



Mrs. C. H. Clemons, widow of the logger for whom the Tree Farm was named, inspects the Tenth Anniversary plaque with J. P. Weyerhaeuser, Jr.

Ten Candles for Clemons

MORE than 2500 enthusiastic well-wishers, including the governors of two states, helped celebrate the tenth birthday of Clemons Tree Farm—the nation's first—on June 23.

The crowd began gathering early on the celebration day in Montesano's high school grandstand to hear Governors Arthur B. Langlie of Washington and Douglas McKay of Oregon commemorate the movement, which since 1941 has spread to twenty-nine states.

Montesano's streets were lined with huge lumber and log trucks piled high with local timber products in raw and finished form. A network audience heard NBC's National Farm and Home Hour switch from Chicago to the Montesano High School gymnasium where forestry industry notables and the two governors broadcast a ten-minute tribute to Clemons and the national tree farm movement.

Later, Washington's Governor Langlie told the local audience that "today the lumberman is no longer a timber miner, but a timber cropper. He is a businessman in the business of growing trees for future generations. The timber operation, in short, has come of age."

Governor McKay declared that "last year the 100-odd owners of some 3,700,000 acres of tree farms in Western Washington and Oregon spent \$15 million in tree farming. Businessmen don't spend that kind of money on long-term crops," he said, "unless

they mean business. I am convinced they believe it pays to grow trees as crops."

Sitting proudly among the dignitaries on the speaker's platform was Mrs. C. H. Clemons, widow of Charles Clemons, who logged much of the virgin timber in the Grays Harbor area. Mrs. Clemons unveiled a plaque commemorating the beginning of the American Tree Farm Movement in 1941. A special plaque, made in part of four different kinds of Northwest woods, was awarded to Weyerhaeuser Timber Company President J. P. Weyerhaeuser, Jr., in behalf of the company's employees and management "in recognition for the first tree farm in the U. S."

"More than 3000 owners of private timberlands in twenty-nine states have pledged their lands to permanent timber production," Weyerhaeuser said. "This has been a voluntary pledge, made because it is good business to treat timber as a crop. The forest industry has a right to claim great success in its last ten-year effort to win new followers to the trees forever program."

After watching an expert tree-topping demonstration at the edge of the high school playing field, most of the crowd lined up to consume several thousand free hot dogs and ice cream bars passed out by hard-hat-wearing local businessmen. Later a caravan of automobiles convoyed by several state patrol cars wound over a marked course on the Clemons Tree Farm to view results of ten years' development.

The grandstand at Montesano's high school play-field held a capacity audience for a tree-topping demonstration at the National Tree Farm Day show

