentage of the total selling price, if not profit, of the thirties?
- VGP: Now we are taxing ourselves relatively less compared to the thirties.
- ERM: A smaller percent then is actually going out from the producers.
- VGP: Right. Maybe it's in balance pretty well. Let's say that in 1938 shingles were selling for \$3.50 a square and we were taxing ourselves 5¢. Today the fee is 19¢ and shingles are selling for \$24.00 or \$25.00 a square. Nineteen cents is to \$25.00 as 5¢ is to \$3.50. We are taxing ourselves less, no question about it. It is less than 1 percent now, whereas in the thirties it was more than that, it was almost 2 percent.
- ERM: Have there been years in your experience when budgets that had been set up were never realized and had to be cut back and retrenched in order to keep going?
- VGP: There have been several instances where we have done that but usually the amount of our reserve has been such that we have been able to go ahead and go on the budget for the full year. Then the next year we would estimate our income that much less, probably underestimate what the income would be and we'd build up the reserve again. You never hit it right on the nose. You either underestimate or overestimate. Over the long period of time you budget, you've got to come into balance or you're out of business.
- ERM: Do you have a retirement program for your employees?
- VGP: We have a modest one based on term of service. It's been in effect for six or eight years.

INFLUENCE OF CEDAR LOG EXPORTS ON AMERICAN SHINGLE PRODUCTION

ERM: From data in the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau files I notice that the average annual production of western red cedar shingles has seemed to hew close to a twenty-year average that was established in the early years of the century. I'm not sure how it has paralleled that in recent years because I haven't seen the statistics, but for a twenty-year period in the earlier part of the century there was an average production of about 8,870,150,000 with a high-water mark in 1909 of 10,039,000 and a low of 7,059,491,000 in 1918. Now, in 1926 when the Bureau first came into being, production was up approaching 10,000,000,000 again. What the record has been since then, I don't know, because I couldn't find graphic compilations that revealed more recent history. I wonder what you recall from your own experiences.

VGP: In the first place, your figures are in terms of thousand-pack shingles. And when you say ten billion, you're saying ten million thousand. And a thousand shingles is about one and one-fourth squares, so ten million thousand would be about 12,500,000 squares. That would be about the highwater mark. Back in the 1930s, during the depression, it went down.* In 1941 we reached a new modern-day high for those days, about 7,000,000 squares as opposed to this 12,500,000 squares that you mentioned as being the highwater mark between 1910 and 1920. Then World War II came along and it just decimated our industry because cedar logs weren't coming out of the woods and those that were, were being appropriated for more essential war purposes. The production went down to a low of 4,000,000 squares in 1945. Again relate this to 12,500,000 back in the heyday. Since 1946, production has been about in that ball park. Last year our production was about 5,800,000 squares. We may hit 6,000,000 squares this year. So we are producing, let's say, at half the rate that we did back in 1909, 1910, 1911, and 1926.

*See Appendix C, p. 142.

ERM: To what extent is that a reflection of the market's true demand and to what extent is it a reflection of the departure of raw material the Japanese bought?

VGP: It's hard to say just what the impact of Japanese log exports are, but looking at the broad picture, it's almost entirely a reflection of the depletion of the great cedar resource. The cedar is not available. Cedar only becomes available as it comes out of the woods in terms of logging with all other species. A certain amount of it is cedar lumber; a certain amount of it is available to the shingle and shake industry. There's no question that had there not been exports of cedar to Japan, there would be more shingle and shakes produced. But there would also be more cedar lumber produced. Overall, the reduction in production of shingles and shakes by 50 percent over the years has been due to depletion of the cedar resources, of raw material. The cedar just isn't there so the mills aren't there to convert it. There has been a gradual attrition over the years in cedar manufacturing capacity.

ERM: But the attrition to the foreign market in logs has been growing in recent years. It's much greater now than it was back in the heyday of the industry.

VGP: Yes. They exported cedar to Japan back in the mid-1920s in what were called Jap squares or Jap bolts. But even then, there was much less than there is today. Available statistics from the Department of Commerce indicate that cedar log exports to Japan from Washington and Oregon are about eighty million feet annually, which is about one-fourth the shake and shingle industry's consumption of cedar in these two states.

ERM: Is that flow out of the country going primarily to the Japanese market or is it also going to other markets?

VGP: The only other market to which there is some flow of cedar is Canada and conversely there are times when it comes back this way. It's essentially a Japanese market. To my knowledge, it's all shipped to Japan and we know full well that every cedar log that goes over to Japan will mean cessation of our industry that much sooner. This isn't true of the other species, fir and

hemlock, because they are growing much faster. There is regrowth and I believe it can be shown that the use of fir and hemlock is pretty much in balance with regrowth. But that isn't true of cedar.

ERM: What has been your industry's response to this steady flow of raw material out of the country? What actions have you taken to stem it?

VGP: The Bureau, per se, has adopted a neutral position on the subject of cedar log exports, although we are obviously not in sympathy with them. Some of our members are in sympathy with the concept of cedar log exports.

ERM: Because they are selling them.

VGP: That's right, and because of that situation, our position has been one of neutrality. We have acted as secretariat to an ad hoc group formed more than a year ago, and which raised money that was used to advertise to the public in the Northwest the fallacy of cedar log exports, but to my knowledge the campaign has had little, if any, effect. There have been some conversations with government officials to see if there is any way cedar log exports can be controlled and up to this date the conversation has not been encouraging.

ERM: How does the Washington State contingency in Congress view this?

VGP: One or two of them are actively opposed to the concept. The rest of them seem to be disinterested or neutral. We've had relatively little encouragement from Congress. The congressional representative, Lloyd Meeds, has been quite active and aggressive but it's almost like a voice crying in the wilderness.

ERM: How about Julia Butler Hansen?

VGP: She has not been particularly active in that field. She gives us encouragement but really it's hard to know just what they can do.

ERM: Is this partly because the real giants in the field of forest industries obviously have a clout with these people that a group of smaller operators don't?

VGP: Possibly. The politics involved are this: the Washington State Department of Natural Resources owns a great deal of cedar. They are strongly addicted to exports. The schools are against any suppression of exports of any species because they feel that they get more revenue for school purposes out of exports. But they don't, really, because if it's kept here and converted into a product, over the long haul the schools will get more money, far more revenue, than they will just shipping it out of the country. This is more long term and it's harder apparently for them to really appreciate or understand that. The longshoremen are opposed to it. The Office of Indian Affairs is opposed to it. Really, it's a mixed can of worms.

ERM: How about the Forest Service?

VGP: The Forest Service seems to be completely neutral. I've heard no expression from them on log exports because we have the Morse Amendment which has inhibited total log exports to a certain figure.* We think that there is such a difference between cedar exports and the exports of other logs that special attention should be given to this diminishing resource. We should, while we can, keep it here for domestic use because it's a highly prized roofing and siding material and it's something that people have become accustomed to. They love it and they want to use it and I think we should have the right to use it here rather than ship it to a foreign country, but we are a voice crying in the wilderness, we are too small.

ERM: To what extent does this reflect a lack of cohesion or unified action on the part of the industry as a whole? How much help do you get from other branches of the forest products industry in this regard? Or do you find yourselves to some extent, as the industry very often has in the past, working at cross-purposes?

VGP: I don't think we are necessarily working at cross-purposes but if the horn is going to be tooted on cedar log exports, it's going to have to be tooted by the cedar industry. In other words, we've got to fight our own fight. There is no way the rest of the industry could be expected to take part in it because it isn't their ox that is being gored. So if anybody is going to stop cedar log exports, it's got to be the cedar industry, and the cedar industry, as of right now, is divided on the subject. There are people who feel strongly in both directions.

*For information concerning the Morse Amendment, see Appendix D, pp. 143-144.

- ERM: Do you find membership split right down the middle on this?
- VGP: Maybe not right down the middle, but they're certainly split. There is the class of member who is dependent upon the cedar logger who is interested in exporting a part of his production. And these people are scared to death to speak out on the subject because their supplier is a cedar exporter. He may cut them off. This can happen. We are in a very, very difficult position and I think that years from now we will say that we were very, very foolish to allow this to happen, but that's the way it is. The longshoremen want the business of exporting cedar and the Indians want to sell it. Schools want to get the taxes off it. The state wants to build its own empire and the private owners want to have the right to sell it to the highest bidder and the Japanese seem to be able to pay any price. They have paid astronomic prices for cedar stumpage or cedar logs, unheard of prices.
- ERM: I wonder if the recession going on now in Japan is going to affect it.
- VGP: I don't know. It could have an effect. They have dollars to burn.
- ERM: But they have been put in a tremendous bind by this energy crisis and their economy is very susceptible to bumps and jolts of a serious nature like this and they may find the wheels turned right around on them in very short order.
- VGP: It could be. I don't know whether that's just wishful thinking or not. They have a pollution problem over there, too, that's of monstrous proportions.

STABILITY OF THE SHINGLE AND SHAKE MARKET

- ERM: Has the market for your product been fairly predictable?
- VGP: Reasonably. There are trends and broad switches but it's fairly predictable.
- ERM: Has that predictability had an impact upon the growth or the development of the number of people involved in it? They seem to stay pretty much at the same level. Some go out of business, some come in, but the number continues to be pretty stable, doesn't it?
- VGP: It continues to be pretty stable and it really isn't related so much to market as it is to raw material availability. Again, if you have cedar logs, this industry is going to convert them into a product whether it's lumber or plywood or shingles and shakes. Given the cedar log input, there's going to be an output of products, and our job on the Bureau is just as much to make it attractive economically to convert that cedar log into shingles and shakes as it is to make sure that there is a profitable market for it out in the field. There has been a broad trend toward the use of cedar roofing and there has been a more limited trend away from the use of cedar shingles and shakes for exterior walls. Right after World War II, there was a tremendous increase in the use of cedar shingles on walls all over the country, particularly in the Northeast. Since 1955 the trend has been away from walls and toward roofs. We now think that we command about 15 percent of the new roof market of the country, which is a pretty high percentage for our little industry. And we have a bigger percentage than 15 percent of the high-priced roof market.
- ERM: Why was the decline so severe on use of it as siding? Was the shingle vulnerable under those conditions in a way that it wasn't in roofing?
- VGP: Yes. There are several reasons. One is that the wall market is more subject to stylizing and changes in style than a roof. We were converting our shingles into what we call machine-grooved shakes which is essentially a striated shingle used on walls. We were treating them at our mills and doing a very poor job of staining them. There were many, many stain or paint failures due

in large part to shortcomings in the prime staining or the finish staining that we gave them here at our mills. The market was pretty much saturated with a lot of this poorly stained product, and there was the fact that when you took a shingle and striated one surface, you were rendering it vulnerable to imitation. Our competitors came along in the asbestos field and were able to imitate that product and do a better job of imitating it than we were able to do with the primary product. Now, it is very difficult to imitate a shake roof. It has been tried and is being tried and no one has come up with a good imitation yet. You can always tell it's an imitation. But with the striated uniform-textured sidewall, they do a good job and they beat us at our own game, so to speak. All of these factors mitigated against the continued popularity of the shingle wall.

Right after World War II, there was a big shortage of quality wood wall materials and we were there with the product to fill the gap. So for a period of ten or fifteen years we had a big run in that market, but it has diminished steadily.

- ERM: In the competition with substitute materials over the market, the battle has been pretty savage and intense over the years. What can you single out in your experience as the best evidence of that competition?
- VGP: The best evidence would be in their advertising. They will run ads and make no bones to say this looks like a wood shingle but it isn't. It's got all the charm and texture and beauty of a wood shingle but it also has fire resistance and termite resistance and doesn't need repainting and so forth. They go on to say it has many other attributes that a wood shingle doesn't have. They point with some pride, you might say, to the attributes of our product, but then go on to say that theirs is even better.
- ERM: Would the wall market have been an area in which your industry could have spent more money for research and development earlier than it did?
- VGP: We did. We had a research project going and we were all ready to go with a standard of staining and painting but the industry just didn't see fit to adopt it, they rejected it. They did not want any minimum standards for staining and painting. They wanted, in effect, to live by their own wits.
- ERM: Is that because the industry is full of rugged individualists that want to go their own route?

- VGP: Partly a reflection of that. By virtue of the very existence of the Bureau they have recognized there are things that have to be done in concert rather than individually. I might point out that the Bureau enjoys a very high percentage of support from the industry. We think we represent well over 90 percent of the total production of shingles and shakes, which is especially high in an industry made up of such a large number of small elements. We have been very fortunate.
- ERM: Is the production of red cedar going more into cedar shingles and shakes now than ever before or are other uses of red cedar commanding and getting a larger part of the resource? Things like cedar plywood, cedar paneling, cedar siding, both decking and common lumber.
- VGP: That's a good question. I wish I had the answer. I should have because it's a very vital question to us. It's the core of our whole existence. The percentage of cedar going into shingles and shakes in the United States has been increasing in the past twenty years. In British Columbia, I would say that the percentage has gone down.
- ERM: In old records out at the university I found considerable evidence that the old Shingle Branch of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association made some effort to diversify the use of the raw material. One of the things they came forward with was to go after new markets for red cedar products. One of them was beehive manufacture. I suppose all the beehives made in America don't constitute that much of a demand upon the product, but take a lot of different things of that kind and put them all together and you might have quite a diversified use for the wood. Has this ever been a part of your operation?
- VGP: We are not species oriented, we are shingles and shakes oriented. We will take shingles and shakes, however, and attempt to doll them up. For example, we have been quite successful in getting a renaissance in the use of fancy butt shingles and they're coming more and more into usage through architects. We've also been quite successful in expanding the market of shingles on the inside of houses. Now it's quite commonplace. But it's got to be a shingle or shake before we'll take hold of it and promote it. We are not a cedar bureau, we're a cedar shingle and shake bureau and we're pretty provincial on that score. We don't go out and fight cedar lumber, but indirectly we do compete.
- ERM: You'd be working against your own interests if you did.

- VGP: That's right. There has been a marked decline in the manufacture of clear cedar siding both in the U. S. and Canada, particularly in the United States. There are no clear cedar siding mills left in the U. S. There are some mills that make it occasionally but, whereas a few years ago there were quite a number of such mills, there are none today. We have been blamed for this trend because our cedar shake mills have been able to pay a high price for the same type of log that goes into cedar siding. There again, it's a reflection of the marketplace. They have this demand and they can pay the price for the raw material. Just as the Japanese have been able to pay a higher price, they get the wood.
- ERM: What are the Japanese putting the wood into?
- VGP: They're putting it largely into paneling. They slice it very thin and put it into interior veneer paneling.

THE BATTLE OF THE WOOD SHINGLE

ERM: Perhaps more than any other nation in the world's history ours has become enamored of playing what is called the numbers game. For example, fire insurance companies have published in their ads claims of fire losses and mortality which the NLMA and you have challenged as being false or highly overdrawn. I refer now specifically to the evidence I found in Red Cedar Shingle Bureau Bulletin #88, January 7, 1929, where you are directly contesting and fighting what you claim were false ads by the fire insurance companies; ads which reported that shingles were a fire hazard and that shingle roofs were responsible for many more fires, and that there was a high degree of mortality in fires of this kind in wooden structures. These are things that you have had to contend with in what I think is generally being called the numbers game, where statistics are offered as so-called evidence of something that is supposed to be true. Do you find that this persists today or is this practice waning in your experience?

VGP: I don't know that I can directly answer the question. It's pretty complex. I'm not familiar with the bulletin to which you refer. In 1925 wood shingle roofs were being severely penalized in the fire insurance rates; today that's no longer the case. Over the years, we have been fortunate in getting an equalization of rates. At the present time, thirty-two of the fifty states no longer make a surcharge in fire insurance rates on residences based on roof types. In the remaining eighteen states, the amount of the surcharge is very nominal, it doesn't amount to much. It's so nominal we don't consider it to be a problem anymore. You pay at the most a penalty of three or four dollars per year per house if you have a wood roof in these eighteen states. In addition to the insurance rates there is the matter of building codes and this continues to be a problem, although gradually over the years the problem has diminished and we find fewer and fewer communities enacting codes which are restrictive to the use of wood roofing and more and more cities repealing codes which prohibit the use of wood roofing because of alleged fire hazard. There are some exceptions. We do have recurring problems in Southern California where they've had brush fires alleged to have been spread by wood roofs and we've had some pitched battles down there as recently as sixty days ago. So far we have been fortunate in prevailing upon the legislative powers that it would not be

advantageous to the citizenry to inhibit the use of wood roofing because of these brush fires. We have clear evidence that much of the problem is fomented by our competition. It's a means of getting at us, making it illegal or making it difficult for us to sell our product.

- ERM: Especially when their own manufacturing plants and labor force are residents, I presume, in the area or community in which they are trying to get an ordinance passed.
- VGP: This has been a worry in the state, you might say. They have attempted to establish that they are a California manufacturing entity, whereas cedar shingles are imported from the Northwest. But they haven't yet prevailed in this philosophy and we have assembled statistics which will clearly refute the tax angles that might be involved in California.
- ERM: There really aren't very many principles or ethics involved in a competition fight like this, are there?
- VGP: No, it's pretty dirty. It doesn't really matter so much as getting a corner on the market or getting an advantage of some kind. Getting a leg up on the next guy. That's business, we understand it. We're not surprised by their tactics. It's a way to get markets. In fact, our industry was pretty much sound asleep during the 1920s and they gained legislative advantage over us in many, many markets throughout the country based on this so-called fire hazard.
- ERM: Do you think all business organizations and industry are inclined to retaliate on the same ground rules if they have a chance?
- VGP: I don't think so. We don't pretend to be pollyannish about it but we've had plenty of opportunity to throw mud at them because they have shortcomings. We've never done it. We've sincerely felt that if we put our product forward on a positive note--if you've got a good product and you promote it positively--in the long run we will be far better off than with negative advertising or negative promotion. I think they've hurt themselves, particularly with the trade.
- ERM: We've come into a period of time in which consumer interests and integrity in advertising have become important, more so than perhaps ever before. How do you think this is affecting the whole climate of business and business morality? Do you see it having any effects?

- VGP: I believe so. I believe that manufacturers, and indirectly, that trade associations such as ours, are more aware of public pressures and public needs; public desires and public laws, if you please. Our advertising certainly over the years has become more conservative. We pay more attention to establishing proper grades and pursuit of proper grades. It's hard to put your finger on but the effect is there.
- ERM: Are you successfully disclaiming some of the false notions about your product that your competitors have instilled in the minds of the buying public and the legislators?
- VGP: Really, our fears are not what the public reaction will be, because it's such a fleeting thing. People may read an item in the paper where so and so says this wood roof is a fire hazard. In the next instant they are onto another subject. Our fear is in the legislative arena where they might decide this product now becomes against the law because of fire hazards. That's where our concern is. They can throw mud at us publicly, and they have done it, but it really hasn't been productive for them. They've wasted money. We'd rather see them spend the money in a positive way. Sooner or later, we think they'll recognize this.
- ERM: Have there been any signal points in the history of your industry regarding the challenge that your products are more susceptible to fire than other building materials? What breaking points or turning points have you noticed?
- VGP: One of the turning points has been the rather rapid elimination of fire insurance differentials on wood roofs by, as I said, thirty-two states to date, and this has been a rather recent phenomenon.
- ERM: What provoked the change?
- VGP: Various things. For one, our appeal to the insurance industry through the state insurance commissioners for fair play based on facts, not fancy or fiction. Probably more important than any is the trend in the insurance industry for simplification of report forms. When they have to split up the type of roof a structure has when they write insurance for it, it costs them money because it's another complexity in the underwriting procedure. This has been a powerful, positive factor that has helped us and, of course, the facts show that wood roofs are not a factor in fire losses. We have been able to show this to the fire insurance

commissioners without any doubt.

ERM: To what extent have they taken the initiative to check these things themselves and get their own data?

VGP: Some of them have done this in various places. Iowa, for example, didn't take the figures we presented at face value. They made their own check and found that our figures were valid, so they saw cause to wipe out the differential. This has happened in many states where we've appeared at hearings and one by one they've come along. A number of states east of the Mississippi, and every state west of the Mississippi with the exception of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri, have wiped out the differential. Where they still exist, they are very nominal.

ERM: Do substitute material businesses continue trying to get insurance rates back in favor of their product?

VGP: I am not aware of any effort on their part. Their efforts have been almost wholly directed toward local or regional building codes.

ERM: Which of the substitute materials groups have been the most energetic in trying to get these ordinances against you?

VGP: The asphalt roofing industry through their association known as the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association.

ERM: Are there other competitors that are as active?

VGP: No, but there are other competitors. The tile people have been a little active and the masonry people have had some activity but it's been pretty minor. It's mainly in the asphalt roofing people.

ERM: How do they go about these activities in the local community? Can you describe what has been done to provoke lawmakers to pass a law?

VGP: They have sent out broadcast letters addressed to town councils throughout the state of California, for example. They have made motion pictures on the subject of the inflammability of wood roofing and shown them to various town councils and building code officials. They work very hard on what is known as the Uniform Building Code. The Code is promulgated by the International Conference of Building Officials and is followed by over a thousand municipalities west of the Mississippi River.

Hardly a year passes where they don't have some building code proposal which is inimical to our interests and which we have to fight at the building code level. We have several sets of proposals going right now. There was a hearing in Denver last month. There will be another hearing in San Diego next month and there will be further hearings next year on this subject. We are working all the time on one thing or another.

ERM: You have to be a constant fire fighter, don't you?

VGP: Yes, we have to put out these so-called fires as they erupt. We're on the defensive. They just can't seem to believe they can promote their product or sell it adequately without some legislative impediment to the use of wood roofing. They have some rather eager and active allies in the fire chiefs who, by and large, don't like wood roofs. Now, there are exceptions.

ERM: When an asphalt roof gets to blazing it must be very difficult to extinguish, and dangerous too, because it drips and drops.

VGP: A fire chief showed me his two arms where they had been scarred from the wrists clear up to the elbows. He was climbing a ladder leading up to the roof of a building on fire, and all of a sudden this asphalt roofing, in a cascade of molten tar, came tumbling off the roof onto his arms. There is no question that a wood roof under certain circumstances will catch fire. Sparks will ignite it from the fireplace and it will burn but it's relatively easily extinguished. We've got a good story. Fire losses on roofs of all types are less than 1 percent of the total.

ERM: I understand that before the industry really got itself organized as a group, the initial individual response of the people in the cedar shingle business tended to be both intemperate and inappropriate in its form and that this didn't really help the cause very much.

VGP: I think this is true. In fact, I've seen some old literature published by the association that was pretty intemperate; cartoons, for example. Maybe that was the style in those days. I've seen some old presidential campaign buttons which were pretty virulent, so maybe that was the way they did things in those days. Today you wouldn't get anyplace with that.

- ERM: I think that's partly a reflection of the contemporary style of the times but also it was a lack of finesse, of really knowing how to deal most effectively.
- VGP: Yes. They say that a man who swears is a man who lacks vocabulary. That's the reason he swears. And this might have been a manifestation of that.
- ERM: What other challenges does your industry face in its competition with the substitutes?
- VGP: Many have come down the pike. There was a time in our history when we faced the very real threat of a substantial increase in freight rates. Shingles today are shipped in railroad cars on what is known as the lumber rate. A railroad will realize far less in revenue from a carload of shingles than from a carload of lumber or plywood because the shingles weigh so much less, and the freight charges are based on the weight of the car's contents. The railroads, in order to compensate for that and to increase their revenue for a carload of shingles, at one time considered establishing a shingle rate which would have been much higher than the lumber rate and which would have been very harmful to us. But through the association and particularly through the activities of a man named Henry Olwell, who was a former president of the Bureau and a longtime member of our board, the threat was circumvented. His son is an attorney and, as a matter of fact, has been retained by the Bureau for the last thirty-five years. At any rate, we were then able and are still able to this day to ship on the lumber rate. It's been a great thing to our industry. Had we been forced to go on a special, higher shingle rate, it would have hurt us. Asphalt shingles are manufactured in various areas of the country and they are not as dependent on freight rates. But all our shingles are made in the Northwest and shipped two or three thousand miles away, mostly by rail, except to California, where they go by truck. And, of course, California is our big market, too.
- ERM: Your competition moves its product largely by truck I would imagine.
- VGP: They are much closer to their markets. For example, they have plants in Dallas. We ship our shingles from here to Dallas. That was one of the crises we were able to overcome, and there has been the building codes crisis from time to time. We had quite a crisis right after the Bel Aire fire of 1962 in Los Angeles, when there was a move made to prohibit the use of our product.

We can even go back to 1921 when a law was slipped into the legislature and was signed by the governor of California, which made it illegal to use wood roofing in California.* It became a law and the industry closed ranks and hired a famous author by the name of Peter B. Kyne, maybe you recall that name.

ERM: Yes, he wrote a book called Valley of the Giants, which was about the Carson Family who were in the lumber business up in Eureka.

VGP: They organized a campaign in California to put on the ballot for vote whether or not to repeal the shingle law in the general elections of November 1922. By a margin of five to one the people voted against this anti-shingle law. We had another crisis following the Berkeley fire of 1924 that swept down rows of dry palm trees and ignited a lot of roofs and houses. There have been other similar crises here and there in the industry, but the shingle industry has a lot of resilience and it seems to bounce back after these things.

ERM: Have these attacks focused primarily on matters relating to combustability problems, or do they focus on other areas as well as that?

VGP: By and large it has been on a combustability problem. Our competition sees this as our possible Achilles' heel and has attempted to exploit it, which they did with great success in the 1920s.

ERM: How about in the area of trade promotion at the retail level of the country's business? How much of a job does your competitor do as compared with what you're able to do at the retail level of building supplies, dealerships?

VGP: They do a much better job than we do and they are able to do it mainly because they have franchise outlets, whereas we don't. We are an industry trade association. They have their own dealers and they have point of sale merchandise. They spend far more money than we do for advertising, per se, on the whole.

ERM: So they've got more financial muscle.

VGP: Right. They enjoy 85 percent of the market. We enjoy 15 percent.

ERM: Even if you took as great a percentage of your profit from the sale

*California, Senate Bill 288 (1921).

and poured it back into advertising you wouldn't be able to compete with them, is that right?

VGP: No, not in the numbers game because they're big. They have a commodity product and we have a specialty product. We enjoy some markets that they would like to have, profitable markets. Mind you, if they went out of business, I don't know what people would do for rooftops because we can't supply the demand.

ERM: You wouldn't be able to fill the gap.

VGP: No, so we are trying to maintain those profitable markets that are available.

ERM: When a challenge of this nature comes to your recognition in the Bureau, what is your usual procedure for dealing with it? How do you mobilize your troops and your efforts and your expenditures to go swiftly to work on dealing with it?

VGP: We have had three examples that I can recall in recent decades. There were three crises in Southern California as a result of brush fires, one in 1962, another in 1970, and one in 1973. In the Bel Aire fire of 1962 we fumbled for ways to cope with it and came up with what we thought was the right way. We hired a public relations counsel who worked on the problem for us at the legislative level and we were able to stall precipitate action on the part of the supervisors until we had marshalled our defenses. As a result, inhibiting legislation did not take place until six months later. By that time, it was far less inflammatory than it would have been had legislation occurred right after that fire because tempers were running hot and the fire department was looking for a scapegoat. People were running around saying, "Well, what are we going to do?" Wringing their hands instead of looking at the problem dispassionately.

At that time, maybe it was earlier than that, the Handsplit Red Cedar Shake Association was working with us. We were serving them on a contract basis. They had no employees but they weren't directly a part of the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau. They raised an extra twenty-five thousand dollars by special assessment and threw into the fight, but the Bureau itself paid for it out of reserves. We fought quite a battle in 1962 and we prevailed again in 1970 and in 1973 by analyzing the situation and hiring professional talent to combat it at the legislative level.

ERM: What do you do when you get an emergency of that kind? Are

you authorized to act deliberately without action on the part of a board of directors or anyone else?

VGP: Maybe in the first week I go ahead and get the facts and find out what the situation is, but I will quickly call a meeting of our executive committee, which is a steering committee of six or eight men of the board, and meets monthly. We have twenty-five people on our board of trustees and that's too large a body. It's cumbersome, it's almost a small convention. I call the executive committee on a few days' notice and they sit down and authorize action. We can move pretty rapidly. The executive committee enjoys the support of the board to the extent that they can appropriate money. Of course, the committee subsequently seeks board ratification of its actions.

ERM: In situations like this fire you referred to in Southern California, do you usually go there yourself and pull in some of your field people?

VGP: Yes. We have always had a full-time man in Southern California, so he'd be there to do the investigation. We'd call other people in. We sent Don Clark down there after the Bel Aire fire. We've doubled our field staff and have done what the job seemed to need to have done. But it's a highly complex situation and because of the politics, you need professional help.

ERM: Would roofing of any material have been less hazardous in those circumstances, like tile, for instance?

VGP: Not even a tile roof. You see, the houses that were in the path of the flames literally exploded from the heat. During the conflagration you could see mushrooms of smoke from a distance. These were houses exploding before they were actually consumed by flame. The heat was so terrific the windows would melt. The sash would melt and the houses would go up in an explosion. Actually, it was a holocaust. It swept so fast that it just defied description. The fire jumped over some houses for no apparent cause and left them untouched, then hit four or five houses here and there without rhyme or reason. There were sixty to seventy-five miles per hour Santa Ana winds. They had had no rain the previous six or eight months. The humidity was down to 3 or 4 percent and all of the dry brush had houses nestled in among it.

No one has ever brought this out and I'm surprised they haven't, but the place where the type of roof you had might have been a

factor could have been on the periphery of the blaze, on the edges. Whether or not such houses would have burned might conceivably have depended on the type of roof cover. This would not be so in the major area because everything went. Steel girders even melted. There were spots, Woody, where we counted as many as fifty houses, all of them non-wood roofed, and all of them destroyed. In the 1970 fire the biggest loss was the Serra Retreat. It was a tile-roofed masonry series of structures. They were all destroyed because they were situated in a spot where the flames just hit them, and bang! they were gone. Nothing would have survived.

- ERM: I suppose the pro and con arguments on fire susceptibility of building materials will go on forever. I'm involved in this directly myself because I have hopes of some day building a headquarters building for the Forest History Society. I would like it to be made up exclusively of wood products because it should be a revelation of the forest itself and its products. At the same time, one has to be concerned about fireproof quality because you're housing valuable collections, such as library materials and manuscripts, and you want to provide the greatest degree of safety you can.
- VGP: In the case of wood roofing, I don't think there is any need to feel insecure, because the hazard isn't there. It's far more logical to be concerned about the fire resistance of interiors--furnishings and contents--because this is where fires start. They don't start up on rooftops. Statistics show that over 99 percent of fires start inside the house, and 1 percent on the exterior. We do have fire-retardant-treated wood shingles and shakes available. It's an expensive pressure-treating process developed by the Koppers Company. Our Bureau has developed what we call the cedar asbestos roof system using an asbestos interlay between courses of shingles, but these are designed primarily for nonresidential structures and for use in fire zones, downtown areas of cities. We have a project going on right now with the Stanford Research Institute to develop a dip treatment that will qualify for Underwriters' Laboratories approval.
- ERM: There was a time in the history of your industry when the Underwriters' Laboratories was looked upon as one of the enemy.
- VGP: We still look upon them with misgivings. We don't think they play fair. For example, in testing wood roofing, fire test procedures are more rigorous than they are when they test asphalt roofing.

- ERM: I saw a television program where they were held up to ridicule because of their lack of scientific procedures in testing plastic foam that is used as insulating material.
- VGP: I'm interested that you saw that program. I missed it and arrangement has been made for me to see it next week in a private showing at a local TV station. I have been told that UL was held up to, not ridicule necessarily, but criticism.
- ERM: I would say the strongest kind of criticism. And the response was poor. Their response was about as damning as the evidence that was shown against the means they used.
- VGP: They have been working hand in glove with the asphalt roofing industry. For example, some time ago, the asphalt roofing industry concluded that the weight of their product was insufficient. They were selling a 210 pound shingle and they wanted to establish 235 pounds as an industry standard. It would seem that the most logical way for them to do it was to go through the National Bureau of Standards or through their own trade association. But they didn't proceed in that manner. Instead they went to the Underwriters' Laboratories and prevailed upon them to establish a cut-off date after which the UL would not grant their Class C label to any asphalt roofing which weighed less than 235 pounds. Now the UL Class C label is a fire resistant label and it seems to me that it should be applicable to any asphalt shingle whether it weighs eight pounds a square or eight hundred pounds, if it passes their test. The weight of the product is of no moment. I think it is prima facie evidence that the UL and the asphalt industry are working hand in glove. So when they set up fire tests for treated wood shingles, they set up a more rigorous test than they do for asphalt shingles to obtain the same label. This isn't right. They have not played fair with the wood roofing industry.
- ERM: Of course, this is going to have a profound influence on how the public looks upon that little UL label that they find stamped on all kinds of products.
- I think the same criticisms have been brought against the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval. I think the same thing has been brought to the doorstep of the Better Business Bureaus. A lot of these industry self-regulatory watchdog organizations are proving to be less than what they appear before the public.
- VGP: I wish you wouldn't have said self-regulatory because, although

UL in a sense is self-regulatory, in another sense it is more than that. It isn't an industry itself, but it's an agency. It's an independent agency working for a fee. You see, UL works for a fee. You can go to the UL and have your product tested. The plastics industry did. I think that was pointed out in that film, wasn't it?

ERM: Yes. The point that they make is that the conditions under which their products were tested were not scientifically sound and what's worse is that they knew they were not scientifically sound. In other words, what they did with this plastic was set it in a horizontal position and then fire it from the edge or from the top and it burned very slowly and very undramatically and in some cases went out.

VGP: Precisely the same criticism can be put against roof tests. Their roof tests are based upon fire from on top, and that isn't where fire occurs except in the rare brush fires that you find in California. Most fires start inside the house, therefore, they should test this roofing from underneath. An asphalt roof holds in the flame before it breaks through and the noxious gases are contained and build up in the attic. Then you have an explosion and you have loss of life because this gas buildup frequently occurs during the night when people are asleep in the house and they're asphyxiated. With a wood roof, a fire of interior origin will burn up and out. It will burn through the roof and will vent itself. But UL doesn't pay any attention to this at all. If this recent TV expose triggers a shake-up of UL, I can only say it's long overdue.

LEADERS IN THE INDUSTRY

- ERM: I know it's an unfair question to ask, but just for the sake of inquiry, let me put it to you anyway. Looking back over the years that you've been involved in the Bureau, who were the men that stand out most vividly in your mind as being the most dynamic leaders in the industry, people that have had the biggest impact?
- VGP: Bob Ingram of E. C. Miller Cedar Lumber Company would be one. Paul Smith of M. R. Smith Shingle Company would be another. Henry Olwell, who I mentioned was instrumental in freight rates, was another. Charles Plant, retired MacMillan Bloedel employee, was one. The late Victor Whittall of Canadian Forest Products Limited was a real leader. Dale Craft, Keith Fisker, and Sam Johns are among the ones that immediately come to mind.
- ERM: What did these various men do that make them stand out in your mind? What was Paul Smith's contribution? *
- VGP: Paul Smith's contribution was actually the example he set and still sets to this day, of aggressive yet honorable sales policies. Paul always tells the truth. You ask him a question and he will tell you the truth. There are examples of mills having been purchased or sold on a basis of shingle prices which were based on Smith's price list. They would take his price list as being the industry average or spokesman, and they would use that as the basis for selling or buying a shingle mill, or selling or buying shingles. Wholesalers would use his price list. Now he doesn't do this deliberately, it is just his way of handling business honorably and honestly, and people depend on him. He's always interested in the association work. He went to great lengths all these years to support the association and attend meetings. He would speak at meetings and was just a general leader. He is former president of the Bureau and he always has been a trustee. Right now he's our treasurer. He's been a force for good in the industry.
- ERM: Who was R. M. Ingram?

*See also, Paul R. Smith Views the Western Red Cedar Industry, 1910 to the Present, typed transcript of tape-recorded interview by Elwood R. Maunder (Santa Cruz, Ca.: Forest History Society, 1975).

VGP: He was the late Bob Ingram. He was the son-in-law of E. C. Miller who was a pioneer in the industry and who had a cedar lumber and cedar shingle mill in Aberdeen, Washington. The mill is still there but as a sign of the times they are no longer cutting cedar into lumber; they are cutting other species into lumber, mainly because cedar hasn't been made available because of Japanese log exports. At one time or other he was president of West Coast Lumbermen's Association, Western Red Cedar Lumber Association, National Lumber Manufacturers Association and Red Cedar Shingle Bureau. He was a born leader, a powerful man, a very articulate person, and a great guy. He was a man of high principles. Former athlete at the University of Washington, during World War II he was a captain in the Navy.

ERM: Is he deceased now?

VGP: Yes. His father-in-law, E. C. Miller, was a very fine individual too. Recalling a statement by our old advertising man, C. P. Constantine, "Ernie Miller was a leader in getting the industry to advertise as an entity back in the early 1920s."

Take Henry Olwell, his work on freight rates was only one facet. He was very interested in building codes and worked very hard in the industry on these things.

ERM: Was he a lawyer?

VGP: His son is the lawyer. Olwell was the sales manager for a large shingle mill in Everett for years. He was able to convince the railroads that shingles should continue to be shipped on the lumber rate rather than establish a special higher rate on shingles. He worked at it very, very hard and long. Freight rates are a complex thing. He was a student and he applied his knowledge to the wheel of our industry.

Victor Whittall was a great, powerful force for a good many years. He was concerned with the building code situation. He was associated with Hunting-Merritt Shingle Division of Canadian Forest Products in Vancouver. He was a student of industry trends; a scholarly individual interested in seeing that the industry kept abreast of the latest technology in manufacturing techniques and in fire-retardant treatments. He was always pushing to keep ahead of the competition.

Charles Plant, retired MacMillan Bloedel man, is a fine gentleman, and if nothing else, his forte was orderly distribution courting the

support of other trade elements , the retailers and wholesalers and commission lumber salesmen, getting them all to work together as a team. I remember him largely for that.*

I remember Dale Craft mainly as being originator of the machine-grooved shake back in the 1920s. He developed a striated shingle which was used exclusively for walls and that product was very popular right after World War II. Dale was president of the Bureau during the very difficult depression years of the early thirties and it must have been a traumatic experience to have been president of a trade association in those years.

ERM: What demands on time of active participants do the affairs of the Bureau require ?

VGP: Their attention certainly is welcome. Their participation is eagerly welcomed and they can spend as much time as they like. But in many instances they must be credited with spending a tremendous amount of time beyond the call of duty. Our executive committee meets once every month. It knocks off a full day of most of the men's time because they have to travel to and from Seattle for the meetings.

Our annual meeting is a report to the industry of our stewardship and we have a very brief annual meeting, it lasts for a few hours.

ERM: You don't indulge yourself or your membership in a big program that gives them all a platform on which to stand and talk.

VGP: No, there's not been that type of program. There's been no demand for it or else we would do it. We do have regional meetings but again they are oriented toward trade promotion because that is our major activity.

ERM: In the area of trade promotion who have been the most imaginative people in your field?

VGP: I would say that the planning and execution for developing a policy for trade promotion is the result of the work of our staff and our agency. We have an advertising committee. They had their annual meeting to review the program just last week. The program is conceived by the agency and we go over it with them and make a few changes , but it largely comes from the agency itself.

*See also, typed transcript of tape-recorded interview with Charles Plant conducted by Elwood R. Maunder in 1974, Forest History Society. Scheduled for publication Summer 1975.

ERM: Big companies like Weyerhaeuser and MacMillan Bloedel have large public relations advertising departments. To what extent do they contribute to these?

VGP: They sometimes are members of our advertising committee and come to the meetings and may have some comments to make. I'm glad to be able to say that on the whole, they have endorsed without modification the programs as presented by our agency on our behalf.

ERM: In other words, they're reviewing your ideas and putting their stamp of approval on them.

VGP: Yes. But they are encouraged to make any changes they see fit. This is not a rubber-stamp composition. But up until now, I can't recall any major overhauls of the proposed program. They seem to feel that our advertising agency is pretty much on top of it.

ERM: H. P. Wycoff was secretary of the Shingle Branch of the West Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association. Do you recall anything about this man and his work?

VGP: I recall the name, Wycoff, and I recall that after he left the Bureau, he went to work for A. C. Dutton Lumber Corporation at Poughkeepsie, New York.

ERM: Do you remember any of the men who headed the Bureau or its predecessor organization?

VGP: No, except I was pretty well acquainted with Donald H. Clark who was associated with the Rite-Grade Shingle Association founded about 1926 and which went out of existence about 1929.

When the Shingle Branch of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association was dissolved in 1926, two organizations were founded. One was the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau, which at that time had R. S. Whiting as its manager and Arthur Bevan as assistant. And the other was the Rite-Grade Shingle Association with Bill Williams as manager and Don Clark as assistant. The Shingle Bureau continued in existence, while the Rite-Grade Shingle Association went out of business after a few years.

ERM: Did you know Whiting, Bevan or Williams?

- VGP: I knew Bevan only very informally. He died a year ago at his home in Sarasota, Florida. He has a son living in Seattle whom he would visit every few years, and he would pop in for a little visit. So my knowledge or acquaintance with him was rather limited. He was originally from England and left the Bureau around 1934 to work for the U. S. Forest Service.
- ERM: Do you remember anything about his career in the Bureau?
- VGP: No, not too much, except that he was a rather scholarly individual. I was told by one of his contemporaries that he departed from the Bureau more or less under duress on the allegations that he was favorable to the Canadian element of the industry as opposed to the U. S. element, due to his English antecedents. I don't know whether or not that was true.
- ERM: Would you tell me a little about Don Clark's contribution?
- VGP: He had a long and continuing contribution to the industry. I believe he was in the stained shingle business before he came with the Rite-Grade Shingle Association in 1926. Following that he was employed by the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau and I believe, at one time after Bevan left, Don Clark was acting manager of the Bureau. Subsequent to that, the Bureau employed him as a traveling field representative and since I have been with the Bureau, we employed him on a retainer basis as a part-time promotion manager. He authored our Certi-Split Shake Manual, for example.* He also served as manager of the Keep Washington Green Association, I believe.
- ERM: He also had something to do with alder.
- VGP: Yes, he was the manager of the Pacific Northwest Hardwoods Association for a time. He was also manager of the Institute of Forest Products which headquartered at the University of Washington and was a quasi-state agency. Don has served a number of roles in the shingle and forest products industry.
- ERM: He wound up a free-lance writer more than anything else.

*Donald H. Clark, Certi-Split Manual of Handsplit Red Cedar Shakes (Seattle, Wa.: Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau, 1971).

VGP: Yes, he had a number of articles in periodicals. I picked up the Seattle Times one day and there was an article he had written about the use of fancy-butt shingles. He was a very ingenious, very intellectual individual and he later went on and got his Ph.D. at the College of Forestry at the University of Washington.

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

ERM: What would you say about your relationships with other trade groups in the forest products fields?

VGP: I hope I can say we are friendly with all associations. I personally know the managing directors and many staff members of American Plywood Association, Western Wood Products Association, California Redwood Association, Southern Forest Products Association, and others. We are contributing members of the American Wood Council, which is a consortium of associations devoted to advertising, and we are also contributing members to the National Forest Products Association. We spend 5 percent of our budget on the American Wood Council and 3 percent of our revenue on the National Forest Products Association.

ERM: You mean these funds flow directly into their control and they expend them? Would you describe that function?

VGP: The function of American Wood Council is to promote the use of wood products in residential construction. They do this through national advertising in magazines such as Reader's Digest, Time, Better Homes & Gardens, and also through local promotion projects which involve subsidizing the construction of houses, utilizing wood in a spectacular way and then advertising it locally.

ERM: This has no relationship to American Forest Institute? You make no direct input into that?

VGP: No, only indirectly through the National Forest Products Association, which helps to subsidize AFI.

ERM: How do you decide who to support?

VGP: It's a difficult thing. I know some of the big companies belong to dozens of trade associations in the industry. And they have staff people assigned to trade association relations. Occasionally these men are called upon to analyze and reanalyze the effective use of their dollar. Nobody ever thinks they have enough money to spend.

ERM: Nobody ever does. I wonder whether the industry as a whole gives as much to this particular need as do other industries to their similar organizations.

VGP: I imagine you'd get substantially different figures from different groups. I really don't know how it compares overall, whether it's high or low. It would be an interesting study.

ERM: To what extent do your members belong to other groups in this consortium of associations?

VGP: Some do and some don't; the big ones all do. With many of our smaller members the Bureau probably is the only group they belong to.

ERM: Because it's the only one that they feel is really concerned primarily and certainly with their interests.

VGP: Right.

ERM: Let's talk about the relationships of the shingle industry to the lumber industry and to the forest products industries. During the nineteenth century it appears that shingle operations in this area completely overshadowed lumber operations. At what point do you believe the balance shifted in another direction?

VGP: I can't say for sure, but I suspect it occurred during the first decade of the twentieth century when steam logging was introduced. Originally you had oxen, then you had horse logging, then you had steam and with the advent of steam, railroads and steam donkeys. The loggers weren't dependent upon rolling or skidding the logs to adjacent rivers and floating them downriver to the mill. Then you got into high elevations and encountered fir and hemlock. Cedar was essentially a flatland or lowland tree and it dominated the river bottoms which were the arteries of commerce in those days. Shingle manufacturing had the advantage of permitting the tree to be reduced to manageable sections or bolts that one man could handle. One man could not handle a log that was destined for a lumbermill. It was too heavy for him and it would require far more equipment. Hand logging, as they called it along the coastal areas of British Columbia, is a rather fascinating subject.

ERM: Yes, we ran an article on that.*

*D. O. L. Shon, "The Handlogger: Unique British Columbia Pioneer," Forest History 14, no. 4 (January 1971): 18-20.

- VGP: These men would go out all by themselves and roll logs downhill into the water. Only if they could roll them down the hill were they able to market them.
- ERM: I think too that the revolutions in transportation systems made quite a bit of difference. The rapid expansion of railroad facilities linking the West Coast with the Midwest and the East made quite a considerable difference after the turn of the century and then, of course, the opening of the Panama Canal must have been a factor, too.
- VGP: Yes, these things had an effect. In those days too, wood shingles were the dominant roofing material in America. I remember in one of our ads years ago we had a slogan, "The roof that built America is the favorite today." It was the roof that built early America; first it was made of native eastern species, then midwestern, and finally western species. After the automobile was invented, we got into the asphalt roofing end of the business, which accelerated very rapidly during World War I and during the 1920s. We estimate that between 80 and 85 percent of the roofs being applied today in the country are asphalt. It's a petroleum by-product.
- ERM: At what point were you conscious of the interrelationships of the industry as a whole, the national and regional trade associations? Do you feel that the association has worked toward good or less than good results for your particular interests?
- VGP: I became aware of the interrelationships when I joined the Bureau in 1939, and I was generally aware of it to some extent prior to that time through my father's operation. He was a member of the Bureau and I always had read the Bureau bulletins and admired the work the Bureau was doing, and consequently, I applied for a job. It has worked very much for the good. We are small potatoes in the lumber industry and remain small potatoes. For example, as I said earlier, we are members of the American Wood Council and our dues to the Council are modest compared to the contributions of other elements of the industry. Yet, in their advertising, they invariably show off our product because we are visible. We are the roofs, and in many instances we are the walls of the building, and when you display a structure in an advertisement, it is pretty difficult to avoid showing exteriors. So we think that investment is excellent. We are also members of the National Forest Products Association and our interest in their activities largely relates to building code work.

- ERM: How are those dues paid, directly by the individual company or through the Bureau?
- VGP: The Bureau pays monthly. Each month we take 3 percent of our previous month's revenue and send it to the National Forest Products Association. That's a negotiated fee. The other members of the National pay on the basis of board footage.
- ERM: Is the apparatus of promoting a tree farm system, a keep green movement, and all of that which the rest of the industry is deeply concerned with, in your ball park?
- VGP: They are not in our ball park because we are not planting cedars. It is not a tree-farm species because it is so slow growing.
- ERM: Does that fact reflect itself in your relationships with other executives of trade associations which are part of the fraternity?
- VGP: Yes, it inevitably does. They have meetings on forest resources which I don't attend. I have other meetings; code meetings and insurance committee meetings.
- ERM: In what substantial ways do you feel that the Red Cedar Shingle and Handsplit Shake Bureau differs in structure--purposes, services rendered, funding--from these other groups?
- VGP: I think this is a rather intangible thing. There's a feeling of interdependence in our industry which is greater than in any of the others that I have been able to observe. I think that instinctively our people realize we have got to hang together or we're gone, we're decimated. With such a small industry we've got to stick together and we've got to push and pull together.
- ERM: In other words, there's a cohesion within your industry that doesn't exist in the forest products industries generally?
- VGP: I believe that's a fact. I don't think there are many trade associations which represent, as we do, over 90 percent of their industry. We have been able to enjoy very substantial support.
- ERM: How do your methods of funding differ from the others?

VGP: I don't think they differ very much. It's based on dues, and the dues are established by membership with certain safeguards in our bylaws which require two-thirds of the voting capacity of the members, for example, before any change can be made in the dues structure. Those dues can't be changed unless a substantial majority of the members are in favor of it. I think that's par for the course for the other trade associations.

ERM: Have changes in the dues structure brought about any temporary defections?

VGP: I don't recall any.

ERM: This reflects further evidence of the cohesiveness of the industry.

VGP: I would say that reflects it. Now mind you, there have been dues increases that have been voted in by a majority and have not had the support of some of our members, but they haven't been prompted to discontinue their membership because of it, and our dues rate is higher than most other associations.

ERM: Have you any idea why the shingle people pulled out of their direct association or involvement with the West Coast Lumbermen's Association in 1926?

VGP: No. There was some defection, some discontent there. I think it involved personalities, but I don't know why that split occurred in 1926.

About 1956 the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau merged with the Handsplit Red Cedar Shake Association and became the Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau. With that merger, we suffered a percentage loss in our representation of the total industry because the Shake Association did not represent as large a portion of their industry as the Shingle Bureau had for so many years represented their industry. Our percentage of representation has grown ever since 1956 when the merger took place and today I think it is safe to say that we represent over 90 percent of the total shingle and shake industry.

ERM: What is your criteria for deciding whether or not an operator is a bona fide member of the industry?

VGP: Only two things; he has to pay the established rate of dues, and he has to make shingles or shakes in accordance with our grading rules.

There is a good deal of turnover in the Bureau, not so much because of grade, although there is some on that basis, but mostly because of failure to pay dues on schedule and we have an arrangement whereby we terminate memberships automatically. We are constantly discharging and reinstating member mills.

ERM: To what extent does the Bureau, by constant surveillance of the field of manufacture, keep an updated census figure on the number of people that are involved in the industry as a whole?

VGP: We really don't maintain a formal census as such, but through our inspection staff--we have seven or eight inspectors who are traveling constantly among the mills--we have a pretty good feel of what's going on in the industry. We know where the mills are. We know who they are and how much they operate, and we can come up with, we think, a very close educated guess as to where Bureau membership stands productionwise in relation to the whole industry. But we can't prove it. I said a little earlier, for example, that 99 percent of the wood shingles are western red cedar shingles. The other 1 percent being redwood, white cedar, and whatnot. I couldn't prove that but there's a pretty good reason to believe that ninety-nine out of one hundred wood shingles are of western red cedar.

ERM: When you talk in terms of manufacture of your product, are there some operations that are of such small import as to be unworthy of consideration as a part of your industry?

VGP: We love 'em all, big or little. If they're little and they want to come into the Bureau and they have a tendency toward belonging to the association, we welcome them. It may cost us more money than we get in terms of dues and I can recite names and numbers of members who we would be money ahead if we didn't have as members. But we want them all.

THE TRADE PRESS

- ERM: Sometime in the middle or late teens a very famous trade journal editor from Chicago, Bolling Arthur Johnson, editor of the Timber World Review, wrote a pamphlet entitled "Facts About Shingle Roofs." Have you ever seen a copy of that?
- VGP: I can't recall it.
- ERM: It evidently was a good factual representation of the product. What is your opinion of the trade press and its role in the history of your industry and how important has it been?
- VGP: I think the trade press in the past has been important in bringing together the various elements of the industry, alerting the industry to common problems, and supporting various programs of portions of the industry or trade associations. There have been some outstanding spokesmen among the trade paper editors in the country. Champions of the industry, you might say.
- ERM: In earlier times the trade press was a good bit larger than it is today. There were more journals and coverage of major association meetings was extremely complete and in depth in a way that I don't find in the journals that have succeeded them, nor even in some of the journals that have survived to this time, such as the Southern Lumberman. Many of the old journals, of course, went out of business. Can you draw any conclusions from this? What has happened to trade journalism in the wood-using industries? It has obviously undergone some radical changes in the last fifty or seventy-five years. What insights do you have as to the reasons for this?
- VGP: An interesting question. I have never thought about it, but now that you mention it, it is patently obvious that this is a fact. I remember, for example, Mississippi Valley Lumberman, the Southern Lumberman, the Southern Lumber Journal, the Gulf Coast Lumberman, the California Lumber Merchant, The Timberman, The Lumberman, and the British Columbia Lumberman. Some of these are still being published but, as you say, they don't report in the depth that they once did. And we've lost such outstanding editors as Carl Crow and Jack Dionne.

ERM: And George Cornwall of The Timberman. Stanley Horn is about the only one remaining.

VGP: Stanley Horn is still alive and thank heaven for that. He's a real student of history, too. He's an expert on the Civil War.

I really don't know why this happened. Possibly the better communications equipment available to the industry in other media, such as telephones and radio and television, might be partly responsible.

ERM: I think part of the reason has been a waning use of the periodicals for advertising purposes. They grew noticeably smaller over the years, the result, I think, of declining advertising.

VGP: But why did the advertising decline?

ERM: I think the people who assigned advertising budget monies from companies and associations like your own saw other periodicals and other media as perhaps being more on target with your objectives.

VGP: This happened here at the Bureau.

ERM: Haven't you moved more and more into the marketing journals?

VGP: That is correct. I do remember that years ago we put advertising in these manufacturing-oriented trade papers but long since discontinued that and our advertising now appears in the AIA Journal, House & Home, Architectural Record, and the marketing journals. And to some considerable extent in the popular periodicals press. So we are not advertising to ourselves, we are advertising to our customers, in a sense.

ERM: This has left the old trade journal a little high and dry, hasn't it?

VGP: I hadn't thought about it in that light, but I think you are right. Also, we haven't discontinued, but we have shifted the emphasis of our trade promotion away from the retail lumber dealer toward the specifier, the user, the builder and the architect. We do not, as we formerly did, appeal to the lumber dealer to go out and sell our products. We have gone beyond the dealer to the architect and the builder with our promotion and have attempted to inspire them to specify and to use our products and they go back to the dealer and buy from him.

- ERM: Do you think this is just as true of other branches of the forest products industry as your own?
- VGP: I don't think so, not at the moment. I would say that ours is more a specialty product as opposed to a commodity and I think we probably have to react to competitive stimuli a little earlier than the rest of the industry. We have more direct competition.
- ERM: What about the redwood siding industry?
- VGP: The redwood people are pretty much in the same category as we are and also to a considerable extent, the plywood industry, although they take a broader view of things than we do. But, like ourselves, the plywood and redwood industries are heavily oriented towards using the specifier in promotions.
- ERM: I think that is a matter of history to note, that once there was a really dynamic lumber trade press which diminished in its importance over the years, both as a vehicle for carrying the news of the trade to the people in the trade, but also that press once had a very strong influence on people in the business. Its editors carried a weight in the business that their present-day counterparts do not.
- VGP: I agree with you.

CHANGES IN SHINGLE MILL EQUIPMENT

- VGP: Woody, yesterday we were discussing the earliest mills. A 1958 article in the Seattle Times stated that the first shingles on the Pacific Coast were produced by John W. Hight near Orillia, Washington in 1874. The same article indicated that eight years later, in 1882, Burrett and Powers established a steam-powered shingle mill at Seattle that employed eight men and had a capacity of 40,000 shingles per day.
- ERM: Olaf Carlson and George Bergstrom of the C. B. Shingle Company of Everett claimed theirs was the first mill to have all electric machinery in 1914.* This replaced overhead steam gear, belting and shafting.
- VGP: I know the mill. It was known as the C. B. George Bergstrom's two sons-in-law, Ray Wilde and Crosby Pendleton, both operated the C. B. Shingle Mill for many years. They later added a cedar lumber mill to their operation and it was called C. B. Lumber and Shingle Company. They went out of existence about 1949, 1950. I don't remember Carlson.
- ERM: This new all-electric mill was brought in to provide more sanitary working conditions and to produce less fire hazard, because a blower was installed with the new equipment which tended to vacuum dust out of the air. Can you comment on the technological changes in mill machinery? How they developed in the time you've been witness to them?
- VGP: There have been developments in machinery, equipment, and working conditions over the years. The use of air-cleaning devices such as the vacuum system you just mentioned is not necessarily predicated on electric power. It could have been powered by pullies and shafting powered by steam, for that matter. But ventilation in the mills is much better today than it was in the old days. On the other hand, the manufacture of shingles is a phenomenon. We are using the same equipment, the same

*"Latest News of the Lumber World," Lumber World Review 27, no. 2 (July 25, 1914): 38.

basic upright shingle machine, today to manufacture shingles as was used back in the early days of the century. That covers a span of over three-quarters of a century and it seems incongruous, it seems almost impossible, that in those years we could not have devised a different and a better method of manufacturing shingles, but none has been developed. There have been many efforts over the years to develop improved machinery and equipment. As a matter of fact, eight or ten years ago, the Bureau employed an outstanding engineering company in California, the FMC Corporation, to study the problem for us and to come up with recommendations. Their engineers were up here for several months and they came up with recommendations, but no one in the industry felt the recommendations were sufficiently noteworthy to be adopted.

ERM: Could that be because the capital investment in new machinery is quite substantial and the longevity of the industry is not so great? They might feel a new investment of that kind was not merited.

VGP: No, that's not the case. The recommendations they set forth did not involve that much capital outlay.

ERM: In other words, new machinery could have been designed and manufactured and delivered at a price that wouldn't have prohibited it being bought.

VGP: Right. In fact, I think they had a two-year payout schedule which would amortize the investment very rapidly. But the problem that shingle manufacturing poses, the reason it defies mechanization, is that every piece of raw material is different from the next piece. It requires a human eye and a human hand to analyze each individual piece of wood shingle cedar block and to cut it in a slightly different way in order to obtain maximum recovery.

ERM: Every single piece is handled by the sawyers. It comes off the block. He takes it as it falls from the saw, he inspects it, trims it, and then throws it into one or another bin to go to the grader. Is that right?

VGP: He grades it and it then goes to the packers who also give it a second grade inspection if the sawyer misses. The sawyer is a busy individual. He blocks that carriage and he takes the shingles as they come from the main saw. He trims their edges and then trims the shingles into smaller shingles, if need be, in order to cut out knots or other defects. Then he grades them and

puts them in the proper bin for the packer to assemble. That shingle machine is running thirty-five to thirty-seven clips a minute, so he's a very busy guy.

ERM: Isn't that a rather dangerous job?

VGP: It is a dangerous job. Many shingle sawyers lose parts of their fingers. They are working with two saws and working at top speed, and accidents do happen. Efforts have been made to develop safeguards and, of course, there are safety devices on these machines that were not there fifty to seventy-five years ago. But we still can't stop these accidents in the mills.

The upright shingle machine apparently was an incredibly efficient production unit when it was developed seventy-five years ago, or else it couldn't have survived all these years. It would have been replaced and supplanted by modern equipment and there have been many, many efforts made to improve it. All to no avail, to date.

The old machines were flat machines. They were horizontal whereas the saws of today are upright or vertical. The old machines involved a sawyer who mainly blocked the carriage which passed over this saw and sliced off a shingle. It dropped to a man called a knot sawyer who trimmed the edges and trimmed out the knots and then it dropped to a third man who was the packer. So you had three men working on the horizontal machine whereas you have only two with the upright machine. And therein was the advantage of the upright machine and the reason that it replaced the horizontal machine. It cut labor costs down. They had as many as twenty saws in a large circle on the horizontal machines. They called them twenty-block machines. There were ten-block machines and double blocks and single blocks.

ERM: What was the response of the working force to these technical changes? Did they provoke any strikes?

VGP: If they did, I'm not aware of it.

SHINGLE GRADES, KILN DRYING, AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS

- ERM: Going back again to the mechanics of the industry and the changes in technology, do you have a clear recollection of when the theme, "Make 'em thin, make 'em fast" became the watchword of the industry?
- VGP: No, I don't. We rejected that philosophy in 1931 when we abandoned the 6" x 2" shingle and adopted 5" x 2" as the minimum thickness. That thin shingle was known as Star-A-Star. In Canada it was known as XXX. We went to a 5" x 2" minimum when we petitioned the U. S. Department of Commerce for a commercial standard.
- ERM: Do you have any idea why shingles in Canada were branded with X's and shingles in this country were branded Star-A-Star?
- VGP: No. I do know that at the time the Rite Grade Shingle Association and the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau were formed in 1926, the Bureau was international in scope from the outset. The Rite Grade Shingle Association represented the U. S. manufacturers and Rite Grade was their trade name. At that time, the British Columbia producers formed their own organization and they espoused the cause of Edgwood. That was their trade name and it would seem logical that consistent with this they would adopt a perhaps different name for their products, such as XXX, rather than Star-A-Star.
- ERM: The more X's the higher grade the shingle was. I think XXXXX was their top grade.
- VGP: Still is, as is ours.
- ERM: In earlier times, and to some extent even now, good whiskey in Canada carried X brand and the more X's the better and the stronger, higher proof, the whiskey. It is thought by some that the shingle grade X was borrowed from the whiskey people. Shinglers have some association with the whiskey business, too, as consumers, I take it.
- VGP: Right, they were good customers of the distilleries! Incidentally, speaking of trade names, for many years we in the Bureau called

our shingles Certified shingles. We couldn't copyright that because it was too common a term so we developed the name Certigrade. I don't know who actually conceived of the name but our advertising agent of long standing, C. P. Constantine, once told me that he developed the name. In any event, we found there was no provision in the law for a trade association to adopt a copyrighted trade name and so the Bureau prevailed upon one of its congressmen, I believe it was Senator Homer T. Bone, to introduce and obtain passage of a law that would permit trade associations to adopt trade names.

ERM: How and when did kiln drying of shingles develop?

VGP: It doubtless developed at the time the shingle industry was blossoming out here in the Northwest. Shipment of green or undried shingles from the Midwest to the East Coast was very expensive. It reduced the competitive position of western cedar shingles with cypress shingles and white cedar shingles which up until after World War I were still a factor in the roofing industry. So the dry kiln was the obvious result and I believe that a man named Mortimer Cook in Sedro-Woolley, Washington was responsible for the first dry kiln. There was an article by Byron Fish in the Seattle Times some years ago about Mortimer Cook who was quite an innovator and quite an interesting personality.

ERM: Was research done for you by some research agency, or by the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin, or others that might have dealt with kiln drying?

VGP: Oh, yes. Research has been done on the kiln drying of cedar by both the forest products lab at Madison and by the forest products laboratories in Vancouver and Ottawa for the Canadians. They've issued pamphlets on the kiln drying of cedar. Cedar is a temperamental wood and it has to be dried with care. If the heat is too great or the period of drying is too long, you can destroy the cellular structure of cedar shingles.

One phenomenon is what they call crimp. If you get very heavy cedar which is supersaturated with moisture and you hit it too hard with heat, it will crimp and cells will collapse and you will get a washboard effect. The shingle will literally open up and split apart and become very brittle. So kiln drying has to be done with care and today shingles are normally dried in what are known as progressive kilns. The shingles are loaded on kiln

trucks, they are introduced at one end of the kiln and are given a small amount of steam or heat, and then as they move through the kiln, they are given more and more heat until they emerge maybe eight or ten days later at the other dry-end of the kiln. We do have single discharge kilns for shingles but the progressive kiln is the more common.

ERM: Am I right in assuming that the need and rationale for introducing kiln drying equipment in a mill was (a) to produce a lighter end product which would save money on costs of transportation to the market, (b) I gathered that a well-dried shingle would also take paint or some other treatment afterwards in a better way than if it hadn't been put through the drying process, and (c) of course, the end product was shown to be more attractive, more durable, and therefore a more easily sold commodity. Are there other reasons? And are those the correct reasons for going into kiln drying?

VGP: Your third reason is not correct. It's a contentious matter, of course, but it would be rather difficult to establish that a kiln-dried shingle would be more durable than a shingle that is used in a green condition because when applied on a wall or on a roof, a shingle eventually will come into moisture balance with the atmosphere. If it's drier than the air in the existing atmosphere, it will take on moisture. If it's wetter, it will shed moisture and come into moisture balance. The main reason for kiln drying shingles was shipping rates, freight rates, costs of transportation. If the shingles are to be stained shortly after application, they should be dry or they will not accept the stain or the paint properly. Today our shingle wall markets are in New England and the Northeast and practically all of the shingles used there are kiln dried not only because of the freight rates but because they need to be kiln dried in order to be treated or painted properly.

Conversely, the California trade, which is a roofing market, prefers a green shingle to a dry one. When you lay a shingle on a roof, you should leave a little space between them in order to allow for expansion as the shingle takes on moisture and swells, otherwise you get buckling. But if those are green shingles, and they have moisture in them, the shingler can lay them up tight very rapidly. He doesn't have to jockey the shingle around and allow for one-fourth inch or three-eighths inch space between them. Then as the shingle dries, it will shrink and will open up these joints or spaces.

There is a great deal of truck transport of shingles to California where the weight isn't the factor it is on shipments to the East. West Coast rail rates are graduated. This means that a mill in Eugene, Oregon has a lower freight rate to California than a mill in Portland. A mill in Portland has a lower rate than a mill in Seattle. On the other hand, all of these places have the same freight rates into Kansas City or Atlanta, or the East Coast. They are blanket rates, not graduated rates.

ERM: Is there such a thing as an air-dried shingle product produced?

VGP: Yes, some mills do it deliberately, others do it unwittingly. If you store shingles any length of time, they will air dry.

ERM: Do they have to be laid up in stacks and stored in a certain fashion if they are treated that way?

VGP: You get more efficient and effective air drying if they are stacked with plenty of space between them and are stickered or stripped between bundles. You get better movement of air. Years ago, St. Paul-Tacoma Lumber Company made a great point out of the fact that their shingles were air dried as opposed to kiln dried. This was an outgrowth of the abuses of kiln drying.

Early in the game, some of the mills baked the shingles too much in order to get underweights, to get them down to a very low shipping weight. Shingles are sold on a guaranteed rate, guaranteed weight basis. The long-established weight for a square of sixteen-inch shingles, for example, is one hundred forty-four pounds. The mills will quote a dealer in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on a delivered price based on one hundred forty-four pounds weight. If the shingles weigh less than that, they'll pocket the difference. If they weigh more than that, they'll swallow the extra. So it would be to the mill's advantage to have a considerably lower weight, as low as possible, but this must not be achieved at the expense of a utility product.

You can ship baked and over-dried shingles into a market and ruin the reputation of the product as a result of these abuses. When they were active in the shingle business, St. Paul-Tacoma Lumber Company featured their Tree-Life shingles. They were air dried. I think possibly they may have given them a little bit of kiln treatment but they were essentially air dried.

EFFECTS OF ECONOMIC DEPRESSIONS AND WARS

ERM: Over the life of the industry there have been a number of economic depressions, panics, savage dips in the general health of the economy in the country. What are your recollections with regard to the impacts of such events upon the industry? What impact did the Great Depression, for example, have on your industry?

VGP: The Great Depression had a profound effect on the industry. Production went down. Prices went down to unheard-of lows. It was just plain impossible to operate a shingle mill without losing money during the depression. My father kept books and records for his company, and I know that in the early 1930s he tried repeatedly to start up the shingle mill. It would run for a couple of weeks, but he had to shut it down for a few months because the prices were just so low that he couldn't afford to make shingles. It was a horrible state of affairs. The industry was demoralized.

ERM: What do you recall about the efforts made by the industry?

VGP: I really don't remember that there was too much done. The Bureau operated on a very low budget. Very little advertising was being done. I wasn't with the Bureau until 1939.

ERM: In other words, you weren't around at the time of the NRA lumber code.*

VGP: I was aware of what was going on when the NRA came in and established quotas and attempted to put a floor on the price of shingles. Hugh Johnson was the administrator of the NRA. They established a price code on red cedar shingles. The shingle mills were allowed to run, I remember at one time, every other week. My dad would run his shingle mill every other week using a crew from a mill in Everett. They would work for him a week and then go back and work for the other mill for a week. Sales quotas were applied. All of these things would be illegal today under our Sherman anti-trust

* National Industrial Recovery Act of 16 June 1933, 48 Stat. 195.

provision, but back in the early days of FDR, apparently they were legal.* At the least, the government was involved in them.

ERM: All of the codes that were set up tended to waive the anti-trust situation for a time on the grounds that the whole economy was in desperate shape and that many industries were flat on their backs and had to have help to bail out. The codes with industry participation were a kind of self-regulatory program. They were asked to get with it on a cooperative basis and see what could be done to get things back on track. It wasn't a very successful venture because there were still enough individuals rampant on the scene that couldn't be kept from breaking the line on either production or on price.

VGP: Then, of course, the government introduced the minimum wage. I was working in the mill as a boom man and I was getting \$2.00 a day. Overnight my pay jumped to \$3.40 a day because the minimum wage was set at 42 1/2¢ an hour. And eight hours at 42 1/2¢ an hour came to \$3.40. So this added to the manufacturing costs and they had to recover it with higher prices for the product. During the depression shingles went down to very low figures.

ERM: Do you have any notions about the difference in the character of your industry and that of other branches of the forest products industries since the Great Depression?

VGP: I would say that our industry has actually grown a bit. First of all, it lost membership and production capacity during the depression. This was gradually built up during the 1930s and it reached a high in 1941. Then along came World War II which had a very depressing effect upon the industry because cedar logs were in great demand for war purposes and lumber was considered to be a higher priority war item than shingles. So during the four years of the war from 1942 to 1945 inclusive, there was a precipitous drop in the activity of the shingle mills. Mill after mill went out of existence. Production went down. Starting in 1946, after World War II, production built up and by 1950 had reached a plateau which has been fairly uniform

*Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 2 July 1890, ch. 647, 26 Stat. 209, 15 U. S. C. secs. 1 through 7.

since, although there have been ups and downs. Last year, in 1972, we were up to about as high a total production figure as we have reached in the last thirty years since early in World War II. 1973 may not quite reach the 1972 figure. I doubt that it will. At any rate, right now we are at a rather high mark, but it doesn't compare with the high marks reached just prior to World War II or back in the 1920s and the great days from 1909 to 1912.

ERM: What are your projects for the coming year and for the longer range?

VGP: Raw material is going to be the bellwether. It will establish how well we do productionwise.

ERM: Do you anticipate a good year for home building?

VGP: Home building right now is tailing off. Prices are dropping. Things are a little bit stagnant right now. But to get back to your earlier question. Today the shingle industry is made up of a large number of rather small producing units. We have over four hundred members in the Bureau. That's an all-time high and yet back in 1941 I would estimate that we probably had half that many. We probably had two hundred members, but those two hundred members in that year were producing more shingles than the four hundred are today. Today we have smaller producers who have gone up into the woods to produce. The mills are closer to the source of the raw material. There are no mills left in Seattle and Everett, for example. At one time there were probably a dozen mills in Seattle and just as many in Everett on the waterfront. There is only one shingle mill to my knowledge left on Puget Sound.

The same thing is basically true of the lumber mills. Many of them have gone back into the woods to be closer to the raw material. Our industry as compared to other elements in the lumber industry are made up of smaller units. It's a more volatile industry as far as markets are concerned. It reacts quicker because its base is not as broad as the lumber industry. It reacts more rapidly to the stimuli of the market and is more sensitive. It will go up faster and it will come down faster.

ERM: The shingle industry could probably be taken as a good bellwether of economic conditions.

VGP: Frequently it is, although the roofing materials are usually purchased and applied after the framing lumber is purchased and utilized.

- ERM: During the depression years the president of the Shingle Bureau, Leo S. Black, reported in an annual meeting that you were making your greatest progress as an industry, that production methods were improved, grade had finally been standardized, the square-pack unit was generally adopted and the market area expanded more widely because of these reforms.* Can you describe how production methods were improved in the thirties?
- VGP: I think Mr. Black was referring mainly to improved grades and grading, standardization, because it was in 1931, which was the depth of the depression, that we obtained through the Department of Commerce a wholesale revision of our grades. We established 100 percent clear, 100 percent heartwood, 100 percent edge grain as characteristic of our number 1 grade and we threw out the old one-thousand pack which had no relationship whatsoever to the end use of the commodity and substituted for it the square pack which related to the coverage to be obtained by a so-called square of shingles. I think this is basically what he was referring to.
- ERM: Did it take the trauma of a depression as deep and as dark as that one to drive both industry and government to do these things?
- VGP: I suspect the depression may have had some stimulating effect upon it but I think the thing was in the works as early as 1928 and 1929 before the depression hit. I think it was inevitable. I think it was coming and I think maybe the depression hastened it a bit, but certainly it would have come even without the depression. 1928 and 1929 were profitable years for our industry.
- ERM: The Red Cedar Shingle Bureau was given credit for these accomplishments and it was implied that only after the terrible depression were the diverse members of the cedar industry welded together in a really solid effort through the Bureau. Does that constitute rhetoric or is it a clear statement of fact?
- VGP: I think it's a little of both. The depression did have a unifying effect by drawing the ranks together, but still it wasn't completely voluntary. There have been a lot of mills involuntarily joining the Bureau by virtue of our exploitation and promotion of a labeled product, like our Certigrade promotion. Only Bureau member mills can use shingles labeled Certigrade. They are inspected up to a certain standard and we advertise Certigrade

*Leo S. Black, "Aggressive Policy for Shingle Group," The Timberman 34, no. 6 (April 1933): 19.

as the hallmark of quality, and a great many dealers and wholesalers have specified Certigrade. This has had a unifying effect even though it wasn't always voluntary. It's been an involuntary thing in some instances.

- ERM: Mr. Black indicated the fear that he had that as conditions corrected themselves and prosperity replaced depression, we were apt to forget the full effectiveness which lies in coordination of efforts. I think he felt that the momentary solidarity achieved in the industry might be lost. Was he justified in that fear? Was there a period after things began to get better when some people drifted away and were less devoted to the Bureau and its work?
- VGP: To some extent the Bureau, and I use the following phrase with reluctance, thrives on adversity in the industry. That is, when you have tough times people climb on the bandwagon and hang onto our coattails and count on the Bureau to pull them through. But even more than that, Mr. Black's fears were pretty well unfounded. There was a good reason for him to be apprehensive but history I think proved his fears to be unfounded. Mainly perhaps because of our trademark promotion, our Certigrade promotion with the dealers and builders. There were very few defections from the ranks after the depression and even today we represent over 90 percent of the industry and we've had a period of unprecedented prosperity during the last two and a half years. There has been pretty solid support of the Bureau.
- ERM: Up to that time, the Bureau's work had been primarily internal and defensive in character. By internal, I mean that it was constantly improving or seeking to improve the industry's end products. Defensive in the sense that it was removing certain selling resistances particularly the lack of appreciation for the fire resistant characteristics of red cedar shingles. Both are natural during a period of normally low building activity. Would you agree those terms might characterize the Bureau's work at the time?
- VGP: I think that in the twenties there was a good deal of putting our own house in order because there were abuses that had sprung up over the years. Abuses, for example, in manufacturing, in kiln drying, in marketing. There was a good deal of mending of our fences before we went out into the world and the public with our product and I think that the depression marked the turning point when we became outward oriented rather than inward oriented. We'd put our house in order by that time.

ERM: I think Black, in a way, foresaw that brighter future for the industry and the Bureau. He hinted that in the brighter future of the industry it would be essential that the Bureau take more aggressive postures in trade promotion, with the customer occupying the spotlight. He saw the cedar shingle industry as having one of the brightest futures in the forest products field. George M. Cornwall, reporting on the annual meeting of the Red Cedar Shingle industry, said, "Perhaps the foregoing is merely the threshing over of old straw. But it behooves the red cedar shingle industry to pause from time to time and look back over the past and chart the future by the lessons learned with so much effort and heartache." * What comments would you make in retrospect about those statements or those insights?

VGP: I think they were unusually prophetic, they were true.

ERM: They have been borne out by the test of time?

VGP: Pretty well borne out, yes.

ERM: I think it was in 1932 that your departing Bureau president, Dale Craft, cited the Bureau's progress for the recently completed year. He said its income from members was up from thirty-five thousand dollars in 1930 to slightly under eighty thousand dollars for 1932. Now that represents almost a tripling of income. That's quite remarkable when you stop to think that between 1930 and 1932 there was a substantial rise in the financial muscle of this Bureau. How do you account for that?

VGP: I can't, I was unaware that it occurred. Obviously, the Bureau either attracted more members or it raised its dues, or both. It would be interesting to equate that eighty thousand dollars in terms of 1973 dollars.

ERM: What percentage of the machine capacity and companies of your industry are members of the Bureau?

VGP: In terms of productive capacity it's well over 90 percent.

ERM: During 1932, 95 percent of the machine capacity companies of Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia were enrolled in the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau?

VGP: That's right. We maintained that percentage during the 1930s and then lost a good deal of it back in the 1950s when we took in the handsplit shake industry as part of the Bureau.

*George M. Cornwall, "Future of Red Cedar Shingles," The Timberman 34, no. 6 (April 1933): 19.

- ERM: What would you say about the impact of war on your industry?
- VGP: World War II was a very bad thing for the industry. Logs were in tight supply and lumber mills, due to the priority set up by the War Production Board, had first call on the cedar. The shingle mills took the leavings, and as a result, our production went down from roughly seven million squares to about four million.
- ERM: Did the war take an uncommon amount of red cedar out of the woods in order to meet its needs?
- VGP: There was accelerated logging during World War II and accordingly, more cedar logs were taken during that period.
- ERM: What was it mainly used for?
- VGP: For lumber. I'm just now looking at the statistics for World War I, and it appears there wasn't too much of an effect on shingle production during those years.* They went along about the same level as prior to and following World War I, maybe down a little bit.
- ERM: Have the more recent involvements of this country in wars in the Pacific, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, had any impact on the industry?
- VGP: The Korean War certainly did. That occurred in the early fifties. It had a salutary affect on shingle production and shingle prices.
- ERM: What about the Vietnam War?
- VGP: The Vietnam War has quite an effect on lumber and plywood because of crating and raw material but in shingles and shakes, there is very little direct war usage of the product.
- ERM: Do you think that wars have had any positive effect upon your industry?
- VGP: The Korean War did. Of course, it was rather short-lived. Nonetheless, it was still a rather localized war. It wasn't a mammoth thing like World War II. It had a stimulating effect on business but World War II certainly did not. There was a tremendous demand for cedar shingles and shakes but they just

* See Appendix C, p. 142.

weren't available. The Bureau, as a matter of fact, became a skeleton-holding organization. All the fieldmen were dismissed. Our inspectors were released one by one and a skeleton crew stayed here.

CANADIAN/AMERICAN: TARIFFS AND UNIONS

ERM: In 1916, Colonel J. M. Hawthorne of Seattle, issued a statement in which he favored a duty on lumber and shingles coming from British Columbia.* This was regarded as a somewhat unusual attitude since the colonel was interested in ownerships of 250 million feet of B. C. standing timber and was also known as a prominent local Democrat. He stated he believed in tariff for revenue but indicated that he was neither a free trader nor a protectionist. He also stated he stood for government regulation of interstate trade in lumber and shingles with production also controlled by the Federal Trade Commission. He believed the FTC should also serve to prevent unfair competition in the lumber and shingle trade from British Columbia and elsewhere.

Such unorthodox views as these put forth by an industry person must have kicked up some dust in the industry in 1916. This was, of course, prior to your coming into the industry, but I am sure that from time to time these same issues have perhaps emerged from the mouths of other people and I wonder if you recall Colonel Hawthorne or others who might have expressed similar sentiments over the years.

VGP: I have no recollection of Colonel Hawthorne or the incident that you recite, but I do know that the issue of tariffs and trade barriers to the importation of shingles from Canada was a very real and a very active issue for many years. As a matter of fact, an organization was set up and in existence here for a number of years, known as U. S. Red Cedar Shingle Industry, Inc., whose primary objective was the levying of tariffs. I recall the platform of some candidates for Congress back in the late twenties and early thirties was for the establishment of tariffs or quotas on the import of shingles from Canada. It should be remembered that the Bureau, being international in its membership, at no time took any part whatsoever in this controversy, and it was a strong controversy.

*"Urges a Tariff on Shingles," Lumber World Review 30, no. 11 (June 10, 1916): 47.

It went on for many years and a great deal of time and effort was expended by individuals in the U. S. segment of the industry attempting to establish a tariff. Tariffs were in existence up until maybe twenty-five years ago. My understanding prior to that time is that the tariffs were nominal and inhibited but didn't prevent the importation of shingles from Canada.

ERM: There has been some differential between costs of production on this side of the border and that on the Canadian side, has there not?

VGP: There are alleged to be differences, whether real or imagined. I've heard Canadians claim that their costs of production are as great as U. S. producers and vice versa. This is an issue that we always stay away from. I've avoided becoming involved in it in any way.

ERM: In other words, the Bureau has not involved itself in any way, shape, or form in the tariff question.

VGP: We've taken a completely neutral position. The issue now is dormant. I rarely hear it discussed these days.

ERM: Every once and a while, when countries get into deep economic difficulty, they usually set in motion nationalistic movements like "Buy American," or "Buy Canadian," or "Buy British." We are seeing this now. I heard on the television this morning that there is a very strong campaign going on in England to buy British, to cut out the foreign buying. What do you remember of such things in your industry?

VGP: I don't recall too much "Buy American." Although there has been some sentiment in that direction, I don't think there was any organized campaign. I do recall that the Shingle Weavers Union at one time mounted somewhat of a campaign encouraging tradesmen to buy union label or union-manufactured shingles as opposed to nonunion manufactured. This amounted actually to a "Buy American" campaign because at that time practically all of the shingles produced in America were union produced and practically all of those in Canada were not union produced.

ERM: What was the reason for this lag in the British Columbia industry on unionizing?

VGP: They have a different union up there now. About 1935 or 1936 the U. S. shingle industry went on a six-hour day, five-day week. Now that is most unusual when you consider that thirty-five years ago a total industry went on a thirty-hour week, and it's on a thirty-hour week today, yet that wasn't based on technological advances or improved production. It was just based on an arbitrary political decision based on the muscle of the union. They had a strike and eventually ended up with a six-hour day, five-day week. The shingle weavers in British Columbia were then and still are operating on an eight-hour day. I think the record shows that shingle weavers in a six-hour day produce more per hour than they do on an eight-hour day.

PRODUCTION COMPETITION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GRADING RULES

ERM: Anyone looking into the history of your industry can't help being interested in the competition that has existed among individuals in the industry. It seems to me that there has always been a great personal competition among shingle weavers and shingle sawyers and people in all areas of the production line as to who can make the most the fastest. Can you draw upon any knowledge you have of this competition to tell stories about the greats of the industry; the Paul Bunyans, if you please, of the shingle business.

VGP: There is no question that there was great rivalry, particularly among shingle sawyers, as to who could make the biggest cuts, and there are some men in the industry who have been regarded as among the very best and fastest. Dick Roles, for example, or Sandy Levesque, or Frenchy Despres, or Ed Newberg or Speed Hurn. These are men reputed to have been very fast sawyers and they were looked up to by their peers as being the best in the business.

There still is a certain amount of that competition. Last year a shake sawyer on the Olympic Peninsula established a record in shake production. I don't know how many bundles it was in an eight-hour day, but I think it was on the order of six hundred. Whereas, two hundred fifty bundles was regarded as a pretty fair day's work in shake production. You did have rivalry among shingle sawyers, and you also had a certain amount of rivalry between the operators of shingle mills, to see who could get the greatest cut, and particularly among the operators to see who could get the greatest percentage of number 1 grade shingles out of the log without sacrificing quality.

Until recently, the Bureau published an annual report giving the production of each mill by grade. But each mill was only identified by number not by name and knew only its number. Each mill could compare its cut with those of other members of the industry. Apparently they weren't using it as much as they once did, because the report was discontinued several years ago. But rivalry was and is a factor in the industry, for better or for worse.

- ERM: This raises a question on the reporting function of the Bureau to its membership. You say you were providing certain data based on information that had been sent in by the various members and feeding it back in certain forms to the members. How important a function is that now and is it of larger importance or lesser importance now than it was twenty, thirty, forty years ago?
- VGP: Apparently it is of lesser importance to the membership because we respond and react to their wishes and we do not issue as many reports today as we did years ago. We issue fewer statistical reports than the average trade association in the lumber industry. We do have an annual report of production by grades and a distribution by states of shingles and shakes, and we do provide a monthly operating report which is a chart or graph showing the production tempo in shingles and shakes compared to the previous year, but this is about the extent of our statistical work and it is quite minimal.
- ERM: Let's talk more about the United States-Canada competition. Is there now or has there ever been any visible difference between a British Columbia-made shingle and an American-made shingle?
- VGP: I would rather not comment on that. There is a difference of opinion on the subject. We are neutral. We have established and attempt to maintain the same grade requirements for shingles and shakes produced in Canada as we do in the U. S.
- ERM: What about the competition between species? I realize that red cedar dominates the market but there has been some competition, I presume, over the years with other species for shingle markets.
- VGP: There was and still is a little competition with the redwood shingles which are marketed largely in the San Francisco area. I've seen them as far south as San Diego, but rarely. The redwood shingle and shake production is very, very small compared to the cedar.
- ERM: And it can sell its entire production in its own local area.
- VGP: Right. Of greater import is the competition we get from the only other wood shingle, the eastern white-cedar which is manufactured in northern New England and eastern Canada.

There has been a renaissance in the use of white cedar shingles back in that part of the country. I believe I mentioned our men have encountered them as far west now as Buffalo, New York.

ERM: Is this a result of pricing or a result of more energetic endeavor on the part of the producers back there?

VGP: It's really a reflection of the renaissance of the wood shingle. They are reacting to market stimuli.

ERM: How would you compare the appearance of the two products, red cedar and white cedar?

VGP: The only reason that white cedar shingles are used at all is because they weather to a beautiful silver-gray. White cedar has a property that weathers beautifully. I'd say that's the only reason it's used. The best grade of white cedar is about equal to our number 3 grade, which is a poor grade shingle because it's made out of very small trees.

ERM: I built a five-bedroom house in Connecticut in which the whole exterior was red cedar shingles, and I noticed that it weathered differently from other shingle houses along the coast. I built eight to ten miles inland.

VGP: There's a shingle stain manufacturer in Boston called Cabot. It's quite a well-known name in New England. They market a bleach stain that artificially gives you that weathered silver-gray effect you get on a seacoast. The well-known Kennedy compound at Hyannis Port, Massachusetts is right on the coast. The white cedar shingles have a whitish bleached appearance and it's very attractive. On Cape Cod you see hundreds of houses built with western red cedar roofs and white cedar shingle walls.

ERM: The Southern Pine Association and the Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association claimed in 1917 that they were the first to establish grading rules for shingles.* Can that be supported?

*Hermann Von Schrenk, "Recent Developments of Wood Construction in Relation to the Fire Hazard," speech delivered to Southern Pine Association, New Orleans, February 19, 1918 and reprinted in Lumber World Review 34, no. 4 (February 15, 1918): 26.

- VGP: Well, the Shingle Branch of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association was organized in 1915 and I would think that one of the first orders of business would be the establishment of uniform grading rules for the industry. Whether or not they actually did establish such rules back in 1915, I don't know.
- ERM: In the Lumber World Review for June 25, 1918, important grading rules changes were announced for Rite-Grade inspected red cedar shingles by the Shingle Branch of WCLA. There seems to have been an earlier revision of standards for the ordinary trade, and this action by WCLA was to coordinate their rules along lines of the rules adopted for the ordinary grades. Can you explain the difference and why the association might have felt obliged to make revisions of its own grading rules. Could it have been in recognition of the establishment of grading rules in other parts of the country?
- VGP: This is possibly a reason. The quotation you encountered would indicate that we established grading rules in this area prior to 1918 and very likely, prior to 1917. So the claim of the pine people is not valid, but they may have been reacting to the stimuli provided by the Southern Pine Association rules. We occasionally make changes in our grading rules. We're making some minor changes right now in our shake grading rules. This is a continuing process.
- ERM: Do you have any knowledge of when the first demands for grading cedar products were made? Were they made by manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, builders, architects, or other competitors in the wood or substitute field?
- VGP: I suspect it came from the consumer or the tradesmen in order to establish a common denominator. Industry doesn't really become an industry until there are grading standards, some common denominator for grades. Otherwise, you'd have chaos.
- ERM: Would you say that it was the associations and a few of their key members that were the chief spokesmen and advocates for this?
- VGP: Yes.

BROR L. GRONDAL AND THE SEARCH FOR A FIRE RETARDANT

ERM: Do you have any idea what role Professor Bror Grondal might have played in the establishment of grading rules at the time of his fire tests in 1917?

VGP: He undoubtedly had a great influence. He was for many years what might be called the shingle industry's technical patron saint. Why he had this affection for the cedar shingle industry, I really don't know.

ERM: He sounds like the Emanuel Fritz of the cedar industry.

VGP: I would say that he had the same relation to cedar as Fritz had to redwood. He was our technical consultant on a small monthly retainer for many, many years. He authored the well-known Certigrade handbook and he would always answer technical questions.*

ERM: In 1917 Grondal published comparative tests on the fire resistant quality of red cedar shingles and other roofing materials.** His study at that time purported to show that the wooden shingle was superior to all other materials, that fires spread less rapidly in it, and that the wooden shingle outlasted other substitutes. He also showed red cedar poles to be cheaper and longer lasting than steel. This study by Grondal came at the precise moment when southern city laws were popping on all sides banning wooden shingles. How was his report used by your industry and its association at that time? Do you have any knowledge of what effect the study had in your combatting

*Bror L. Grondal, Certigrade Handbook of Red Cedar Shingles (13th ed.; Seattle, Wa.: Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau, 1964).

**Idem, "Tests of Roofing Materials to Determine Their Comparative Fire Resistance," Lumber World Review 33, no. 11 (December 10, 1917): 25-33.

legislative efforts to prohibit the use and sale of your products in various states of the country?

VGP: I knew Professor Grondal very well for many years but I had no knowledge or realization that he had made these tests. As you indicated, they were made back in 1917 and by the time I came onto the shingle scene they apparently had been put aside or forgotten, so I am not aware of them.

I am aware of the fact that back in 1916, 1918, a number of cities in the South adopted legislation prohibiting the use of wood roofing. Much of it was actually due to their widespread use of southern pine shingles. Southern pine is pitchy and resinous and should never have been used for wood roofing because it curled and was highly flammable. No one, however, in our industry, will deny that red cedar shingles will burn. Of course, they will burn. The question is not whether they will burn but whether they do burn, and modern day statistics show that less than on the order of 1 percent of all fire losses are from sparks on roofs of all types. Those are the last figures of the National Fire Protection Association.

ERM: I imagine the percentage has gone down with the change in fuels to heat homes.

VGP: Some of the solid fuels have been replaced by electric and gas and nonsolid fuels and you don't have the problem. Houses are spaced farther apart and you have a better and more efficient fire department. The big conflagration they had in Jacksonville, Florida about 1918, which resulted in an anti-wood shingles ordinance was caused when a mattress factory using Spanish moss gathered from the oak trees in the South, caught fire and the moss spewed forth into the atmosphere like a volcano and fragments fell upon wood shingled roofs. There was a wind blowing and it went from one house to another.

ERM: At one point in his work for the Bureau, Grondal made a tour of the U. S. in an effort to determine more clear evidence of how cedar could be better utilized and sold as roofing, to provide better understanding of marketing needs, to assist dealers in marketing increased quantities of cedar shingles. Grondal, quite obviously, was very much involved and had a pretty strong impact upon the industry. He must have been a kind of father confessor and a man of scholarship whose findings were sought by the industry for a number of years.

- VGP: I do recall the Bureau hired Professor Grondal several summers. He was a full-time professor at the university and during the summers we hired him as a field liaison man and he would travel with our various fieldmen in the Midwest and the East on our behalf. I think this is the situation to which you have just alluded.
- ERM: A man of academe who repeatedly takes on assignments of this kind for an industry can very often get tarred with the label among his colleagues of being a lackey, and lose his credibility with his academic colleagues because he is a kind of sycophant, as they say in the industry. I think Fritz suffered that accusation down in California with his associations with the redwood and the pine industries. I wonder to what extent Grondal has been victimized by the same kind of accusation.
- VGP: I suspect that it may have occurred or have been present in the academic community but I am not aware of it.
- ERM: The search has persisted for many years for a substance that would make wood shingles fire retardant, increase their life, and minimize the contamination of rainwater caught in barrels for home use. Rainwater used to be a big thing. My mother used to dearly love having rainwater for certain household chores. It was soft water and she prized it for washing hair. I take it there was some taint of the water, for a time, from a new shingle roof.
- VGP: You get a discoloration of the rainwater off a new shingle roof. How long this will persist depends on variables. It depends upon the wash, the amount of rainwater that falls. It depends upon the particular shingles that happen to be on the roof. Some shingles have more of this juice or oil or leachate than others. It isn't a big factor here. It is a factor in some very dry areas which mitigate against the use of cedar roofing. For example, on the Virgin Islands they catch rainwater and the cedar roof drainage is discolored. This is a strike against you. There are a few parts of the U. S. where they still catch rainwater and leeching is a factor. But on the whole, it's not nearly as important as it once was. People don't even bother to catch it anymore.
- Now, the fire retardant has been likened to the search for the Holy Grail. It's gone on and on. I remember encountering an older gentleman at a lumber convention in New York City

some fifteen years ago. He chuckled and said, "You know, after World War I, I came back from France and I'd saved up five thousand dollars. I met a guy here in New York who had a fire retardant for wood shingles and it sounded like a great opportunity for me, so I invested the five thousand dollars in the scheme and I lost it all. It was a great product that would render shingles nonflammable. However, we found it washed out in the rain and I lost my money."

They've been searching for a fire retardant for wood shingles for many, many years and the search continues today. We are sponsoring a project at the Stanford Research Institute. Canadians have a project going in a laboratory at Ottawa and some private companies are searching for it. Koppers Company and J. H. Baxter Company have a product which has received Underwriters' Laboratories endorsement. It's an expensive treatment. It involves treating the shingle with chemicals under pressure and then subjecting them to dry kiln heat which sets them and renders the soluble chemicals insoluble. It will not wash out with rain. But it doubles and triples the cost of our product and therefore its use is limited. We think it should be limited to certain fire zones under certain types of occupancy, certainly not residential occupancy.

ERM: I am sure somebody has thought of clear plastic spray.

VGP: Oh yes, they've thought about many things, not everything, of course. Someday they are going to get a good dip treatment that will last and not leach out in the weather. This is what the Stanford research people are attempting to find.

ORDERLY MARKETING

- ERM: Back in the last years when Arthur Bevan was secretary-manager of the Bureau, he reminded the membership in The Timberman for April 1933 that because they had achieved some success along cooperative lines, they should not permit the idea to grow that the job had been completed or finished.* He saw orderly marketing as a vastly more important problem than any that had been earlier solved. To what extent had earlier efforts at orderly marketing failed? Could you cite any from your own experience? Did the red cedar producers take, from their earlier failures to achieve orderly marketing, a notion that such a plan could not be accomplished?
- VGP: We get into a problem of semantics here. What is orderly marketing? To me, orderly marketing means controlled or contrived marketing through various channels of distribution. While this may not have been much concern in the early 1930s, it certainly became a concern of industry and trade associations in the late 1930s because of the Sherman antitrust laws.** Ever since I became associated with the Bureau we've taken no part in attempting to designate channels of trade or discount practices or that sort of thing. We want to operate completely within the framework of the antitrust laws and we have nothing whatsoever to do with so-called orderly marketing.
- ERM: I think the orderly marketing that he was talking about in the early thirties was related to the whole country. We were in a chaotic situation. We had to bring some order out of this chaos. There was overproduction of forest products. We had to bring production down within control of the limit so that we didn't have the cutthroat kinds of practices that had been going on. I

*Arthur Bevan, "Orderly Marketing of Shingles," The Timberman 34, no. 6 (April 1933): 22, 28.

**Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 2 July 1890, ch. 647, 26 Stat. 209, 15 U. S. C. secs. 1 through 7.

think that that's what they were concerned with at the time. They were, in a sense, waiving the antitrust aspects of the business and of business in general.

VGP: I have not been associated with the Bureau at a time when such things as controlled production have been considered to be legal. We stay away from it entirely. In fact, one time the Bureau issued a weekly price list. This price list was based on completed transactions. And we issued this list as an indication to our members of sales that had been transacted during the previous week. We stopped doing that because we could see where the government might conceivably attribute that as a means of suggesting to our membership that these should be their prices for the next week.

ERM: That you were fixing prices.

VGP: We stopped. It's interesting to know that the Bureau was one of the few major trade associations in the lumber field that wasn't indicted by Thurman Arnold and his group.

ERM: I found at this same time, the name in news releases and trade journals, Ira Dye. Does that ring any bell for you?

VGP: No.

ERM: This man reported his belief that a new market for red cedar shingles could be opened on the north coast of South America and in the Caribbean ports. He based this on personal observation made during his participation in a lumber exhibitors tour aboard a trade excursion steamer, the Point Ancha. He had carried an exhibit of red cedar shingles with him on that tour. Dye urged preparation of a manual on red cedar shingles that could be published in both English and Spanish with suitable illustrations to show the correct methods to be used in roofing work. To what extent was there any follow-up to that suggestion. Was there trade promotion and expansion of your market in that particular area of the world and did it achieve any measurable success, or are you really rather modestly involved in that area?

VGP: I know nothing about any follow-up on Mr. Dye's suggestion. I am inclined to feel that it may have fallen on deaf ears. I don't know this but I suspect it may have.

*"Red Cedar Shingle Congress," The Timberman 34, no. 6 (April 1933): 20.

- ERM: One of these ships that pass in the night and don't get paid much attention .
- VGP: I suspect that's the case. At the present time, the Caribbean does offer a rather encouraging market for our products. Not on the northern coast of South America. There's hardly any of our product used there but some of the islands of the Caribbean-- the U. S. Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands, Jamaica-- there's a big market for red cedar shingles and to some extent in Haiti and the Bahamas, Bermuda; those islands are fairly substantial markets. There are several wholesalers in Florida who lean heavily toward the Caribbean trade.
- ERM: If there has been such a development of your products in Jamaica and other Caribbean places, why has the South American market, which is not all that much farther away, been seemingly neglected?
- VGP: Jamaica is a part of the British commonwealth as are the British Virgin Islands; and the U. S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are part of the U. S. sphere of influence. There is a good deal of subsidy by the mother countries or at least there's a good deal of rapport between Jamaica and British Columbia, for shingles that are produced.
- ERM: There's a luxury housing market in Venezuela and Columbia and there are a lot of wealthy people there just as there are in other countries.
- VGP: But there is almost no demand for our product.
- ERM: Is that a real test of that market's potential? Or is it a kind of resistance to move into foreign language circumstances? To what extent have you tried to make inroads into foreign markets?
- VGP: Very little. Although in British Columbia, the Council of Forest Industries of B. C., does promote shingles and shakes in Europe and Australia.
- ERM: Does that imply the industry feels no real need to do foreign promotion, that the domestic market and the British Columbia market will take up whatever supplies there are available?
- VGP: I think the implied feeling is that that's the case. But mainly it indicates a dollar spent promoting the use of shingles and shakes in our domestic markets will realize more benefits, both long-term and short-term.

- ERM: Professor Henry A. Bird of the University of Washington addressed the cedar men on the subject of orderly marketing in the early thirties.* Do you remember Professor Bird?
- VGP: I remember him but I don't remember that address. I shared the platform with Professor Bird in Portland in the late thirties at a meeting of retail lumber dealers. I remember him when I was a student at the university a few years before that. I think he was in economics.
- ERM: Do you feel that his thinking and ideas on marketing procedures had any real impact on your industry?
- VGP: No, I don't think so. I'm not aware of it.
- ERM: He pointed out the changing aspects of economic life in America, that the last frontiers had been reached, that population was showing a tendency to assume a definite and fixed level. He didn't have much foresight for the next four decades, few people did, because, of course, we've had a population explosion since that time. He projected ways of setting up a sounder distribution and marketing program. One was elimination of duplicate selling efforts which would remove the incentive for price cutting and sharp dealings between members. What would you have to say about that?
- VGP: I would say that's dangerously contrary to the antitrust laws.
- ERM: He also said that in lieu of this system he would substitute a scheme of joint sales agencies with offices in the leading cities of the country. Orders would be allocated on the basis of individual plant capacity.
- VGP: That sounds rather socialistic, at least idealistic.
- ERM: He urged an honest and fair trial be made along these lines. Was ever such a trial made and could any band of old free enterprisers, such as those in the shingle industry, have gone with it?
- VGP: This is a free wheeling industry, always has been, and I hope always will be. I think they would summarily reject and dismiss Professor Bird's suggestions, which are academic at best.
- ERM: This was in the depths of a depression and people were willing to grasp for any thought they could grab hold of, and this was one idea that was thrown forth.

*The Timberman (April 1933): 20.

CEDAR LOG EXPORTS

ERM: How well was the logging industry represented on the Red Cedar Shingle Bureau board of directors ?

VGP: We did have an associate membership category. We still do, as a matter of fact. There were a number of loggers who contributed to our program for many years. The manager of the Pacific Northwest Loggers Association, a man named E. T. Clark, attended all our board meetings. He had very little to say but he was there in a monitoring capacity and the loggers did contribute to our program to some extent over the years but faded out with the coming of World War II.

ERM: Why were they brought in in the first place ?

VGP: Because it was felt, and there's still a great deal of logic to the idea, that the logger primarily reaps the benefits of promotional efforts on the part of the product group such as the cedar shingle and shake producers. The guy who owns the trees and logs them is going to reap a great deal of the benefit from promotion. Because as the demand for shingles and shakes increases, the price goes up and so does the price of the log. The loggers watch shingle and shake prices and when shingles and shakes go up in price, logs go up in price.

ERM: What about vice versa?

VGP: They come down. It happened within the past thirty days. Shingles and shakes dropped in price and the loggers dropped their price because they can't expect to derive a certain price out of logs when it's a lost cause for the producer.

ERM: Don Clark wrote a paper entitled, "The Export of Western Red Cedar to Japan," when he was secretary-manager of the Rite-Grade Shingle Association.* He showed that in 1921 the Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau estimated that 7 or 8 percent of the amount of the red cedar logged in this country was being shipped in raw material form to the Japanese. This constituted a drain of such a substantial amount that it would shorten the life of the industry quite substantially.

VGP: I think his fears were prophetic and proper

ERM: What do you estimate they are now?

VGP: I think they are on the order of 5 percent. I suspect that during the thirties, and I know during the forties, that there were no cedar log exports, particularly from December 7, 1941 to September 1945, because we were at war with Japan and we weren't shipping them any cedar.

ERM: How long did it take after the war was over before that trade began to reestablish itself?

VGP: It took quite awhile, ten or fifteen years, up to the early sixties.

ERM: Is it a serious matter today?

VGP: A burr under our saddle, you might say.

ERM: What endeavors have you made to stop it up?

*Donald H. Clark, "The Export of Western Red Cedar to Japan," Forest Club Quarterly 1, no. 1 (1922): 43-59.

- VGP: Very little, because many of our members are in favor of log exports. We are a house divided. I take a rather philosophic view of the Bureau. The Bureau is a servant of the industry and not a self-perpetuating organism. It is a means to an end.
- ERM: You have to serve every one of your members.
- VGP: We have to serve them, not every one, but we have to serve them en toto, or a majority. We have to do their bidding and we have to do what they want to do. It would be inconceivable to do otherwise. We should do only those things that we can do better than the members can do individually. And if a substantial portion of them are in favor of cedar log exports, then so be it.
- ERM: Is this a matter that is hotly debated in the councils of the Bureau?
- VGP: Not often, but it has been. We supported several years ago, for example, a Washington State ballot proposal which would have prohibited all log exports, not just cedar. We appropriated some money in support of that political campaign but it was defeated at the election. Later, we served as secretariat for a fund that was raised by some members of the Bureau. We collected the funds and handled the disbursements for advertising in certain newspapers in the Northwest, calling attention to the cedar log drain and the possible repercussions of it.

CHIEF INSPECTOR FRED MONTE

ERM: One area in which you sometimes tramp very hard upon the toes of your members is in the area of inspections.

VGP: Yes. I remember we had a chief inspector for many years, Fred Monte. He came with the Bureau around 1926 and worked with us up into the fifties. He was a pugnacious type of guy. At one time, he had a run-in with a shingle mill workman in Everett and apparently it got so bad that by agreement, the two of them literally hired a hall and set up a boxing ring and while they didn't sell tickets to the fight, they had a fight with boxing gloves and the shingle weavers gathered around to watch. And our inspector, maybe luckily, connected in the first round and knocked the other fellow unconscious.

One other time, I had to accompany this same man into a shingle mill and I noticed he put a monkey wrench in his pocket and I said, "What's that for?" He said, "Well, so and so is in there and if he gives me any trouble, I'm going to let him have it." Monte would have, too.

I remember making a reinspection with him at a shingle company in Seattle. I was standing by, just watching. The company didn't like the shingles so they called for a reinspection. Monte started through the first bundle and the fellow who called for the inspection didn't like some of the shingles Monte was passing as being up to grade. So this fellow ordered us off the property. I was quite agreeable to leaving, and Monte and I started to walk off. The man took hold of Monte by the elbow as though he was escorting him off the property and Monte turned to him and said, "Let go of my elbow, you son of a bitch, or I'll knock you from here to the next block." They almost came to blows right there and Monte at that time must have been seventy years old. He was a vigorous guy. There was quite a feature article in the Seattle Post Intelligencer one day about Monte, who had driven millions of miles for the Bureau.

ERM: What is the life expectancy of a Bureau inspector?

VGP: We haven't lost any.

ERM: Did you have as many of these problems one side of the border as on the other?

VGP: No, but we had more of them years ago than we do now.

ERM: Is the industry becoming more genteel in its management?

VGP: I would say that it is more sophisticated, more aware of the problems and the necessity for inspections.

A UNIFIED INDUSTRY

ERM: In 1962 the Bureau faced a possible separation of the shake makers. Why? How did you deal with the problem?

VGP: That was a traumatic experience for me. The Red Cedar Shingle Bureau merged with the Handsplit Red Cedar Shake Association in September 1963. It was like getting the sheepmen and the cattlemen together for awhile. Some of the principals involved seemed to think there wasn't room for both shingle makers and shake makers in the same organization. The Bureau was in the uncomfortable position of being in the middle. Things gradually worked themselves out and the shingle and shake makers found that the guy on the other side really didn't wear horns. Most of all, as time went on, more and more shake mills installed shingle machines and more and more shingle mills installed shake machines and there was a general melding of the two segments of the industry. I maintained all along, and I think history has proven me right, that the industry is much too small to segregate those who make shingles or shakes by sawing, from those who make them by splitting, that it was the same basic product, and that there was plenty of room for both in the same organization.

ERM: How did you deal with the possible threat of separation in 1962? What was the grumble?

VGP: I really don't know to this day. I knew there was a grumble. I went to our annual meeting fully expecting there would be hell raised from the floor, that there might be a secession. There was one grumble following our merger. The Shake Association continued with their advertising agency and the Shingle Bureau continued with their advertising agency, so we had two different advertising agencies serving the shingle and the shake industry. I did everything I could to eliminate it and to centralize on one or the other agency. This didn't set quite right with one segment of the industry. As a result, we had at least one resignation from one of the major producers. It was a number of years before he came back into the Bureau.

ERM: You likened this union, this wedding of the two, to bringing sheepmen and cattlemen together. That implies a lot of things.

It implies a kind of fundamental state of antagonism between the two producers that was typical in the sheep-cattle controversy here in the West. How would you explain that difference in the shingle and shake industry?

VGP: The basis of this antagonism is hard to pin down. It may have stemmed from the fact that the shingle-producing element was entrenched way back in the late nineteenth century, and then shortly after World War II, a renaissance came in the use of hand-split shakes. Prior to that time, it had been a pioneer product. Go back enough years and you will find that people who used shakes on their houses were those who couldn't afford to use shingles. At any rate, shakes came on fast and the shake producers were beating their chests, so to speak, because they had a real live one. The shingle element resented the shake producers because they were coming in and succeeding in buying their timber out from under them. The shingle mills had a six-hour day and the shake people wanted no part of that.

Overall, a number of us could see that there was no real practical, sensible alternative but to bring the two elements together into one organization. In the eyes of the buyer, one was a split product and one was a sawed product but essentially they were the same product. And in the eyes of the architect there was a place for a shingle and a place for a shake. Shingles give you the tailored look. Shakes give you the rustic look.

ERM: To what extent is the shake industry now represented on the governing body of the Bureau compared to past years? Has it been a growing representation or a shrinking one?

VGP: In the first place, we go to an almost ridiculous extent in building safeguards into our bylaws so as to provide for equitable representation, and our bylaws split membership in our board of trustees into four segments. Number 1 are U. S. producers whose dominant interest is handsplit shakes based on dues contributed to the Bureau. Number 2 are U. S. producers whose dominant interest is shingle production. Number 3 are B. C. producers whose dominant interest is shakes, and number 4 is B. C. producers whose dominant interest is the shingle.

Prior to the meeting of our nominating committee which occurs a few weeks before our annual meeting, we compute the total amount of dues contributed by those four elements of our membership and their relationship to the whole.

Last year, out of twenty-five members on our board, I believe that fourteen of them were U. S. producers. In other words, dues based on receipts from U. S. producers of shingles and shakes accounted for 14/25ths of our total income and 11/25ths came from B. C. producers. Of that fourteen I believe that ten were U. S. shakemen. Therefore, our new board consists of ten U. S. producers whose dominant interest is shakes, four U. S. producers whose dominant interest is shingles, three B. C. producers whose dominant interest is shakes, and eight B. C. producers whose dominant interest is shingles. This year there was one less B. C. shingle man and one additional U. S. shake man on our board.

ERM: Do you elect a whole new board each year?

VGP: Yes. Our bylaws provide that only the retiring president, who is the chairman of the board, and is selected by the newly elected board right after their election, is assured a spot on the new board.

ERM: You could have a whole new set of people each year.

VGP: Conceivably, but not in practice.

ERM: What percentage is there in actual turnover?

VGP: We make a deliberate attempt to have a substantial turnover each year. This policy was adopted several years ago. Of twenty-five members, we normally get seven or eight new members, about a third.

ERM: Which is par for the course for most similar organizations. Yet you have some people on your board who have been there for many years, like Paul Smith.

VGP: And Frank Schafer and Frank Barker, most recently Will Pehl, Bill Penoyar, Bill Stevenson--these are people who by virtue of the preeminent position of their companies in the industry it would be unthinkable not to have on the board. Or they are men who by virtue of their own personal predeliction have shown they are interested in the work of the association and have devoted a great deal of their own personal time and talent to the work of the Bureau. Men like Russ Fluhrer and Jack Hanna. These are guys who are ready and willing and able and eager to work for the Bureau.

When we meet in our nominating committee, I always prepare an attendance record of each individual incumbent board member. The board doesn't meet too often, maybe five or six times a year. It is so large that we've cut it down. When I first started with the Bureau, we had a twelve-man board of trustees and we had meetings darned near every month. In order to accommodate the shake people and because of the spread of the industry--the increase from 150 members to 400--gradually we have increased the size of our board to the present twenty-five. Then we established an executive committee of about eight men.

- ERM: Can any member of the board sit in on an executive committee meeting?
- VGP: Yes, they can by request, although we don't normally notify them of meetings of the executive committee.
- ERM: If they do sit in on such meetings, do they have a full voting right along with the other members who are designated as executive committee members?
- VGP: This has never been established. It's never been tested or challenged, but I suspect they would not.
- ERM: Do they have the right to enter into the discussion?
- VGP: Oh, yes. We normally have at least one meeting out of town. Last year, we had one in Victoria. We'll probably have a meeting in Vancouver this year. But normally they are held in Seattle, it's central to the Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia members.
- ERM: Apart from this rupture in 1962, have you had any other encounter of a similar nature in your years with the Bureau, where there was some threat of defection of the group or any substantial representation of the membership?
- VGP: No, I can't recall any. This was the thing that bothered me very much, mainly because I couldn't get a grasp of it. I was, of course, associated with the shingle element before the merger. The Shake Association, before the merger, had no full-time employee and there may have been a feeling that I was pro-shingle and anti-shake, which wasn't true.
- ERM: But a predecessor of yours, Arthur Bevan, got caught in a bind on that one.

VGP: I am told that he was discharged, that's all I know. He was discharged because it was felt by some that he favored the Canadian element of our industry at the expense of the U. S. element.

The Bureau, in the past, has spent a lot of time promoting its Certigrade label through the retail lumber dealer and through the lumber wholesaler. To this day, this past work of promoting this unifying label has been very helpful and beneficial in bringing about industry solidarity. We are living, in the Bureau, at the present time rather comfortably because of the work that's gone on by our predecessors in the thirties particularly. My predecessor, whose name was W. W. Woodbridge, spent a great deal of his time--and in a way it's kind of regrettable that we have to do this if it is felt necessary--not promoting shingles and shakes, but in promoting Certigrade shingles. As a result of that promotion, we don't have to spend a lot of time promoting a Certigrade shingle, we promote a cedar shingle to the world. This makes it easier for us to do our fundamental promotion jobs, because the industry has closed ranks behind us and we have their support.

BY-PRODUCTS OF CEDAR

ERM: What are the by-products of the red cedar shingle and shake industry, and what is shingle tow?

VGP: The by-products include quite a few. Shingle tow is a long, stringy fiber that comes from the shingle saw. A few mills--two or three or four in the industry--save this and assemble it into bales with a hay baling machine and sell it to nurseries for ground cover and so forth. It's something like excelsior, only it's cedar.

ERM: Does it have any properties or qualities that make it superior as a compost for the nurserymen over excelsior?

VGP: Yes. It will inhibit the growth of weeds. It will also, if used to excess, kill plants that you might want to nurture, so you have to use it with some caution. It is claimed to be excellent litter for animals, particularly dogs. It is claimed that it will kill fleas, but I'm not too sure about the validity of that claim. Cedar is corrosive. They have taken cedar and have bleached from it a concentrated solution and used and marketed that commercially for boiler cleaner.

All of these by-products are marginal. I know of one mill that at one time was producing floats for fishing nets out of small chunks of cedar. Split products made out of small pieces of cedar have been used from time to time.

ERM: I understand that shingle tow decomposes at a much slower rate than excelsior and for that reason its usefulness to the nurseryman is in demand.

VGP: This slow decomposition could be good, or it could be a bad thing. We sponsored a study at Oregon State University a few years ago.* FMC also did a study on shingle manufacturing

*Thomas L. Scroggins and Raymond A. Currier, "The Use of Western Redcedar Residues for Agricultural Purposes," (unpublished report, Department of Forest Products, Oregon State University, in cooperation with Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau, Project 818-38, October 1970).

equipment.* Back in 1950 the late Jim Teshera prepared an inventory of the shake industry for the Handsplit Red Cedar Shake Association.**

*"Process Systems Study of Red Cedar Shingles and Shakes," prepared by FMC Machinery/Systems Group, Central Engineering, for Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau, Project 75237, Report R-2458, July 20, 1966.

**James M. Teshera, "The Handsplit Red Cedar Shake Industry," Seattle, Washington, September 20, 1963.

SAWYER COMPETITION, W. W. WOODBRIDGE, RETIREMENT PROVISIONS

ERM: An old-timer by the name of Jim Pinkey, was at one time called the all-time champion hand machine shingle sawyer.* In 1902, he cut one hundred thirty-six and a half thousand shingles in a ten-hour shift. This record was accomplished at the Parker Brothers Shingle Mill at Lawrence. A thousand shingles consisted of four bunches. Shingles were then measured by the square, containing twenty-four or some other number of courses each. Don Clark challenged that there were twenty-four courses in each. When this was written in the 1930s four bunches contained twenty courses, which is a square of eight hundred shingles. Were the shingles measured in squares in 1902, Pinkey's would have been more than one hundred sixty squares for the ten-hour day. That's a lot of shingles.

VGP: Sixteen squares per hour.

ERM: Do you have anybody cutting them at that rate today?

VGP: A hand machine is entirely different from the machines being used today, and you wouldn't have anything to compare it by. It was a flat saw. You dropped the block in, pushing it back and forth. Every time the thing came back you gave a twist and the block dropped down and you pushed it into a solid block.

ERM: The sawyer didn't catch the shingles off the machine?

VGP: Oh, no, they fell. All he did was feed the block through the saw. So it is an entirely different thing from the present upright shingle machine.

ERM: Does that competition for production still go on in the industry?

*Don Clark Papers, Box 92-95, University of Washington Library, Seattle.

- VGP: A little bit, but more within the mill than between mills. As a matter of fact, we rather discourage it.
- ERM: It's not conducive to safety standards, is it?
- VGP: Not only that, but it's not conducive to quality.
- ERM: What can you tell me about the history of the Bureau's field representatives?
- VGP: The Bureau practically pioneered the use of field representatives in the lumber industry. We have had a lot of them over the years. The most we ever had was twelve back in the middle thirties. We jokingly called them the twelve apostles. We had a book written by Grondal which we called our bible. Then we had the manager of the Bureau, W. W. Woodbridge, who was the messiah and a most unusual man. Woodbridge was a tremendous guy, a great writer, and he loved to travel. He would drive with one fieldman and wear him out in a matter of a week. Then he'd be in another fieldman's territory and he'd go with him. He never learned to drive a car but he rode with these fieldmen and would wear them down with his eccentric style of living. For example, he'd get up in the morning and maybe wait until eleven o'clock to have breakfast, and then maybe have lunch at five and dinner at ten-thirty.
- ERM: Was he very effective?
- VGP: He was a hell of a politician. He knew how to deal with the big issues. He was petty on a lot of things but when he got down to the basic issues, he could dig into them. He had a lot of fortitude. He was a great guy.
- ERM: Only within recent years has the Bureau had a retirement program for old employees. How did they care for men like Woodbridge?
- VGP: When he retired the board voted him a monthly stipend. They also did this for our chief inspector, Fred Monte. I don't recall the amount but it was a figure they arbitrarily established. Back in the thirties retirement plans weren't too common in industry. It's been a rather recent phenomenon. In those days it was a sort of gratuity.

FIRE RETARDANT FORMULAS AND FASHION TRENDS

ERM: I came upon information in the Lumber World Review for February 25, 1918 that had to do with research that was done to produce a fire retardancy in shingles. The Paint Manufacturers Association of the U. S. got up a mixture that was one gallon of paint (not defined), one quart of raw linseed oil, and one-half pint of drier. They recommended applying this mixture to shingles before putting them on the roof, to dry the shingles five days, then to cover them with a straight coat of paint. I am sure this was one of the earlier and more primitive formulas that was concocted for use with shingles. How has this changed over the years and from what quarter have you had the most help in working out that problem?

VGP: First of all, I have not heard of this activity on the part of the Paint Manufacturers Association. A combination of paint, linseed oil, and drier is a standard formula. I suspect that like so many other things in this line, it failed because of the effects of leaching. The problem in fire retardant treating of wood roofing is leaching. You can fire retardant treat an interior wood product very nicely. There have been products on the market for years which do this job. But when you apply this product on an exterior surface where you have recurring wetting and drying, sun and rain, leaching is the big problem. There have been very many people who have attacked the problem. I am sure they number into the hundreds. In my personal experience, there have been probably over one hundred people who have contacted us with one type of compound or another and none of them to date has worked, with the exception of the chemical developed by Koppers Company which they have licensed to J. H. Baxter Co. It has the Class C label and when used in combination with metal foil, the Class B label of the Underwriters' Laboratories. That is, metal foil interlay between the treated shingles or shakes.

ERM: I suppose the Koppers formula is a patented or secret one.

VGP: Yes, it's patented. It involves pressure treating, and consequently it is quite expensive.

ERM: I realize this is an area in which many people have made inputs

and brought forth possible solutions. When you get such a proposal or suggested new formula, what method do you use to test it out yourself?

VGP: We don't have a laboratory and our reaction to proposals--and this may seem rather incongruous--depends to a great extent upon who is making the proposal. In most instances these are individuals, basement chemists, who think they have something and are exploring it and we tell them to go ahead and check it out and if it will stand leaching, then we'll take another look at it. And usually, we don't hear from them again. But, here again, we received a letter in the mail unsolicited from the Stanford Research Institute stating that they had been doing work for the government on fire retardants on fabrics and they thought they had a formula which would work for wood shingles. Well, Stanford Research is a big name in industry, and I immediately got on the phone and within two weeks, a man was appearing before our board of trustees. The net result of that is a program which is in process today hoping to develop a dip treatment for wood shingles and shakes.

ERM: This has not been tested yet?

VGP: No, it is still in the development stage. We are just entering phase two. About ten years ago, the American Zinc Company came to us and said, "We think we have something." American Zinc is a pretty big name in industry, so we went to St. Louis, and we entered into a contract with them whereby in return for a certain promotional support, they gave us rights to the patents. That formula didn't work out either.

ERM: You can't really ignore the little operator either.

VGP: We can't ignore them. We do not feel obliged, however, to check the discoveries out for these individuals until and unless they themselves have subjected the material to leaching. If they submit it to a leaching test, whether it's an accelerated Weather-Ometer test or whether they put it out in the weather for a couple years and come back to us and say it still works, then we'll take a look at it. We are not a chemical screening agency.

ERM: There have been a number of fashion trends in shingles and shakes. Could you describe some of these in detail?

VGP: Right after World War II, there was a tremendous surge of interest in the use of our shingles for siding. There was a great need for a quality siding product of wood. We had our standard sawed shingle and we had a rebuted, rejointed shingle which had precision edges so that they could be fitted on a wall and they'd give a clapboard or siding effect. We also had machine grooved--machine striated--shakes which were actually shingles with one face striated and edges reparalleled. This was a very popular product for about fifteen years after World War II. Then about 1950, it dwindled in popularity and today, while it is still a substantial item of commerce, it is by no means as popular as it was thirty years ago. This was a style item, pure and simple. At that time, horizontal lines on houses were in vogue. When laid double, shingles would give heavy, deep shadow lines which would accent the horizontal.

The handsplit shake has come on strong since about 1955. Each year they continue to show increased popularity. There have been other style trends, maybe not of substantial impact or import, such as the fancy-butt shingle. We displayed a fan of fancy-butt shingles in our exhibit at the American Institute of Architects convention in San Francisco about fifteen years ago. We did it just for kicks. We thought the architects would get a chuckle out of these old-fashioned shingles which were in vogue back at the turn of the century, in the Victorian era.

ERM: They had a double scalloped edge.

VGP: There are round, cove butts, acorn style, diagonal, all types of designs. The net result of our display was the architects didn't think it was funny. They thought it was very interesting, they took it seriously, and we started to get letters from them. Some of them started designing shingles into interior designs, or on gable ends and so forth, on exteriors. The thing spread and was picked up by the press and now the fancy-butt shingle, while it isn't a big thing, is rather substantial. They are not only being produced by the mills but they are being cut in the field on table saws. Anybody with a jigsaw can take standard shingles and trim them into dimensional widths and then cut the fancy butts. It's quite a business. We see more and more evidence of it.

ERM: On the wall here in your office you have shingles applied in interesting fashions.

VGP: That brings to mind another trend that is occurring now. We

are bringing indoors a product which traditionally and historically has been an exterior product. We're advertising it for interiors. It is coming into vogue in a big way.

ERM: Is this a use found primarily in homes, or is it in cocktail lounges, hotel lobbies, et cetera?

VGP: Both homes and commercial establishments, dining rooms and this sort of thing. On this wall you'll notice what we call fashionable fours, a number four grade shingle downfall, the bottom grade, with knotholes and all kinds of grain and sapwood in it. It's normally used as undercoursing, the concealed layer, in double course shingle wall application. Now it's being picked up and used for interior walls because it has texture. It has grain and design but is not symmetrical or planned.

They have been used for stall showers in homes, even for ceilings. There is a wild house out in Norman, Oklahoma that was designed and built for his own use by the head of the department of architecture at the University of Oklahoma. It's a very, very unorthodox house; it was described in one trade magazine as resembling a chicken hatched from an egg laid by a hen who had been digesting the drug thalidomide. The entire walls and ceilings of that house are shingles, but not the floors. You had an extremely warm feeling once you got into that house.

ERM: What about interior layout of shingles?

VGP: You can do almost anything, use one nail per shingle, glue them, staple them, anything you like.

ERM: There have been some exotic uses of shingles. One time they were used in making candy boxes. These boxes were made with Rite-Grade inspected shingles and were so stamped.* The boxes were then used as a trade promotion idea. Have such uses ever caught on in any substantial way?

VGP: No, they were mostly gimmicks. Their only value to us is in

*"A Novel Use for the Western Red Cedar Shingles," Lumber World Review 34, no. 11 (June 10, 1918): 35.

terms of getting us a feature item for an article in the journals or in the consumer magazines. There have been designers who have taken shingles and applied them on interior walls in patterns which give sunburst effects, or even designs that simulate a pastoral scene. In fact, I've seen pictures in Sunset Magazine within the past two or three years where they've taken shingles and following a certain pattern have gotten beautiful overall designs.

ERM: Do they sculpt the shingles themselves or is it a matter of laying them up in certain patterns?

VGP: Both. They sculpt them, trim them in order to get rounded effects, and also they lay them up in a certain pattern. There is an outfit making prefabricated mailboxes using shingles but the market is very small, something we don't take seriously. We pick it up with tongue in cheek.

ERM: In Castle Rock, Washington, two ladies many years ago published a supplement to their local newspaper.* This supplement was printed on 9" x 16" shingles. Have you seen any of these?

VGP: No, I don't remember that at all. Years ago we published menus on miniature shingles and distributed them free of charge to lumber dealers banquets. Some people have printed business cards on miniature shingles. One time my father ran out of checks at his mill. He had write a check for someone and he wrote it on a shingle and the bank honored it. There's also the old phrase when you go into business, you hang our your shingle. The word shingle also has application to certain wave effects on sandy or rocky beaches. They refer to the slope of the beach as the shingle.

*"The Latest News of the Lumber World," Lumber World Review 32, no. 1 (January 10, 1917): 32.

TRANSPORTATION OF SHINGLES AND SHAKES TO MARKET

ERM: You have referred to the interest of the Bureau through the years in the matter of railroad rates, car supplies, losses in transit, et cetera. Can you comment any further on that matter?

VGP: We have subscribed to the services of the traffic department of the Western Wood Products Association for many years. They advise us whenever we have a problem, which isn't very often. We do have our standing traffic committee but it is not very active because normally we don't have problems that are unique and distinctive to our industry only. What hurts the lumber industry, hurts us and vice versa. We find that the work they are doing benefits us. We do have some problems, of course. One is the problem of bundle breakage. It is gradually being solved through increased use of palletized shingles and shakes. More and more of our products are being shipped in steel strapped units or packages of maybe a dozen or twenty or fifty bundles each as opposed to individual bundle loading. The boxcars jostle about as they go across country and the bundles break and the buyer has a mess on his hands and is very unhappy with the product. But that's gradually being solved through greater and greater palletization and utilization of shipments. The freight car shortage was also a problem but it's just as much a problem to the lumber and plywood industries as it is to us. There is a continuing shortage of boxcars. Our boxcar supply in America is too low.

ERM: Hasn't that almost always been the case?

VGP: Right. In fact, William Whitfield recounts one enterprising shingle manufacturer during a boxcar shortage who obtained open coal cars, loaded shingles into them, and then built a shingle roof over the whole thing and sent them out. He was a rather ingenious individual.

ERM: What about truck transport?

VGP: Since the thirties, trucks have played an important role in the transportation of shingles and shakes. This is due, in part, to the eminence of the California and West Coast markets, particularly in shakes, but also to a considerable extent in

shingles, and to the improvement in truck transport where now we have trucks shipping our products as far east as Salt Lake City and Denver and even Kansas City.

ERM: Do any of the companies maintain their own means of transportation to markets? Do any of the firms have their own trucking?

VGP: I know some companies have trucks for local deliveries but not for long hauls. One or two of the companies have contracted for railroad cars that are assigned to them on a full-time basis. In other words, when the car is unloaded at a destination, it's returned directly to that same mill, empty. This is a contract deal made with the railroad.

ERM: Can truck transportation really compete with rail?

VGP: Yes, it can. In fact, it has some built-in advantages. The truck can go right to the mill. Many of these mills are not on railroads and if they are to ship by rail, they have to truck from the mill to the railroad siding where it can be loaded. That's an extra expense. Then at destination the railroad car has to be unloaded and the shingles or shakes either hauled to a distribution yard or to the job site. When you have truck transportation, the trucks sometimes will go direct from the mill to the building site, right to the target where the houses are being built and, of course, that short-circuits a lot of extra expense.

ERM: What has been the history of your industry's relation with the carpenters trade? It's my understanding that roof framing has to be prepared differently for a shingle roof than it does for other types of roofing.

VGP: It doesn't necessarily have to be any different, but traditionally, shingles and shakes are applied on spaced or open or slat sheathing, normally one by fours laid on eight-inch centers. Shingles can be applied to a solid deck of plywood or shiplap matched boards. There is no necessity to apply them on slat sheathing although in most instances they are. In areas where there are large projects, you'll find roofing crews or sheathing crews who apply nothing but spaced boards and they do it very proficiently, very rapidly. However, in other areas of the country, you'll find sheathing as well as roofing applied by the carpenters. Normally they are not nearly as proficient as the roofing subcontractors who are specialists in shingle and shake application.

LABOR AND UNIONS

ERM: What do you recall about the history of labor relations in your industry? Can you pinpoint particular times when they have been most critical and what issues were at stake?

VGP: I think Paul Smith could answer that much better than I.* I do know that shingle weavers down through the years have been very temperamental and quick to jump off the job. In recent years, however, the shingle union has been relatively peaceful. The last big strike was in the 1930s when weavers struck for the six-hour day here in Washington and Oregon. There have been small strikes in the meantime.

ERM: Have they been dealt with on an individual company basis or on an industry-wide bargaining basis?

VGP: I would say most of them have been dealt with on an industry-wide bargaining basis. Although there have been wildcat strikes and wildcat settlements, so to speak.

ERM: Has the Bureau played an important part in negotiating contracts?

VGP: No, none whatsoever. We have members on both sides of the border. The entire same set of conditions prevail in Canada as does here, and anything the Bureau would do on behalf of the U. S. shingle manufacturers would be of little or no interest to the British group and vice versa. Because of this the U. S. Red Cedar Shingle Industry was formed during the early thirties. It had two activities, one was labor negotiations for the U. S. industry and the other was an attempt to establish tariffs or duty impediments to the import of shingles from Canada. The organization has been out of existence at least fifteen years.

*Paul R. Smith Views the Western Red Cedar Industry, 1910 to the Present, typed transcript of tape-recorded interview conducted by Elwood R. Maunder (Santa Cruz, Ca.: Forest History Society, 1975): 22-40 passim.

- ERM: From 1915 to 1917 the British Army recruited heavily from the labor force of the B. C. mills.* As a result, the Canadian operators then began offering and paying unusually high wages in attempts to draw American labor into their country. White shingle sawyers getting fourteen cents a thousand, union scale, for sawing on machines in this area of Washington were offered sixteen to twenty cents in Canada. Skilled loggers were offered fifty cents per day more than they were getting here. Has that condition shown itself in other times in the industry, for example, in the early years of World War II? Has there been a mobile work force going back and forth across the line?
- VGP: There has been some movement back and forth. But there are legal impediments to that too. You have to get a work permit. I think it's renewable once. After a man has been here a certain length of time, or been up there a certain length of time, he must make a decision on citizenship.
- ERM: Has the character of the labor force undergone any noticeable change over your lifetime and that of your father?
- VGP: Yes, I would say so. The shingle weaver is far more domesticated today than he was in the old days when many of the younger, single men roamed from mill to mill. Shingle production was an exciting challenge to them and they competed as to who was the fastest and the best sawyer. There was also a great deal of boozing it up. It was a fast life.
- ERM: Very much along the same patters as in the lumber camps and lumber mills.
- VGP: Yes. There was a great deal of antagonism between shingle weavers and loggers or sawmill people. The shingle weaver looked down on the sawmill man and vice versa. I think if there was a caste system, the logger was regarded as the top of the totem pole and the sawmill worker and the shingle worker were probably lower down. I think the logger felt that he was king of the mountain.

*"Shingle Makers Strike in the Northwest," Lumber World Review 30, no. 11 (June 10, 1916): 47.

- ERM: The big, strong Paul Bunyan type.
- VGP: That's right, and there were frequent physical challenges to determine whether or not that was fact or fiction.
- ERM: This tended to change as the work force became more domesticated and more rooted in the local community, as the mills became perhaps a little more stable and long-lived.
- VGP: Right. You found fewer and fewer mills out in the bush. For example, I was born at a self-sufficient shingle mill camp on a lake. The men had their own bunkhouses and cookhouses and their own dynamo to provide electricity. It was only five or six miles from the nearest town, but it took a long time to get there with horse and buggy, horse and wagon, or Model T Ford. That mill closed down about 1920 or 1921. Then we moved into town and Dad established a mill on the river where life was a lot easier and less rugged.
- ERM: In the early days, British Columbia operators were accused by their U. S. counterparts of hiring Chinese labor at low rates of pay which gave the Canadians the distinct edge in price on the product.* Do you remember any details of that period of time?
- VGP: I've been aware of the fact that there were crews of Chinese in some of the mills. You see less and less of them today. East Indians or Hindus also seem to gravitate to the lumber mills in British Columbia. I am told that in these mills where there was a large crew of Chinese workmen, the employer paid one man who was the head guy, so to speak, and he dispersed the money to the sawyers and packers.
- ERM: Are these nonunion mills?
- VGP: I don't know whether or not they are union.
- ERM: What has been your impression of the efficiency of the Chinese labor force as compared to the labor force in this area?

*"The Life or Death of Our Shingle Industry," speech by K. S. Duncan to Illinois Lumber and Builders' Supply Dealers' Association, Chicago, published in Lumber World Review 28, no. 4 (February 25, 1915): 27-9.

- VGP: My impression is that it is possibly less volatile and probably not as efficient or as energetic. I think the whole tempo of things in British Columbia is not as fast-paced as in the United States--in all matters. That's pretty generally accepted and it's true, I think, in the shingle mills. I don't think they have ever produced shingles per hour at the rate that we have in the United States.
- ERM: Did the IWW ever have any influence on the labor scene in the shingle industry?
- VGP: I believe so but this goes back to World War I days of which I'm not too familiar.
- ERM: Do labor unions play as big a role in your industry today as compared to earlier times?
- VGP: There are unions both in the U. S. and Canada representing the shingle workers. I don't know about shake workers in Canada, but in the U. S. most of the shake industry is not under a union. We have a six-hour day in shingles and an eight-hour day in shakes, by and large.
- ERM: What is the union that you deal with?
- VGP: It's a branch of the AFL-CIO, United Brotherhood Carpenters and Joiners. In British Columbia it's IWA, International Woodworkers of America.
- ERM: Was Oriental labor used to any extent in Washington and Oregon?
- VGP: In the shingle industry, I am not aware of it.
- ERM: The Lumber World Review for July 25, 1914, stated that the Turgeon Mill in Seattle had started a cooperative plan in which the worker shared in the responsibility of running the mill and also shared in the earnings. This resulted from what was called a deplorable state in the shingle market which had persisted for some time. What efforts in the direction of profit sharing and management sharing have you witnessed in your time?
- VGP: I have witnessed a number of mills that have gone co-op, where the ownership of the mill evolved upon the employees, and in practically all the instances these haven't been too successful. I remember one in Kelso, Washington which ran

successfully for many years. Somehow or other, the ownership or at least the management of this co-op mill seemed to be concentrated on two or three men who had the active management and who were, without question, the bosses who made the decisions. As far as profit sharing, I know of only one mill that actively has a profit-sharing plan, the M. R. Smith Shingle Company.*

ERM: In other words, the idea has not caught on in any large way in the industry.

VGP: Not to my knowledge.

*See Paul R. Smith Views the Western Red Cedar Industry 1910 to the Present, typed transcript of tape-recorded interview conducted by Elwood R. Maunder (Santa Cruz, Ca.: Forest History Society, 1975): 27, 80-2.

CONCLUSION

- ERM: What has been your industry's relationship with the U. S. Forest Service?
- VGP: Our industry has not had too much contact with the Forest Service in recent years because our members are, by and large, not timber-owning corporations. A number of them, however, are loggers and do contract logging for themselves and others and consequently have dealings with the U. S. Forest Service. But we are not nearly as involved with the Forest Service as the sawmill or plywood industries. We have had contact with various government agencies over the years, of course, including the NRA [National Recovery Administration] and the OPA [Office of Price Administration], which incidentally, had opposite functions. One set floors and the other set ceilings on prices. It depends upon the general economic conditions at the time. We have had contact with the National Bureau of Standards and the Department of Commerce. We've been in contact with the Federal Trade Commission, the Antitrust Division of the U. S. Department of Justice, various government agencies, but not on a major basis.
- ERM: You don't find yourself running back and forth to Washington, D.C. very often?
- VGP: No, and probably one reason for that is that this type of work is delegated to the National Forest Products Association. They carry the ball for us in that area and they do it very well.
- ERM: What about at the state level?
- VGP: We have some control with the State Department of Conservation and Development and various other groups, but not much.

ERM: In the University of Washington Library there is a reminiscence of W. C. Schultheis of the Seattle Cedar Lumber Manufacturing Company. This was given to the university's historical manuscripts collection through the courtesy of William M. Black, the late president of the company.

VGP: I knew Schultheis. I believe he's dead.

ERM: Do you recall any history of that particular local company?

VGP: Yes, they are one of the pioneers. I know them very well. As a matter of fact, the February 1894 issue of the Puget Sound Lumberman lists all of the mills and their cut during the previous year. Seattle Cedar was active in the town of Ballard, now part of Seattle. It was the third largest producing unit. I believe they got started about 1888 or 1889 by the McEwen Brothers and the McEwens were the fathers of two daughters whose husbands operated the mill for years. The husbands' names were Leo Black and Keith Fisken. Black's two sons, Allan and William became active in the management of the company. And eventually Allan Black went on to home building and other activities, and Bill Black operated the company for a good number of years. Only last year, under duress of log supplies and Japanese log purchases, the mill was permanently closed as far as being a cedar mill is concerned. It was a rather sad day in the cedar industry because it has long been a major producer of shingles and cedar siding, the Maltese Cross brand. It was a great company and left its mark on the cedar industry in a big way. It's sales manager, John McCrory, was an especially effective man.

ERM: Over the years there have been a number of efforts made by the Market Extension Service of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association and other trade associations to excite the interest of cedar manufacturers in exploring new and more profitable markets for their raw material, such as boat decking, mine shaft lining, crossing plank for railroads, beehives, incubators, brooders, crates, boxes, caskets, et cetera. I know that your association has been rather singleminded in its concern for production of shingles and shakes, but I would imagine that some

of this trade discussion has been directed at you or to you and without very much response from the members of your industry.

- VGP: That's basically true, we remain singleminded. Our charge is to promote the use and the acceptance and the popularity of red cedar shingles and shakes. The expansion of cedar markets are something which normally would fall to the log owner or possibly the cedar lumber mill operators. We are interested in shingles and shakes, and at this time, only those products.
- ERM: I take it that, of the cedar logs cut in the woods, there is a certain portion that are ideally suited for shingle and shake manufacture and the other parts of the log lend themselves to other manufacturing processes.
- VGP: That is correct. First of all, the cedar siding producers seek the clear part of the log. Then you get into a number 2 or a high-grade two. It can be converted into cedar siding and frequently is, but the shake producers like that grade. Usually it will be a little farther up the tree and it isn't quite as clear a log. It has some defects that you wouldn't find in number 1 cedar. Then you get to number 3 cedar which is a shingle-type cedar. Lumber or shake mills can use it but it is more practically converted into shingles. Then you get into the tops which go to the piling and the post people. The shingle, and to a lesser extent the shake industry, can function economically in today's world because if you take a log that is filled with defects--knots, holes, splits, and so forth and put it on a carriage in a lumber mill and cut it into lumber, or put it on a lathe and peel it into plywood, you'd end up with a lot of down-fall. But if you reduce that log into small units of shingles and shakes, from the process of that reduction, you can eliminate the defects, trim out the knots and end up with an all clear, all heartwood, all vertical grain number 1 product which has substantial market value. By reducing the log to small elements like shingles and shakes, you can come up with a good realization from that low-grade log. That's the essence of our existence.
- ERM: I saw in the Rite Grader for November 22, 1922 a cartoon in which there was an enemies list and the enemies were dancing around a maypole on which the shingle industry was tied and they were giving him a hard time. The enemies were identified as the patent roofing manufacturers, the asphalt producers, the rag roof merchants, and Underwriters' Laboratories. Are these enemies still on the list?

- VGP: Well, we had a run-in with the asphalt roofing manufacturer as recently as sixty days ago. They lose no opportunity to make it difficult for us to sell our products and we defend ourselves as best we can and to date, I think we've done reasonably well. As far as Underwriters' Laboratories is concerned, we've had no direct problems with them, but over the years we've felt that they haven't treated us quite fairly.
- ERM: What about the rag roof merchant?
- VGP: That's a synonym for asphalt shingles. Originally, asphalt shingles were made with a rag base. Now they are made with a pulp or paper base. The product isn't as good, as a result.
- ERM: What about the patent roofing manufacturers?
- VGP: Same thing again. Patent shingles, composition shingles, asphalt shingles, rag roofs, paper shingles, they all add up to about the same thing. To us they're terms of derision rather than affection.
- ERM: I gather, too, from reading back issues of your own association papers, trade journals and things, that in the battle against substitute materials it was always a relative few in your industry who really put their shoulder to the wheel and fought off these attempts to put you down. In particular, there was a battle back in 1922 in California over what was identified in the Rite Grader as a vicious housing act. This referendum was defeated in the California election that year, but in the Rite Grader, the editor wrote that this defeat was due in large part to the rallying of the lumber industry of California in opposition to this referendum. It was defeated by quite a thumping majority but in commenting upon this the editor says this is due no thanks to the great majority of shingle producers who have sat in the breeches all through the battle. There were some who got into it and fought it and put up money to fight it, but in good part the majority were not involved, they did not support the battle. I don't suppose that's as true today as it was back then?
- VGP: No. We've had several fights down there of a legislative nature. These problems have been pursued on an industry-wide basis through the Bureau and we enjoyed the support of the vast majority of the industry, so it can be said that they all put their shoulders to the wheel.

ERM: Virg, I'd like to express my thanks to you for the very good interview. Do you feel that we've covered the subject in an adequate way or do you see areas in which we might have delved a little deeper and sought out a little more information?

VGP: One thought crossed my mind, and that is that you have been to a considerable extent touching on matters that I consider to be current events, recent history rather than what I would normally look upon as history. Anything that has occurred in my lifetime, I don't regard as history. I regard that as current. There is a lot of tremendous history in this industry that goes way back to the first twenty years of this century and the last ten years of the nineteenth century, from 1890 to 1920. A lot of things went on, even into the 1930s, that I've no knowledge of, except by rumored report. Those were the big years of our industry. Those were the years when the shingle industry was a dominant factor in the economy of the Pacific Northwest, and the reason for it was because the cedar was there and the markets were there. It was an exciting and boisterous era. I regret very much it has never been set down on paper, and whatever you can develop and dig out about that era of the shingle industry I think is very desirable.

ERM: That will be the purpose of my interviews with Paul Smith, Charles Plant, and Hal Stilson.

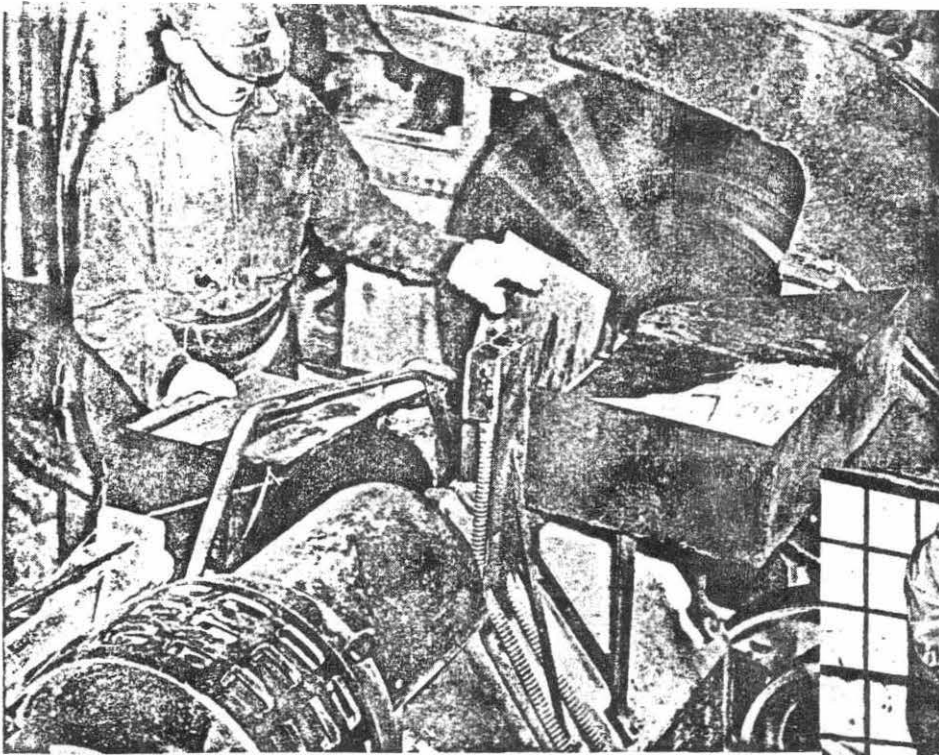
VGP: Thank you for your consideration.

APPENDIXES

Men Still Boss Their Machines

Nation's Business

Vol 29, May, 1941



Machine is complicated and efficient but each block of wood requires separate treatment

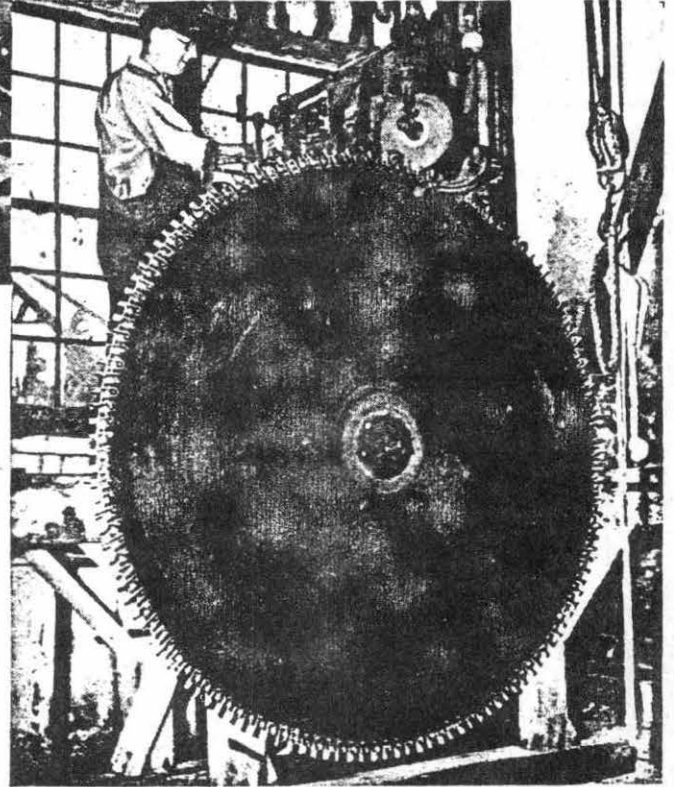


A packer builds up each bundle of shingles

THE RED CEDAR shingle industry of the Pacific Northwest is one of the few manufacturing processes which have defied inroads of the machine. A pride of workmanship almost without parallel in any other business is found throughout the industry.

This enterprise of considerable proportions, turning out somewhere between 4,000,000,000 and 5,000,000,000 shingles yearly, is confined to the states of Washington and Oregon and the province of British Columbia because the giant western red cedar trees grow in commercial quantities only in this area.

Due to the nature of the involved operations in the manufacture of red cedar shingles the ratio of men and machines



Sharpness of saw depends upon ability of workman to operate an automatic gummer

has changed little in the past 50 years. Different types of machines have been introduced, but no equipment has yet been devised to take the place of the "shingle weavers," as the mill workmen are known.

When the logs are drawn from the mill pond into the factory, large circular saws cut them off into sections of desired shingle length.

A skilled shingle sawyer slices off shingles with amazing speed and precision, but even here it is the operator rather than the machine who determines the quality of the shingles. He tends two saws, adjusts their cutting rims, squares the edges of the shingles, trims out all knots and defects, grades the shingles, and handles a myriad of other tasks which a machine cannot possibly accomplish.

From the sawyer the shingles go scooting downstairs to the packing room where they are assembled in frames and bound into bundles, in an operation which demands the attention of men rather than machines. A vast majority of shingles being of random widths, the process of fitting them into the frames, plus a re-inspection and re-grading of each shingle to catch any defects which the sawyer might have overlooked are tasks which only a human eye and a human hand can accomplish.

—VIRGIL G. PETERSON

Quoted from Pioneer Reminiscences of Puget Sound, by Ezra Meeker, (Seattle, Wa.: Lowman & Hanford Stationery and Printing Company, 1905), pp. 536-538.

A letter from Peter Skeen Ogden and James Douglas (Hudson's Bay Company agents at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, written to Dr. William F. Tolmie, the Company's agent at Fort Nisqually), of July 3, 1846, makes the first mention of the shingle business I have found, and it shows that the Company had purchased shingles previous to that date. Here is the paragraph: 'If it would be any accommodation you may ship the shingles on hand at Nisqually and all the last year's salmon at Victoria to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) by the Rosalind, paying one and one-half dollars per barrel for the salmon or per thousand shingles; or, if there be any opportunity of selling the shingles to advantage you are at liberty to dispose of them.' Simmons, McAllister and party arrived in October, 1845, and already the shingles made by them had begun to accumulate in July, 1846.

A summary of these purchases after February, 1847, taken off the old books of the Company by Mr. Huggins, shows an aggregate of 1150 thousand, for which not less than three dollars per thousand and from that to ten dollars were paid. As it is practically a roster of the settlers in that region at that time, I give the names. (40 names listed).

In 1885, the writer bought of Schwabacher Bros, & Co. good shaved shingles at two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand, and on them the firm made a good profit and the makers made good wages. This shows that the early settlers had no reason to go hungry, when they could make from five to fifteen dollars per day shaving shingles.

. . . . Of the amount named above, James McAllister is credited with two hundred and twenty thousand, or nearly one-fifth the whole number, and for 35 1/2 thousand he was paid at the rate of ten dollars.

Doctor Tolmie inaugurated this traffic and, notwithstanding large shipments made to the Sandwich Islands and to other places, at times the stock on hand reached large proportions. Along in 1849, he grew apprehensive the Company would suffer loss. He wrote to James Douglas, then his superior officer, telling him the condition of the business and asking orders as to whether he should reduce the price or discontinue buying them. Mr. Douglas replied, 'We must assist these poor people and cannot see them suffer for want of the necessities of life.' He instructed Dr. Tolmie to continue buying shingles at the old price of three dollars, as it would in the long run turn out all right. A market would be found for the shingles somewhere and he was confident the Company would suffer little or no loss in the transaction.

Sure enough, in the beginning of 1850 the Puget Sound country began to feel the effects of the mining of gold in California. In March the brig Sacramento, Capt. Alex Monat, an old Hudson's Bay Company employee, arrived at Nisqually seeking a cargo of plies, lumber and shingles. He paid Luther H. Collins, then of Nisqually but late one of the first settlers in King County, three dollars each for one hundred and five small piles and Dr. Tolmie thirteen dollars per thousand for 121 thousand shingles....

Shingle Production

All figures are given in terms of 4-bundle squares for shingles and 5-bundle squares for shakes. The figures shown from 1908 to 1930 have been converted from thousand-pack to square-pack, on basis of there being 1/3 more shingles in a thousand than in a square. The figures shown prior to 1934 are total industry production, whereas those since 1934 are for production of Bureau members only; as we estimate we represent about 90% of total output, these figures might arbitrarily be increased by 10%. Beginning in 1956, which was the year the handsplit shake industry was organized, the figures include shake production along with shingle production.

1908 -- 11,087,000	1929 -- 10,525,000	1951 -- 4,528,000
1909 -- 13,385,000	1930 -- 6,521,000	1952 -- 4,111,000
1910 -- 12,828,000	1931 -- 4,549,000	1953 -- 4,119,000
1911 -- 12,051,000	1932 -- 3,414,000	1954 -- 4,272,000
1912 -- 12,060,000	1933 -- 4,217,000	1955 -- 4,592,000
1913 -- 11,148,000	1934 -- 4,315,000	1956 -- 4,085,000
1914 -- 11,132,000	1935 -- 5,404,000	1957 -- 3,655,000
1915 -- 11,393,000	1936 -- 6,139,000	1958 -- 3,905,000
1916 -- 12,148,000	1937 -- 5,728,000	1959 -- 4,330,000
1917 -- 12,635,000	1938 -- 6,070,000	1960 -- 3,943,000
1918 -- 9,412,000	1939 -- 7,303,000	1961 -- 4,077,000
1919 -- 11,903,000	1940 -- 7,447,000	1962 -- 4,219,000
1920 -- 10,536,000	1941 -- 7,661,000	1963 -- 4,999,000
1921 -- 10,663,000	1942 -- 6,938,000	1964 -- 5,149,000
1922 -- 13,004,000	1943 -- 4,589,000	1965 -- 5,061,000
1923 -- 11,531,000	1944 -- 4,206,000	1966 -- 4,642,000
1924 -- 12,697,000	1945 -- 3,467,000	1967 -- 4,607,000
1925 -- 13,185,000	1946 -- 3,226,000	1968 -- 5,601,000
1926 -- 11,527,000	1947 -- 3,867,000	1969 -- 4,639,000
1927 -- 11,007,000	1948 -- 4,053,000	1970 -- 4,196,000
1928 -- 10,780,000	1949 -- 4,313,000	1971 -- 5,332,000
	1950 -- 5,114,000	1972 -- 5,714,000
		1973 -- 5,533,000 (est.)



National Forest Products Association
1619 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202-332-1050

June 19, 1975

Ms. Barbara D. Holman
Oral History Editor
Forest History Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 1581
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Dear Ms. Holman:

I am responding to your request for information on the Morse Amendment.

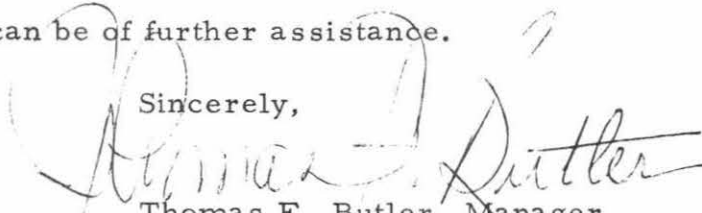
The amendment which limited the export of unprocessed timber from Federal lands located west of the 100th meridian to no more than 350 million board feet per year, was Part IV of Public Law 90-554, approved October 8, 1968 (16 U. S. C. 617). A copy of the amendment extracted from the 1968 Act is attached.

The amendment was to expire in 1971. The 91st Congress, however, extended it until December 31, 1973. This time the legislative vehicle used was Public Law 91-609, the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970. A copy of the pertinent section from the 1970 Housing Act is attached.

You, undoubtedly, are aware that following expiration of the Morse Amendment, the restriction on exports of timber from Federal lands west of the 100th meridian was continued via provisions contained in appropriations acts for the Department of Interior and related agencies. Funds for the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are contained in Interior appropriations measures. A copy of the pertinent section extracted from Public Law 93-404, the fiscal year 1975 Interior Department Appropriations Act, also is attached.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Thomas F. Butler, Manager
Legislative Information Service

Attachments

Sec. 401. The Act of April 12, 1926 (44 Stat. 242; chapter 117)²¹ is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

"Sec. 2. (a) For each of the calendar years 1969 through 1971, inclusive, not more than 350 million board feet, in the aggregate, of unprocessed timber may be sold for export from the United States from Federal lands located west of the 100th meridian.

"(b) After public hearing and a finding by the appropriate Secretary of the department administering Federal lands referred to in subsection (a) that specific quantities and species of unprocessed timber are surplus to the needs of domestic users and processors, such quantities and species may be designated by the said Secretary as available for export from the United States in addition to that quantity stated in subsection (a).

"(c) The Secretaries of the departments administering lands referred to in subsection (a) may issue rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of this section, including the prevention of substitution of timber restricted from export by this section for exported non-Federal timber.

"(d) In issuing rules and regulations pursuant to subsection (c), the appropriate Secretaries may include therein provisions authorizing the said Secretaries, in their discretion, to exclude from the limitations imposed by this section sales having an appraised value of less than \$2,000."

20. 22 U.S.C.A. § 2381 et seq.

21. 16 U.S.C.A. § 616 et seq.

P.L. 91-609

LAWS OF 91st CONG.—2nd SESS.

Dec. 31

to the insurance risk of the Corporation with respect to such institution, and would not be a means of facilitating the sale of (1) property purchased from any savings and loan holding company or any affiliate thereof other than such service corporation, or (2) property heretofore owned, legally or beneficially, by any savings and loan holding company or affiliate thereof".

TIMBER FOR HOUSING NEEDS

Sec. 921. Section 2(a) of the Act of April 12, 1926, as amended (16 U.S.C. 617(a)),²² is amended by striking out "1971" and inserting in lieu thereof "1973".

Approved December 31, 1970.

Pub. Law 93-404

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Unprocessed
timber, sale
restrictions.

Sec. 301. No part of any appropriation under this Act shall be available to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture for use for any sale hereafter made of unprocessed timber from Federal lands west of the 100th meridian in the contiguous 48 States which will be exported from the United States, or which will be used as a substitute for timber from private lands which is exported by the purchaser: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to specific quantities of grades and species of timber which said Secretaries determine are surplus to domestic lumber and plywood manufacturing needs.

Space and
services, pay-
ment, limita-
tion.

86 Stat. 219.
40 USC 490.

Sec. 302. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for paying to the Administrator of the General Services Administration in excess of 90 per centum of the standard level user charge established pursuant to section 210(j) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, for space and services.

Short title.

Sec. 303. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein. This Act may be cited as the "Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1975".

Approved August 31, 1974.

INDEX *

- Abney, Harry, fieldman,
RCS&HSB, 39
- A. C. Dutton Lumber Corporation,
65
- advertising, 32-8, 48, 51-2,
64-5, 75-6, 87-8, 116
- AFL-CIO, 131
- Africa, 13, 22
- Alaska, 13
- alder, 21, 66
- American Forest Institute, 68
- American Home, 7
- American Institute of Architects,
annual meetings, 38-9, 123
- American Plywood Association,
22, 68
- American Wood Council, 68, 70
- American Zinc Company, 122
- Anderson, John, architect, 37
- Anderson, Ralph, architect, 37
- Annual Red Cedar Shingle Congress
(1919), 32
see also West Coast Lumber-
men's Association
- architects and architecture
influence in building design,
19-20, 37-8, 48, 123-4
see also under names of
individual architects
- Architectural Record, 75
- Arkansas, 53
- Army, U.S., Spruce Production
Division, 24
- Arnold, Thurman, 104
- Asia, 13
- asphalt roofing, see composition
roofing
- Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers
Association, 53
- Atlantic Coast, 25
see also East Coast
- Australia, 105

*For purpose of conserving space, Red Cedar Shingle Bureau and Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau are abbreviated in this index, i.e., RCSB and RCS&HSB.

- Baker and Stimson Advertising
(afterwards F. E. Baker
Advertising; N.W. Ayer/
F. E. Baker, Inc.), 36
- Barker, Frank, RCS&HSB, 114
- Bergstrom, George, C. B.
Lumber and Shingle Company,
77
- Berkus, Barry, architect, 37
- Better Homes and Gardens,
19, 68
- Bevan, Arthur, secretary-mana-
ger, RCSB, 65-6, 103, 115-6
- Bird, Professor Henry A., 106
- Black, Allan, Seattle Cedar
Lumber Manufacturing
Company, 134
- Black, Leo S., Seattle Cedar
Lumber Manufacturing Com-
pany, 87-9, 134
- Black, William M., Seattle
Cedar Lumber Manufacturing
Company, 134
- Blackman Brothers Shingle
Mill, 26
- Boeing, W. E., 24
- Bone, Senator Homer T., 81
- Botsford, Constantine, and
Gardner (afterward: Botsford
Ketchum, Inc.), 36
- Botsford Ketchum, Inc. (formerly
Botsford, Constantine and
Gardner), 36
- British Columbia, 11, 13, 15, 25,
27-8, 48, 96, 115, 69-70
British Columbia Forest
Products, 34
Council of Forest Industries
of B.C., 105
see also Canadian shingle
industry
- British Columbia Forest Products,
34
- British Columbia Lumberman, 74
- Bumgardner, Al, architect, 37
- Burrett and Powers Shingle Mill,
77
- Cabot, shingle stain manufacturer,
97
- California, 24, 56, 78, 82-3, 101,
126
California Redwood Associa-
tion, 68
cedar shake market, 19-20,
55
fires in, 26, 50, 55-9
legislation against wooden
shingles, 53-6, 136
redwood shakes, 9, 96
San Francisco Bay Area, 26,
36-7, 56, 96, 123
Southern, 37, 50-1, 54-5, 57-9
- California Lumber Merchant, 74
- California Redwood Association,
68
see also redwood

- Callister, Charles, architect, 37
- Canada, 49
 British Columbia, 11, 13, 15, 25, 27-8, 48, 69-70, 96, 115
 cedar resource, 13, 15, 18, 27
 New Brunswick, 25
 Quebec, 25
see also Canadian shingle and shake industry
- Canadian Forest Products Ltd., 34, 62
 Huntting-Merritt Shingle Division, 63
- Canadian shingle and shake industry, 25, 66, 116, 131
 cedar source, 13, 15, 18, 27
 exports, 92-3, 105
 foreign labor, 130
 grading, 80-1
 labor unions, 93-4, 128, 131
 membership in RCSB, 89, 128
 production, 34
 recruit U.S. labor, 129
 research, 81, 102
 U.S. tariff, 92-3
- Caribbean Ocean, 104-5
- Carlson, Olaf, C.B. Lumber and Shingle Company, 77
- C. B. Lumber and Shingle Company, 77
- cedar
 eastern red cedar, 23-4
 juniper, 22
 Port Orford, 13
 swamps, 3, 17
 white cedar, 22, 25, 96-7
 yellow-cedar, 13
see also western red cedar;
- Cedar Lumber Association, 18
- Central America, 18
- Certigrade Handbook of Red Cedar Shingles, 99n
- Certi-Split Manual of Handsplit Red Cedar Shakes, 66n
- Christ-Janer, architect, 37
- Civil War (American), 25, 75
- Clark, Donald H. 58, 65-7
 Institute of Forest Products, 66
 publications of, 66n, 108
- Clark, E. T., Pacific Northwest Loggers Association, 107
- Colorado, 54-127
- Columbia River, 26-7
- Commerce, Department of, U.S., 133
 cedar log export statistics, 42
 shingle grades established, 87
 square pack established, 30
- composition roofing
 asbestos, 47
 asphalt, 32, 51, 53-5, 59-61, 70, 135-7
- Connecticut, 25, 97
- Conservation and Development, Department of (Washington State), 133

- Constantine, C. P., 36, 63, 81
- Cook, Mortimer, 81
- Cornwall, George, The Timberman, 75, 89
- Council of Forest Industries of B.C., 105
- C. P. Constantine Advertising Company, 36
- Crafts, Dale, RCSB, 62, 64, 89
- Crow, Carl, Crow's Lumber Digest, 74
- Crown Zellerbach, 2
- Currier, Raymond A., author, 117n
- cypress shingles, 8, 81
- Dana, Samuel T., Forest and Range Policy, 23
- Despres, Frenchy, shingle sawyer, 95
- Dionne, Jack, 74
- Douglas-fir, 13-4
- Duncan, K. S., 130n
- Dye, Ira, 104
- East Coast, 20, 37, 70, 81, 83, 101
- eastern red cedar, 23-4
- E. C. Miller Cedar Lumber Company, 62-3
- England, 23, 66, 105
- Evans Products Company, 34
- export, western red cedar
Bureau's position, 108-9
to Canada, 42
to Caribbean, 105
Don Clark writings, 108
to Japan, 41-5, 108, 134
- "Facts About Shingle Roofs," 74
- F. E. Baker advertising (afterward N. W. Ayer/F. E. Baker, Inc.), 36
- Federal Trade Commission, 92, 133
- fir, 16, 21, 69
regrowth, 42-3
- fire, 47, 77
Bror L. Grondal, 99-100
in California, 26, 50-1, 55-9
in Florida, 100
hazards of roofing materials, 52-4
insurance rates, 50, 52-3
National Fire Protection Association, 100
- Fish, Byron, author, 81
- Fisken, Keith, Seattle Cedar Lumber Manufacturing Company, 62, 134
- Florida, 24, 66, 105
Jacksonville fire (1918), 100
- Fluhrer, Russ, RCS&HSB, 114

- FMC Corporation, 22, 78, 117-8
- Forest and Range Policy, 23
- Forest Club Quarterly, 108
- Forest History, 69n
- Forest History Society, 59,
Forest History, 69n
publications of, 62n, 64n,
69n, 128n, 132n
- Forest Products Laboratory,
Madison, Wisconsin,
U.S. Forest Service, 81
- Forest Service, U.S., 44, 66,
133
Forest Products Laboratory,
Madison, Wisconsin, 81
- Foster, Richard, architect, 37
- France, 102
- Fritz, Professor Emanuel, 99,
101
- Good Housekeeping Seal of
Approval, 60
- Great Depression, The (1930s),
4, 41, 64, 106
effects of, 41, 84-9
Lumber Code, 84-85
National Recovery Act, 84
- Grondal, Professor Bror L.,
99-101, 120
Certigrade Handbook of Red
Cedar Shingles, 99n
- Gulf Coast Lumbermen, 74
- handlogging, 69-70
see also yarding
- Handsplitted Red Cedar Shake
Association, 57, 118
merger with Red Cedar
Shingle Bureau, 19, 72,
89, 112-3
- Hanna, Jack, RCS&HSB, 114
- Hansen, Congresswoman Julia
Butler, 43
- Hawaii, 37
- Hawthorne, Colonel J.M., 92
- Heimsath, Clovis, architect, 37
- hemlock, 2, 14, 16, 43, 69
- Hight, John W., early shingle
mill operator, 26, 77
- History of Snohomish County,
Washington, 12, 25n, 26n
- Hoh River Cedar Products, 34
- Horn, Stanley, editor, The Timber-
man, 75
- House & Home, 75
- House Beautiful, 19
- Hudson's Bay Company, pro-
duction of shingles and
shakes, 24
- Hurn, Speed, shingle sawyer,
95

- Idaho, 15, 28
- Illinois, 74
- Illinois Lumber and Builders' Supply Dealers' Association, 130n
- Indian Affairs, Office of, 44
- Indian (American), 29, 45
labor, 9-10, 28
use of cedar, 8-9
- Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), 131
- Ingram, R.M.; E. C. Miller Cedar Lumber Company, 62-3
- insurance, see fire
- International Conference of Building Officials, 53
- International Woodworkers of America, 131
- Iowa, 53
- Jamaica, 105
- Japan
purchase of U.S. cedar, 13, 42-3, 45, 49, 63, 108-9, 134
- J. H. Baxter Company, 102, 121
fire retardant research, 102, 121
- Johns, Sam, RCS&HSB, 62
- Johnson, Bolling Arthur, editor, Timber World Review, 74
- Johnson, General Hugh, National Industrial Recovery Act administrator, 84
- Justice, U. S. Department of 133
- Kansas City, 7, 127
- Keep Washington Green Association, 66
- Koppers Company, fire retardant research, 102, 121
- Korean War, effects on shingle and shake industry, 90-1
- Kyne, Peter B., author, 56
- labor
Canada employs American sawyers, 129
foreign, 130
Indian (American), 9-10, 28
strikes, 128
unions, 93-4, 131
- labor unions, 93-4
Industrial Workers of the World, 131
International Woodworkers of America, 131
Shingle Weavers Union, 93, 128
see also labor
- lauan, 18
- Levesque, Sandy, shingle sawyer, 95

- Lewis and Clark Expedition,
8
- live oak, 23-4
- Loth, Hugh, fieldman,
RCS&HSB, 39
- Louisiana, 53
- Lumber Code, 84-5
- Lumberman, The, 74
- Lumber World Review, 27,
32n, 77n, 92n, 97n,
98, 99n, 121, 124n,
125n, 129n, 130n, 131
- McCrary, John, 134
- MacMillan Bloedel, 22, 34,
62-3, 65
- Maine, 25, 28
- Massachusetts, 25, 97
Plymouth Plantation, 8
- Maunder, Elwood R., execu-
tive director, Forest
History Society, 5, 62n,
64n, 128n, 132n
- May, Cliff, architect, 37
- Meany, Professor Edmund S.
8
- Meeds, Congressman Lloyd
43
- Meeker, Ezra, Pioneer
Reminiscences of Puget
Sound, 25, 139-40
- Menzies, Archibald, discovers
western red cedar, 8
- Michigan, 25
- Midwest (U.S.), 6-7, 20,
39, 70, 81, 101
- Miller, E. C.; E. C. Miller
Cedar Lumber Company, 63
- Mississippi River, 53
- Mississippi Valley Lumberman,
74
- Missouri, 53
- Montana, 13, 15
- Monte, Fred, RCSB shingle
inspector, 110, 120
- Morse Amendment, 44, 143-4
- Mount Rainier National Park,
15
- M. R. Smith Shingle Company,
34, 62
profit-sharing plan, 132
see also Smith, Paul R.
- National Association of Home
Builders, 38-9
- National Bureau of Standards,
60, 133
- National Fire Protection
Association, 100
- National Forest Products
Association, 68, 70-1, 133

- National Industrial Recovery Act (1933), 84
- National Lumber Manufacturers Association, 63
- National Recovery Administration, 133
- Nation's Business, 7
- Natural Resources, Department of (Washington State), 44
- Navy, Department of (U.S.), 23, 63
- Newberg, Ed, shingle sawyer, 95
- New England, 20, 25, 82, 96-7
- New Jersey, cedar swamps, 17
- New York, 65, 101
Ellis Island, 1
white cedar shingles, 25
- Northeast (U.S.), 23, 46, 82
- Northern Pacific Railroad, 19
- N.W. Ayer/F.E. Baker, Inc., (previously Baker and Stimpson Advertising; F.E. Baker Advertising), 36
- Oklahoma, 7, 124
- Olsen, Sam, fieldman, RCS&HSB, 39
- Olwell, Henry, RCS&HSB, freight rates, 55, 62-3
- Olympic National Park, 15
- Olympic Peninsula, 15, 20, 95
- Olympic Stain Company, 7
- Oregon, 13, 20, 26-8, 42, 83, 89, 106, 115, 128
- Oregon State University, 117n
- Ozette Timber Company, 2
- Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau, 108
- Pacific Northwest, 1, 9, 14, 26, 28-9, 35, 43, 51, 55, 81, 109, 137
- Pacific Northwest Hardwoods Association, 66
- Pacific Northwest Loggers Association, 107
- Paint Manufacturers Association of the U.S., 121
- Panama Canal, 70
- Parker Brothers Shingle Mill, 119
- Paul R. Smith Views the Western Red Cedar Industry, 1910 to the Present, 62n, 128n, 132n
- Pehl, Will, RCS&HSB, 114
- Pendleton, Crosby, C.B. Lumber and Shingle Company, 77

- Pennsylvania, 83
- Penoyar, Bill, RCS&HSB, 114
- Peterson, Charles, 1, 16
 depression years, 84
 homestead, Clallam County,
 Washington, 1-3
 membership in RCSB, 4,
 6, 70
 shingle interests in Washing-
 ton, 2-6, 9-10
- Peterson, Jane Berkey, 7
- Peterson, Virgil G.
 family background, 1-2
 birthplace & boyhood, 3
 education, 5
 work in father's shingle
 mills, 5-6, 85
 employed by Red Cedar
 Shingle Bureau (1939), 6-7
 marriage & children, 7
 articles by, 7, 140
- Philippines
 Iauan, 18
- Pinkey, Jim, shingle sawyer,
 119
- Pioneer Historical Publishing
 Company, 12n, 25n
- Pioneer Reminiscences of Puget
 Sound, 25, 139-40
- Plant, Charles; MacMillan
 Bloedel, 62-4, 137
- Port-Orford-cedar, 13
- Price Administration, Office of,
 U.S., 133
- Puerto Rico, 105
- Puget Mill Company, 27
- Puget Sound, 8, 26-7, 86
- Puget Sound Lumberman, 134
- Quinault Indian tribe, 29
- railroad logging, 3-4, 69
see also yarding
- Reader's Digest, 68
- red cedar, see western red cedar
- Red Cedar Shingle Bureau (after-
 wards Red Cedar Shingle &
 Handsplit Shake Bureau)
 advertising, 36-7, 75, 116
 annual meetings, 87, 89
 Bror L. Grondal, 99-101
 depression years, 87-9
 effects of Korean War, 90-1
 fieldmen, 7, 91, 101, 120
 formation of, 4, 41, 65, 80
 inspectors, 110
 leadership, 55, 62, 64, 66, 87,
 89, 106-7, 120
 membership, 86-7
 merger with Handsplit Red
 Cedar Shake Association,
 19, 72, 89, 112-3
see also RCS&HSB
- Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit
 Shake Bureau (previously
 Red Cedar Shingle Bureau),
 18, 95, 109, 120
 annual meetings, 64
 anti-shingle legislation,
 57-8
 budget, 39-40
 dues, 73-4

RCS&HSB, contd.

- fieldmen, 39, 58
- formation of, 19, 72, 89, 112-3
- inspectors, 73
- labor negotiations, 128
- leadership, 58, 62, 64, 114-5
- membership, 13, 35, 48, 64, 69, 72-3, 107, 113-6
- position on exports, 43-5
- publications of, 66n, 99n 117n, 118n
- relations w/trade associations, 68-73
- research, 18, 22, 47, 59
 - 78, 81, 117-8, 121-2
 - trade promotion, 35-9, 46, 48, 51-2, 64-5, 75-6, 87-8, 116
 - see also Donald H. Clark; Red Cedar Shingle Bureau
- redwood, 14, 20, 76, 99, 101
 - California Redwood Association, 68
 - shingles and shakes, 9, 31, 73, 96
- research, 18, 47
 - Bror L. Grondal, 99n-101, 120
 - fire retardant, 17, 59, 101-2, 121-2
 - FMC Corporation, 22, 78, 117-8
 - Forest Products Laboratory (Madison, Wisconsin), 81
 - Stanford Research Institute, 22, 59, 102, 122
- Ritchie, Marshall, fieldman, RCS&HSB, 39
- Rite-Grader, 135-6
- Rite-Grade Shingle Association, 32
 - formation of, 65, 80
 - Don Clark, 65-6, 108
- Roles, Dick, shingle sawyer, 95
- Roosevelt, President Franklin Delano, 85
- St. Paul-Tacoma Lumber Company, 83
- salvage timber logging, 4, 16
- Saturday Evening Post, 36
- Schafer, Frank, RCS&HSB, 114
- Schultheis, W.C., Seattle Cedar Lumber Manufacturing Company, 134
- Scott Timber Company, 11
- Scroggins, Thomas L., author, 117n
- Seattle
 - fire (1889), 1
 - newspapers, 67, 77, 81, 110
- Seattle Cedar Lumber Manufacturing Company, 26, 134
- sequoia, 20
- Shakertown Corporation, 34
- Sherman Anti-Trust Act (1890), 84-5, 103-4
- shingle and shake mills, 26, 49, 77, 84-6, 90, 95, 119-20, 129-30
- shingles and shakes, wooden
 - cypress, 8, 81
 - exports, 42
 - legislation against, 57-8, 136
 - redwood, 9, 31, 73, 96

- shingles and shakes, contd.
 southern pine, 100
 square pack, 30
 staining and painting, 46-7,
 66, 82, 97
 styles, 26, 123, 125
 thousand pack, 30, 41, 87
 uses, 82, 97, 123-5
 white cedar, 25, 31, 73,
 81, 96-7
see also, western red cedar
 shingle and shake industry
- shingle bolt, 69
 physical characteristics, 21
 yarding, 3, 5, 14, 28
- Shingle Branch, West Coast
 Lumbermen's Association, 48
 advertising, 32-3
 formation of, 4, 98
 H. P. Wycoff, 65
 withdraws from WCLA, 33,
 72
- Shingle Weavers Union, 93, 128
- Shon, D.O.L., author, 69n
- Sitka spruce, 2
- Smith, Paul R.; M.R. Smith
 Shingle Company, 34, 62,
 128, 132, 137
- South America, 18, 104-5
- Southern Cypress Manufac-
 turers Association, 97
- Southern Forest Products
 Association, 68
- Southern Lumber Journal, 74
- Southern Lumberman, 74
- Southern Pine Association, 97-8
- Spruce Production Division,
 U. S. Army, 24
- square pack, 30-1, 87
- Stanford Research Institute, 22
 fire retardant research, 59,
 102, 122
- Stilson, Harold M., 138
- Sunset Magazine, 125
- Sweden, 1
- tariffs
 supporters of, 92-3, 128
- Teshera, Jim, author, 118n
- Texas, 7, 37, 39, 55
- "The Handlogger: Unique British
 Columbia Pioneer," 69n
- thousand pack, 30, 41, 87
- Timber World Review, 74
- Timberman, The, 24, 74-5, 87,
 89, 103
- Time, 68
- trade associations, 32-4, 52, 64,
 68-74, 81
- trade press, 74-6
- tree farms, 71
- Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc.,
 59-61, 102, 121, 135-6

- Uniform Building Code, 53-4
- United Brotherhood Carpenters and Joiners, AFL-CIO, 131
- United States, 19, 128, 131
cedar log exports, 13, 42-3, 45, 49, 63, 108-9, 134
decline in cedar siding production, 49
import of shingles from Canada, 93, 128
shingle and shake production, 27-8, 31
- United States Congress, 23, 43, 92
- U.S. Red Cedar Shingle Industry, Inc., 92, 128
tariff supporters, 92, 128
- University of Minnesota, 5-6
- University of Oklahoma, 124
- University of Washington, 5-6, 63, 67, 106, 119, 134
- upright shingle machine, 78-9
- Utah, 127
Utah Lumber Dealer's Association, 6
- Vallejo, General Mariano Guadalupe, 9
- Valley of the Giants, 56
- Vancouver Expedition (1792), 8
- Vancouver, Captain George, 8
- Vietnam War, 90
- Virgin Islands, 101, 105
- Virginia
Dismal Swamp, 8
- Von Schrenk, Hermann, author, 97
- War Production Board, 90
- Washington (state), 1-5, 7, 10, 12-6, 26, 32, 42-3, 63, 77, 81, 89, 109, 119, 125, 128-9, 131
cedar log exports, 42-4
Puget Sound, 8, 26-7, 86
Seattle, 1-2, 7, 12n, 20, 25n, 26, 29, 37, 64, 66, 83, 86, 92, 115, 131
shingle production, 27-8
Tacoma, 1, 19, 22
- Washington, D.C., 133
- Washington, George
Mount Vernon 8-9
- West Coast, 19-20, 25, 37, 70, 83, 126
- West Coast Lumbermen's Association, 36, 63
Market Extension Service, 134
Shingle Branch, 4, 32-3, 48, 65, 72, 98
- western pine, 13
- western red cedar, 2-4
by-products, 21, 46, 48-9, 117, 134-5
competitive woods, 96-7
discovery of, 8
durability, 14, 16-7

- export of, 13, 42-5, 63,
108-9, 134
- location of, 13-6, 27, 69
- lumber, 14, 18-9, 32-3,
38, 63, 85
- natural regeneration and
depletion, 14-5, 21, 42-3
- physical characteristics, 20
- plywood, 18
- pulp, 18
- siding, 49, 134
- swamps, 3
- use by Indians and pioneers,
8-9, 19
- see also, western red cedar
shingle and shake industry
- western red cedar shingle and
shake industry, 14, 27, 69,
110, 113
- architects & architecture,
19-20, 37-8, 48, 123-4
- Bror L. Grondal, 99-101
- building codes, 50, 53-5
- competitive building materials,
32-3, 47, 50-7, 59-61, 70, 135-7
- depression years, 41, 84-9
- Donald H. Clark, 58, 65-7,
108
- early manufacture, 8-12
- fire retardants, 17, 59, 101-2,
121-2
- freight rates, 55, 62-3
- grades and grading, 80-2
- impact of wars, 90-1
- influence of log exports,
41-2
- insurance rates, 50, 52-3
- kiln drying, 81-2
- leadership, 55, 62, 64, 66,
87, 89, 106-7, 120
- machinery, 77-8
- market expansion, 19, 46-8,
104-5
- mills, 26, 49, 77, 84-6, 90,
95, 119-20, 129-30
- railroad transport, 19, 55, 63,
70
- relationship with government,
133
- research, 18, 22, 78, 117-8,
81, 99n
- Shingle Weavers Union, 92-3
- trade promotion, 32, 35-9,
46, 48, 51-2, 64-5, 75-6,
87-8, 116
- truck transport, 83, 126-7
- U.S.-Canadian production,
27-8, 31, 35, 41-2, 70-3
84, 90, 131, 143
- upright shingle machine,
178-9
- see also Western Red Cedar
Shingle & Handsplit
Shake Bureau
- Western Red Cedar Lumber
Association, 63
- Western Wood Products Associa-
tion, 18, 68, 126
- Weyerhaeuser Company, 22, 34,
65
- white-cedar, 22, 25, 96-7
- white pine, 23
- Whitfield, William, History of
Snohomish County, Washington,
12, 25-6, 126
- Whiting, R.S., manager, RCSB,
65
- Whittall, Victor, Canadian
Forest Products Limited,
62-3
- Wilde, Ray, C.B. Lumber and
Shingle Company, 77

- Williams, Bill, Rite-Grade
Shingle Association, 65
- Wisconsin, 2, 81
- Wong, Worley, architect, 37
- Woodbridge, W.W., secretary-
manager, RCSB, 6-7, 37, 116,
119-20
- World War I, 4, 26, 28, 32,
70, 81, 90, 102, 129, 131
Armistice (1918), 3
see also Army, U.S.,
Spruce Production
Division
- World War II, 38, 41, 46-7,
63-4, 85-6, 90, 107, 113,
123, 129
- Wycoff, H.P., West Coast Lumber-
men's Association, 65
- yarding, 69
shingle bolts, 3-5, 14, 28
- yellow cedar, 13