

File, WBL Personal

July 15, 1942

Mr. Peter Binford
Binfords & Mort
Graphic Arts Building
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Binford:

I surely hate to turn down your proposal to write and illustrate PAUL BUNYAN IN THE ARMY. Your consideration of me for the job and James Stevens' swell letter of recommendation are flattering and fully appreciated. You have a big and timely idea and there will be a big kick in the doing of it, but after all it is a commercial project, with deadlines to meet and it is impossible for me to undertake it at this time.

I have held your letter for several days trying to work out some time for the job, but there is none in sight, and the timeliness of your theme demands that you get going without delay. Right now my regular job takes full working hours, and other work that can't be set aside is taking up most of my evenings and week-ends.

To do the art work will take time. The quality standards you have set in the Turney-Price-Lyon books are high and there will be some military angles to check in consideration of the soldiers who will read your book.

Last year the Timberman published a series of Paul Bunyan drawings by a Portland artist, Fred Gong, a young Chinese-American. If you are not already familiar with his work I would suggest that you contact George Cornwall, editor of the Timberman, and look over these drawings. They impressed me as mighty good and if he is available he might be your man.

As for writing the copy, I think you will get a better job if writer and artist can work together. Each will give the other ideas in roughing out the layouts. If I undertook the job there would be delays in working it out by correspondence and the exchange of ideas would be missing.

You may be sure that I am not passing up the job without serious regrets and I thank you very much for considering me.

At your request a copy of PAUL BUNYAN AND HIS BIG BLUE OX is inclosed. This is a reprint of our 1922 version. Changes in format and incidental copy and illustrations have been made but the story text and illustrations are the original.

Yours very truly,

WBL:SF ✓
cc: James Stevens

incl.

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Dear Mr. Stevens:

That was a swell letter of recommendation you wrote to Mr. Binford in suggesting me for the writing and illustrating of PAUL BUNYAN IN THE ARMY. I have since heard from him and have replied as per attached copy of my letter to him.

Your build-up was generous and flattering. As a matter of fact I don't deserve a fraction of what you said about "invention" of the stories. Most of it came from stuff picked up. You know how it is with thoughts you carry around a while, after a time you can't tell for sure what is really original and what is not. Like your experience I never heard any of the Paul Bunyan material told as stories. The gaps were always sprung as references to well known facts just as you would mention the Declaration of Independence without the necessity of telling a story about it.

I sure would like to do Mr. Binford's book but there is no use trying it in fairness to him. Too many demands on my time to risk making deadlines.

The Paul Bunyan stuff for Red River has been my only writing venture outside of publicity grind. You speak of plagiarism (had a hell of a time spelling it). We encouraged it as our advertising carried little significance on the start as no one but a few loggers had heard of Paul Bunyan when we started. We did not copyright anything but patented the trademark as applied to wood products.

Your story in Mercury "The Black Duck Dinner" was the first I know of in the magazine field and I think you have had the biggest hand in telling the general public about Paul.

I have been carrying around the idea of a book for a long time without doing anything about it. Factual information of how loggers work. The operation in general, very briefly. Technical detail how the skinner, top-leader, river driver, wood butcher etc did their stuff in the old days and the donkey men, fallers and cat skimmers work today. Some Paul Bunyan and character stuff incidental. Illustrated with photos and sketches. It would take collaboration and I have always had you in mind for the job. Someday, if we both get time and you are interested ~~it~~ I'll give you the outline.

The popular conception of the logger, ancient or modern, as a muscular primitive has always burned me.

With thanks for the letter to Mr. Binford and best regards,

Yours very truly,

→ This is to a Portland publisher who has done
Benyan books by Ida Virginia Turney — now he's been
after me on one about Paul Benyan in the ~~story~~ — his son, now
in service, to supply outlines. It will be
a picture to a page — 31 in all — a 100-word story for each

James Stevens
719 Randolph Place
Seattle, Washington
July 8, 1942

Dear Mr. Birkford:

Sorry for the misunderstanding. I'll take the blame for it, as I probably failed to be explicit enough about what I can and cannot do in my present situation when I talked with Harry Hartman.

My own Benyan stuff is my own—I create it. And creative writing is hard, slow going for me. I can write captions for photographs or drawings easily enough, and put my own individual type of punch and brand of novelty into them. How I might do on rewriting your son's ideas and outlines I can't imagine. Certainly I don't want to hold you up, either in fees or in time. Let me suggest someone else.

~~First~~ W. B. Laughhead, first of all Paul Benyan writers, and major sufferer from plagiarists in the field. I am sure it will be news to you that of the stories on the sheets you sent me the onson Benny the calf, the snow-eating cow, the reversible dog and the rope ax handle were invented by Mr. Laughhead and published by him in a Red River Lumber Company advertising booklet in 1914. Mr. Laughhead is still advertising manager of the Red River Lumber Company, at Westwood, California, and he is still doing prize Benyan stories and art both. The only objection I know of his having voiced to other writers making money out of his original stuff was in 1922 or 1923, when Century Magazine ran an article that was a reproduction of his booklet, without credit to either Laughhead or his company. I used some of his stuff for touches of humor and color in my first Benyan, but with due credit. As the real logger does it, I made up my own tall tales. Paul and Babe are real folklore characters, but no one has ever collected the real Paul Benyan stories from the loggers themselves, for the simple reason that there have never been any to collect. I spent two years among old lumberjacks in Michigan verifying this fact.

You would be doing justice to the first and foremost of the Benyan biographers, and you would get excellent material, if you should secure Mr. Laughhead for your author and artist in one. I am sending him a copy of this letter, so he will know what's going on. Your Army Benyan will of course carry completely new material, so I don't mean to suggest that it would need any clearance from Mr. Laughhead. I really think here is a prime idea for you, provided Birkford is willin'. You can secure the Red River Benyan booklet from the Western Pine Association in the Yeon Building.

I have to be in Portland Tuesday, and if I can squeeze time out from a Committee meeting I must attend, I'll give you a call. Having stepped into the door you held open, I don't want to back out unceremoniously.

Yours sincerely,



THOMAS P. BROWN
PUBLICIST

~~1700 BOND STREET, RINCON ANNER STAM~~
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 14

615 - alvarado st

Evening of Wednesday, 10/8-47

Mr. William B. Langhead,
Westwood, California.

Muy amigo mio:

Thank you for Mr. Ed Crane's
article - Minneapolis Tribune - Paul
Dunyan.

It is interesting reading and I'm
inclined to believe what Crane writes
about you. In fact I think you
have done stellar work in re Paul
Dunyan. Some day I hope to write
a piece along this line & then I'll tell
about you.

I enclose copies of my column which
I'm writing for the Western Pacific
Reporter (Oct) each month.

Ever Cordially,

Tom P. Brown

ern Pacific Railroad, and Mrs. Florence Hellman Ehrman, in memory of their scholarly son, who was a U. C. graduate (1927), and who was working on a history at King's College, Cambridge, when he was stricken.

A recently published University of California brochure on endowed chairs quotes a "prophetic statement" by young Sidney Hellman Ehrman, which reads:

"History is a complex study, embracing as it does, not alone actual deeds, but the thoughts underlying these actions of past generations. In a comprehensive study of history, not only the physical actions of man, but the workings of his mind must receive emphasis.

. . . **The present is ever influenced by the past.** (Bold-face ours.)

CHEERFUL PEOPLE live long in our memory. A cheerful man is preeminently a useful man.—J. H. Friswell (James Hain), in Monroe's Sixth Reader, 1872.

ARGOT—If a Zulu is a section hand, what is a Fiji?

PRESS — The morning paper that I read last night.—M J. Gormley, Association of American Railroads.

GULLIBILITY—It is interesting to note how many geese fall for a quack.—Exchange.

TOURIST—Anyone found more than 50 miles from home and who can give no plausible reason for being there.—U. S. Travel Bulletin.

DOGOLGY—"A good gun dog is the best conservation insurance a sportsman can take out." Executive Director J. N. Ott, Jr., of the California Division of Fish and Game, Sacramento, declares: "Every game bird retrieved by a gun dog reduces the pressure on the remaining birds."

PROPAGANDA consists as much in omitting facts as in mak-

happier my spirit would be, if I had tried just a little harder. While the ground was under me.—P. M. Leaman, 32 Deg., K. T.

KIA ORA, which is to say, in the language of the Maori, "**BE WELL! BE HAPPY!**"—D. C., San Francisco.

Winnemucca Flashes

By LUIS C. VARGAS

One of the highlights of the news from Winnemucca Shop was a softball game between the Western Pacific Roundhouse and the Winnemucca Lions' Club, played for the Youths' Recreation Association. . . And boy, what a game it was! The W. P. boys started with a bang but ended on the short end of the score.

The lineup of the WP team was as follows: **Wayman Kelley**, pitcher; **Pete Arano**, catcher; **George Williams**, first base; **Ray Wilson**, second base; **Leonard Williams**, shortstop; **Hollen Floyd**, third base; **Ed Baker**, left field; **Nick Hernandez**, right field; **Wallace F. Bradley**, center field; **Clarence Wemmer** and **Irving Ziebart** were utility players.

As I said before, the game started out with a bang. **Pete Arano**, first man at bat smashed out a home run. He was followed to bat by **Wayman Kelley** who duplicated the fete. **Ray Wilson** followed Kelley to bat and also hit a home run. Cleanup batter **Bradley** stepped to the plate next and like his three teammates before him, blasted the ball far into space for the fourth consecutive W. P. home run.

George (Soup) Williams, however, put a damper of all these home runs by just barely beating the ball to first base. The game went on like a house on fire with **Wayman Kelley** and **Ray Wilson**

Monday, September 29, 1947

The Western Pacific Reporter - Sacramento -

At Large

By THOMAS P. BROWN

Publicity Manager, Western Pacific Railroad
San Francisco, California

(Copyright, 1947, by Thomas P. Brown)

RULE 6—Of course every man in train service knows memoriter, the "Book of John," i. e. "Rules and Regulation of the Transportation Department," wherein Rule G and Rule 99 are probably the best known of the commandments. Col laterally, here is a rule learned in the U. S. Army environs

While serving pre-World War II as a reserve officer at the Presidio of San Francisco, the Delegate-at-Large noticed a large placard on the inside of the entrance of the Ninth Corps Reserve headquarters building. It read: "Don't violate Rule 6."

Upon query, a major suggested that the placard be turned over. The legend lettered thereon read: "**Don't take yourself too b-l-a-n-k seriously.**"

RESEARCH is not a cost. It's an investment.—Nation's Business.

SHAKESPEARE was an intellectual ocean, whose waves touched all the shores of thought. . . . Nothing is known of his mother, except her beautiful name—Mary Arden. The truth is, that all great men have had great mothers. Great women have had, as a rule, great fathers.—Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll.

HISTORY EVALUATED — One of the endowed chairs of learning at the University of California is the Sidney Hellman Ehrman Professorship of History. This chair was endowed by Sidney Meyer Ehrman, who was one of the trust-

ing statements subject to verification.

BUILD YOUR LIBRARY by mail, says a postcard from a new Oakland, Calif., firm which goes on to say that the process will be found "easy, economical, interesting." That's an idea in tune with correspondence schools, university extension courses and like inventions which are a boon to the man whose days are dieselized and who therefore must burn the midnight warts to extend his intellectual horizon.

OUR BEST SELLER—Rasselas a philosophical romance, by Samuel Johnson, LL.D.

TRUTH—"It is one of the great tragedies of life that every truth has to struggle to acceptance against honest but mind-blinded students," said Sir William Osler. "Harvey knew his contemporaries well, and for 12 successive years demonstrated the circulation of blood before daring to publish the facts on which the truth was based."

EVERYMAN'S EPITAPH—Here I am underground. How much

"...a poor man and my working years are limited," said Mr. Adams. "I must save money to live on when I retire and I cannot do that on a brigadier-general's salary."

"That's reason enough," rejoined General Goethals, "but what's your other reason?"

"I'm a civilian now," explained Mr. Adams, "but if you put me in the Army, I'd have superiors, my orders would be countermanded, and I could not make good on the job for you."

General Goethals continued Mr. Adams as a civilian in charge of the nation-wide task. After this service Mr. Adams became vice-president, traffic, Union Pacific System, until called to the presidency of the Western Pacific (April 1, 1927) by Mr. Arthur Curtiss James, with whom was associated Mr. Thomas M. Schumacher.

The Delegate-at-large recalls that after Mr. Adams became the Western Pacific's president, he evinced aversion to the use of titles acquired previous to service with the railroad. Mr. Adams revealed this by saying "Mr." Judge Angellotti, then general counsel, "Mr." Colonel Mason, then vice-president and general manager, and "Mr." Colonel Williams, then chief engineer. Mr. Adams would remark: "If these gentlemen are colonels, then I'm a brigadier-general."

RUDIMENTARY—Never give a rattlesnake an even break.—
W. C. Fields.

INSCRIPTION on the San Francisco Public Library: May this structure, throned on imperishable books, be maintained and cherished from generation to generation for the improvement and delight of mankind. Founded, 1877. Erected, 1916.

SLUMGULLION—Should western words of argonaut vintage decide to hold a centennial banquet, this nomenclatural gem would be at the head table of the etymo-

using manager had overlooked it, mayhaps the office cat had glommed the copy. So, instead of a mundane advertising card there was printed: "PROVERBS VIII, 5"—only this and nothing more. The solution, according to King James' Best Seller:

"O ye simple, understand wisdom: and ye fools, be ye of understanding heart."

As D. H. Lawrence used to sign his letters: "May you live well for another year."

Courage: Fear holding on just a bit longer.

MILLER Automobile Co.

Dodge — Plymouth

Dependable Dodge
Trucks

32 Years Continuous Service

1415 Broadway, Sacramento
Tel. 3-5951

TEDDY'S TAXI and Yellow Cab Co.

3-4661

Complete Insurance
Protection

Limousine Service
For All Occasions

Thursday, July 31, 1947

At Large

By THOMAS P. BROWN

Publicity Manager, Western Pacific Railroad
San Francisco, California

(Copyright, 1947, by Thomas P. Brown)

ONE GOOD REASON suffices for a no; several reasons may be required for affirmative decision. This practical doctrine first impinged on the cerebral convolutions of the Delegate-at-large via Mr. Austin B. Fletcher, California's first state highway engineer. To point similar is an anecdote related by Mr. Harry M. Adams, immediate predecessor of Mr. Charles Elsey, president of the Western Pacific Railroad since Jan. 1, 1932.

When the U.S.A. entered World War I in 1917, Mr. Adams was vice-president, traffic, Missouri Pacific Lines. In 1918 he was loaned to our Uncle Sam to become chief of Inland Traffic Service (War Department), U.S. R.R. Administration, Division of Traffic. In railroad-ese, Mr. Adams was superintendent of transportation, or chief dispatcher, of the railroad trains of the United States. No train could move except per his laid-down directives; exceptions to the rules required his o.k.

Major General George Washington Goethals, the engineer whom T.R. picked to put the Panama Canal through, was Mr. Adams' superior officer. After assigning to Mr. Adams an office in the old War Department building in Washington, D.C., General Goethals suggested that Mr. Adams, then drawing a sizeable civilian railroad salary, be commissioned — presumably as a brigadier-general. To this Mr. Adams demurred, saying that he had two reasons for his no.

logical feast. Mark Twain avers that slumgullion was an alleged beverage. "It really pretended to be tea, but there was too much dish-rag and sand and old bacon-rind in it to deceive the intelligent traveler," says Mark in "Roughing It." Therein one may read of the cat that would—and did—eat cocoanut. Mark Twain also was the pseudonym of Isaiah Sellers, Mississippi River steamboat pilot who wrote for the Daily Picayune of New Orleans, the "City That Care Forgot."

RESOURCEFUL — Printers have an uncanny way of overcoming deficiencies, especially when it is close to press time and "she's about to roll." A few midnights ago we were browsing through "Artemisia," issued by the Class of 1899, University of Nevada—Harry Herbert Dexter, editor-in-chief, and Emmet Derby Doyle (later governor of the Sagebrush State), associate editor.

In the advertising section we found page xxv devoted to professional cards—attorneys, dentists—also "The Chop House," which, perhaps, was "Ope-oovil's." But there was one space not so filled—perhaps the adver-

had heard things and that it was reported that the commanding officer was ornery—using a milder term. Finally I convinced the yardmaster that it was his higher patriotic duty to transfer and he consented. The transfer was made at once and the next day we moved north to a point near La Rochelle, some 80 kilometres or so, distant."

A few mornings later Col. Williams was surprised to see his former yardmaster at the new location.

"What are you doing here?" said Col. Williams, sharply. "You belong with that other outfit down there. You must be AWOL."

The sergeant-yardmaster was quite unperturbed by this accusation—in fact admitted the truth. Then, looking directly into Col. Williams' eyes, he said, conversationally:

"Well, Colonel, I'll tell you how it was. **I had a run-in with that ab-ra-ca-dab-ra** (this is a euphemistic substitute for the rather well known American epithet) **down there and I quit!**"

TRUTH—Let us beware how we blend doubt with certainty and falsehood with truth.—Philosophy of History, by Voltaire (Francis Marie Arouet).

GEORGIA PEACH of a speller is 14-year old Mattie Lou Pollard who came from Tyrus Raymond Cobb's state to win the 20th annual orthographical meet at Washington, D.C. Knowing her vowels, doubtless she can spell facetious with eyes shut. Having come from a one-room school, where homely grammar is not snubbed, she probably can unparse that perfect imperfect sentence: "Is them sheeps yourn?"

BOOKS WANTED FOR POLICEMEN—Now more than ever, the men of the Palestine Police Force welcome the relaxation of reading. Books from home are

THE PEN is the tongue of the mind. This was a blackboard sentence which "Emmy Lou" (George Madden Martin, author) had to copy for penmanship practice. This novel is a modern classic, as pleasing though not as famous as Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

AUTHORS—No book is a hero to its proofreader.—Hill's Rhetoric.

So long, Letty. Vaya usted con Dios.

MILLER Automobile Co.

Dodge — Plymouth

Dependable Dodge
Trucks

32 Years Continuous Service

1415 Broadway, Sacramento
Tel. 3-5951

TEDDY'S TAXI and Yellow Cab Co. 3-4661

Complete Insurance
Protection

Limousine Service
For All Occasions

Thursday, June 26, 1947

At Large

By THOMAS P. BROWN

Publicity Manager, Western Pacific Railroad
San Francisco, California

(Copyright, 1947, by Thomas P. Brown)

SERGEANT YARDMASTER, SIR!—It gets into the blood. One may metamorphose a man into a railroader but there's no reversing the operation—one may not "wipe the clock." Even when attired in the habiliments of war the cavalier of the rails remains undazzled by silver leaves and unafraid of

spread eagles. He's still a railroad man—"for a' that and a' that." In point, here's a story told to the Delegate-at-large in the 1930's by Joseph White Williams who was chief engineer of the Western Pacific Railroad from Aug., 1921, until Feb., 1941, when he took off, alone as is the custom, on an unblazed trail for that unsurveyed terrain which lies, so they say, just beyond the drop-curtain of the sunset.

During World War I this splendid, Ohio-born engineer was lieutenant-colonel of the 18th Engineers in overseas service. Yardmasters were made sergeants as they commanded, i.e. bossed, other railroadmen likewise in uniform, so, Col. Williams explained. While the 18th Engineers were stationed near Bordeaux, France, the colonel of a similar command, who was sorely in need of a good yardmaster, asked Col. Williams if he would not transfer a certain yardmaster who had a reputation for getting results—this yardmaster, by the way, had enlisted from a western U.S. railroad.

"I did not want to lose this man," related Col. Williams, "but I promised to try to talk him into transferring. The yardmaster demurred on the ground that he

eagerly sought—will you please send any you can spare to Col. F. W. Syer, 27, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1?—Page one advertisement, airmail edition of the London Times, May 21, 1947.

STILL UNSOLVED—(1) Why did they build the ocean so close to the shore? (2) What Roman emperor first asked this question? Correct answers good for two tickets of admission to the Garden of Hesperides.

IN THE SIERRA—Near the shore of Gold Lake, California, which may be reached via Blairsden in the Feather River Canyon and Johnsville, a little garden clings to the mountain slope. In that garden, there is a rock on which have been cut these lines: "The kiss of the sun for pardon, The song of the birds for mirth, One is nearer to God's heart in a garden,

Than anywhere else on earth." This is the fourth stanza of "The Lord God Planted a Garden," by Dorothy Frances Blomfield (Mrs. Gerald Burney).

Box 173
Susanville California
9-26-50

Dear Mrs. Shepherd:

Here is the Paul Bunyan dummy and the copy as written for the space laid out on each page. The dummy is tentative as to size and number of pages. I am sending it only to show the pencil roughs of the illustrations and to tie them up to the copy.

This dummy was worked out to fit the size of our offset press and a production plan to cut the cost of the extra color runs. We intended to print it in our own shop but gave that up when we realized what we would be up against trying to distribute and sell it. That end of the publishing business is no spot for a printer.

The size and number of pages could be increased without upping the cost very much by running it on a larger press and that would make a better book.

When The Red River Lumber Company's Paul Bunyan book was in circulation there were many requests for quantity lots from dealers. Despite the fact that a large part of the book was used to advertize the virtues and products of Red River it had an acceptance that dealers thought they could cash in on particularly in the Paul Bunyan country (Minnesota Wisconsin and Michigan. As Red River was not in the book business and sent out copies only on individual requests the dealers could not be accomodated.

Since Red River was liquidated (1944(I have had requests from that country and from some spots on the West Coast for a book that would sell at a price for tourist pickup. No doubt you know how travel promotion is geared to Paul Bunyan in Minnesota and Michigan. With this in mind I provided for optional inserts, the blank pages in the book. For quantity orders from certain regions the insert pages could be used for local publicity, maps, photos and special copy tying Paul to that locality. (That may shock your ethics but the motives for this book were entirely mercenary) Of course the inserts would be out if the book is directed to another field or to places where localization would not help sales.

This detail about the dummy may not interest you. On the other hand as one of Paul Bunyan's original sponsors you may be amused by some of the angles in the devious detours Paul has travelled since you gave him a push toward fame. I thought you might question the format of the dummy so give this explanation.

Please let me know what you think of it. Your opinion is worth more than that of anyone I know of. Because you knew Paul way back when he ~~was~~ was a logger and I know you don't think much of some of the stuff written about him by city dudes.

With all my best regards,

Sincerely

1214 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California
July 21 -51

Dear Archie:

Here is a reprint of an article in the Journal of American Folklore about you and Paul Bunyan and others . It is by Max Gartenberg the lad who wrote to you asking access to the Red River files. He has a book coming out on the subject . Another book of scholarly deductions about Paul Bunyan will be authored by a man named Dan Hoffman.

Imaginer that !!! It's like Dan Fagan or Windy Carve going to college.

I hope you are still taking nourishment, liquid and solid.

As ever

John L. Westrum

HOPKINS, MINNESOTA

Western Forest Products

HOpkins 9850



July 23, 1952.

Mr. W. B. Laughead,
Susanville, California.

Dear Bill:-

We are now celebrating our Minneapolis Aquatennial. This is an annual affair, and considered the largest summer attraction in our State.

I enclose a souvenir of this occasion, and you will note that your good friend Paul is now the President of the "Blue Snow Bank.

With best regards,

Yours truly,

A cursive handwritten signature that reads "John L. Westrum". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned over the typed words "Yours truly,".

JLWestrum/w

WHITE FIR
DOUGLAS FIR
WESTERN RED CEDAR

SUGAR PINE
PONDEROSA PINE
IDAHO WHITE PINE

LARCH
HEMLOCK
REDWOOD

"Personal Service to the Yard and Industrial Trade Since 1924"

Susanville
July 29 1952

Dear John:

Many thanks for remembering me with your mailing of the Paul Bunyan bank note. I always heard that Paul made big money and this must be some of it.

I would like to get some information about the Minneapolis Aquatennial. I have always received newspaper coverage of the St. Paul midwinter show but have had nothing on the Aquatennial.

If it is convenient for you to get some newspaper pictures, a program and some figures on attendance etc. that indicate its scope I would greatly appreciate it. Also some extra bank notes, if still obtainable that I can send to Paul Bunyan fans and some friends here on the Coast. The redwood country is beginning to use Paul Bynan in a big way, some large animated statues, a Paul Bunyan lumberjack show etc.

It is always good to hear from you and would be glad to get a letter once in a while about yourself and Mrs. Westrum and ~~kk~~ things in general.

With thanks and best regards

As ever

1214 Pardee Ave
Susanville California

PAUL BUNYAN "HEAP BIG" WAMPUM - N.G.

THIS CERTIFIES THAT A WEALTH OF GOOD CHEER-GOOD WILL & GOOD TIMES IS THE TREASURE OF
THE MARVELOUS DOMAIN OF MINNESOTA

**ONE HUNDRED
EXAGGERATED BUCKS**



I C U R A N U T I M I 2

Mrs. Lippi
Overflower of the BANKS



NO PASSUM

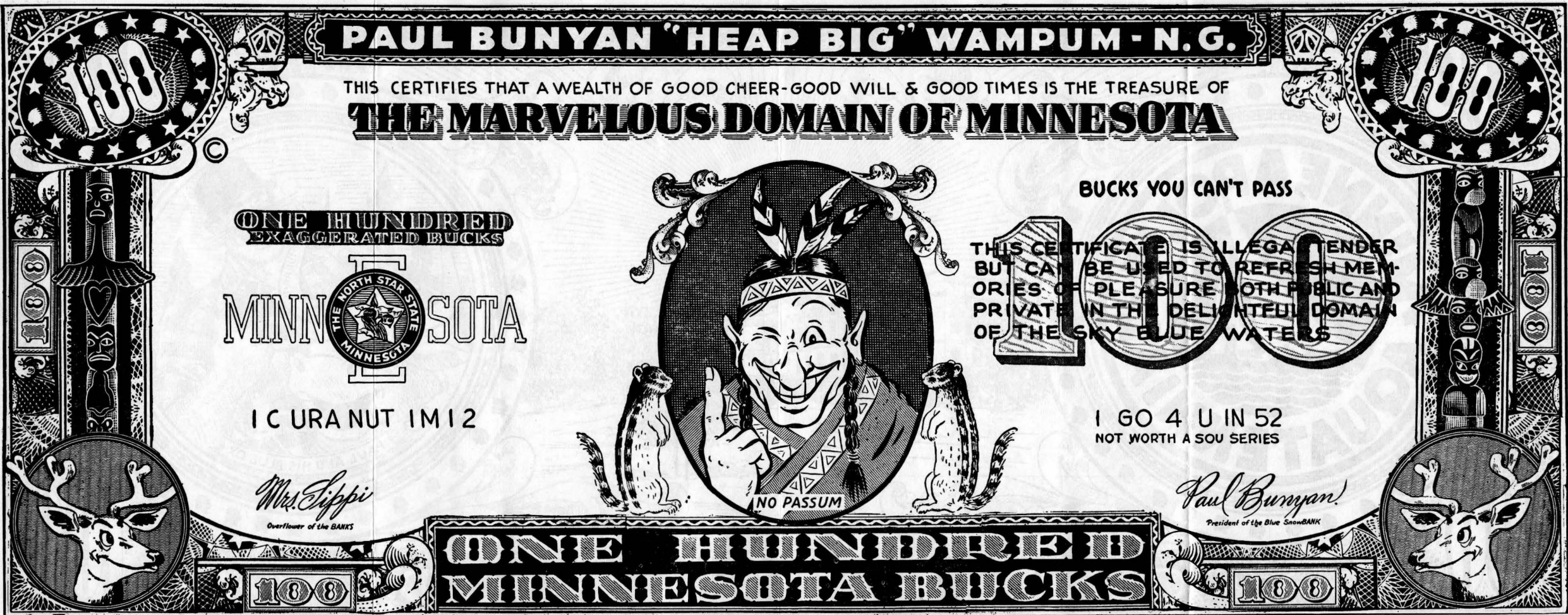
BUCKS YOU CAN'T PASS

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ILLEGAL TENDER
BUT CAN BE USED TO REFRESH MEM-
ORIES OF PLEASURE BOTH PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE IN THE DELICIOUS DOMAIN
OF THE SKY BLUE WATERS

I GO 4 U IN 52
NOT WORTH A SOU SERIES

Paul Bunyan!
President of the Blue SnowBANK

**ONE HUNDRED
MINNESOTA BUCKS**



188

100

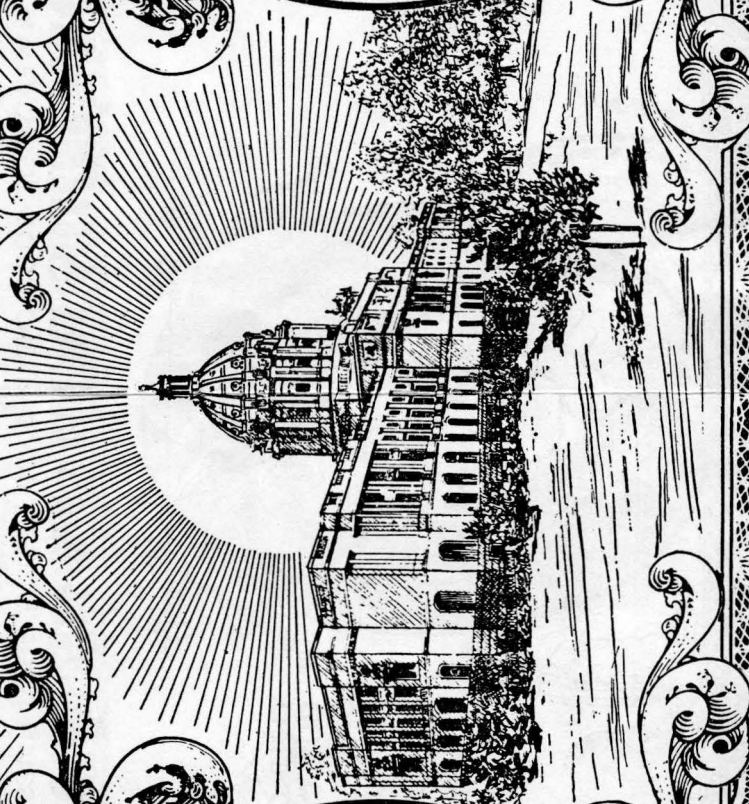
ONE HUNDRED MINNESOTA BUCKS
ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL CURRENCY, LIVING OR DEAD, IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

MINNESOTA HUNDRED



188

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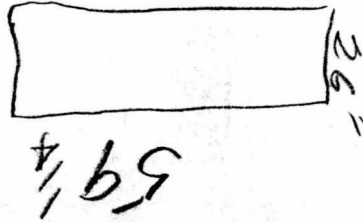
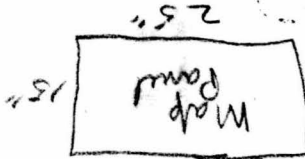
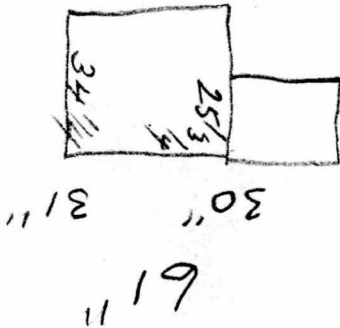




JOHN L. WESTRUM

Western Forest Products

HOPKINS, MINN.



Mr. W. B. Laughead,

Susanville, California.

The TIMBERMAN

AN INTERNATIONAL LUMBER JOURNAL

FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY
DIRECTORY
OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA

FOUNDED 1899 BY GEORGE M. CORNWALL (1867-1950)

EDGAR P. HOENER, PUBLISHER

519 S. W. PARK AVENUE

PORTLAND 5, OREGON, U. S. A.

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CANADIAN SUBSCRIPTION \$3.50 PER YEAR
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August 4, 1952

Mr. W.B. Laughead,
1214 Pardee Avenue,
Susanville, California.

Dear W.B.:

I am always glad that some circumstance finally prompts the continuance of the little correspondence between us, for over a period of years I have always enjoyed our cordial relations. My only regret is that our paths seem to cross far too infrequently.

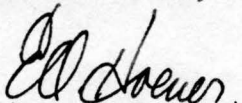
Your memory is very good. Mr. Peter Binford of Binfords & Mort, 102 N.W. 9th Ave., Portland, Oregon, is still a most logical individual with whom you may logically discuss the possibilities of publishing a book on any phase of the Paul Bunyan legends.

Incidentally, Peter and Morris Binford along with Ralph Mort are the principals of the Metropolitan Printing Company, who have handled the printing and binding responsibilities of THE TIMBERMAN and WESTERN BUILDING for more than twenty years.

With kind personal regards.

Yours very truly,

THE TIMBERMAN,


Edgar P. Hoener;
Publisher.

EPH:ems

Susanville California
June 12 1957

Editor
TRUE
67 West 44th Street
New York 36 New York

In the Strange But True section of your February issue it is stated that Paul Bunyan is "fake lore not folk lore".

So much has been written about Paul and so many critics and historians have disagreed about his status as a folk hero that almost any statement about him would be true,-- so far as it went but as a half truth it would not tell the whole story.

There was a Paul Bunyan legend in the old Pine camps and elsewhere about the land where nomad loggers wandered. Also the old boy has suffered from a lot of fakers.

If you would be interested in what really happened to launch Oaul Bunyan as an American demigod and something of the controversy that has followed you might look up Marshall Fishwick's article in Yale Review December 1951.

With some very minor inaccuracies it outlines correctly Paul Bunyan's progress and the author's classification Bunyan I and Bunyan II just about hits the mark.

Yours truly

328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville, California

W.B.Laughead

W. B. Laughead, Paul Bunyan's Creator, Records for Forest History Foundation

W. H. "Old Hutch" Hutchinson, of Chico, spent three days in Susanville last week representing the Forest History Foundation of Saint Paul, Minn. His visit was for the specific purpose of interviewing and recording the memoirs of W. B. Laughead, 328 Pardee Avenue, about Mr. Laughead's creation of Paul Bunyan as he is known today.

Of equal importance in view of the pronouncements by folklore students that Paul Bunyan is "fake-lore," not "folk-lore," was to determine from Mr. Laughead's testimony that he had based Paul Bunyan directly upon the anecdotes and oral traditions he had heard in the logging camps of the Lake States at the turn of the century.

The tape recordings made by Mr. Laughead will be deposited in the archives of the Forest History Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the records and history of the lumber industry, for the benefit of students and historians of the westward march of the lumber trade from Maine to the Pacific.

First Booklet in 1914

Only two major recorded instances of Paul Bunyan's name being used in print are known prior to 1914 when Mr. Laughead produced the first booklet "Introducing Mr. Paul Bunyan, from Westwood, California" as an advertising piece for The Red River Lumber Company, who wished to acquaint the trade with their impending move from Minnesota to California.

In this first booklet, Mr. Laug-

head not only printed the legends of Paul Bunyan for the first time but made the first drawing of Paul, as well as the first drawing of the famous Blue Ox, whom he named "Babe."

In this first booklet, Bill Laughead gave the names to Paul's supporting characters who, in the oral traditional stories about Paul had been nameless. These characters and the names Mr. Laughead gave them included Johnny Ink-Slinger, Sam Sourdough, Big Ole, Chris Crosshaul and many others whose names today are as much a part of the story as is Paul's.

A second Paul Bunyan booklet was written by Mr. Laughead in 1916 and distributed by Red River while the third edition of the stories, published in 1922, was distributed throughout the world in over 125,000 copies.

The popular knowledge of Paul Bunyan can be dated, according to Mr. Hutchinson, from the initial writings of Mr. Laughead, which were taken over, adapted, changed and often distorted beyond belief by myriads of writers who based their work on Mr. Laughead's advertising booklets.

The trademark head of Paul Bunyan, as used today by the Paul Bunyan Lumber Company of Susanville, is the same face that Bill Laughead conceived in 1914, basing the expression upon a lumberjack, Petere Dick, with whom he had worked in the woods at Bemidji, Minn., and taking the long-horn moustache from that work by Charley Revoir, a French-Canadian cook.

Susanville California
September 26 1957

Dear Hutch:

The book was in my mail box when I got home last night and I sat up till all hours exploring it and getting a kick out of everything I saw.

What a job. Almost every paragraph shows the product of long and painful research tossed off in casually mentioned dates and quotes.

I would say that we Rhodes fans and readers generally were mighty lucky when this assignment fell to the one man whose own background and disposition qualified him to recognize the values in this material, to know what to look for and what to do with it when he found it and then put it together with a prose in tune with the subject. Some day I would like to know how many months and miles you put into it.

I'll bet Gene feels the same way about it in whatever cow poke's Valhalla he is riding today.

Needless to say I am very grateful to you for sending it to me not only for immediate reading but to own and pick up again to enjoy Gene and recall the writer.

The Advocate is out today and they front paged the story of your job here. I am sending you a couple of clippings and can get more if you have use for them.

I'll tell you Hutch your visit is a very happy memory and I hope only the first of many contacts.

Keep your load in the rut

328 Pardee Ave
Susanville

W.B.Laughead

Susanville California
October 22 1957

Mr. Bill Murphy
Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles California

Dear Bill:

Inclosed Paul Bunyan items :

Fishwick's article Yale Review
Ed Crane's story Minneapolis Tribune
Booklet Paul Bunyan and His Big Blue Ox
2 re-prints trade journal ads.

This should give you the essence of the story ,
enough for your present purpose , as well as if you waded through
a lot of material I might send you . However if you need anything
more just let me know . How about photos Westwood operation and
virgin timber ?

Fishwick and Crane cover their phases with only a few
of the errors that creep into every human endeavor , not enough to
hurt.

You can pick up the trademark from page 4 of the booklet
and typical faces of Paul Bunyan the way I did him out of the ad
reprints, and the title page of the booklet . This is the Sixth
edition, 1934 . It went through thirteen printings for about 120
thousand. The only list-mailing was the first one , 1922. Format
and advertising was changed from time to time but story copy was
always the same.

We never treated Paul as a figure out of the past but as
the main guy of current operations both in our advertising and in
business correspondence . The sign over the main gate read HOME
OF PAUL BUNYAN and employes generall said they "worked for Paul
Bunyan."

I hope this gives you what you want. if not just holler.

Yours truly

328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

W.B.Laughead



Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES 53 • CALIFORNIA

MAAdison 5-2345

October 29, 1957

Dear Mr. Laughead:

Thank you for your interesting letter and the information which you sent me. I will return your material just as soon as I have a little time to study it.

I had a most interesting letter from James Stevens who sent me an article from the Southern Lumber Journal, Dec. 1954. It is titled "William B. Laughead and the Bunyan Legend."

In this article there is a reproduction of one of your paintings showing Paul Bunyan swinging an axe. I am fascinated by this picture and wish that I had a copy that we could use in the story. The caption says that this painting is owned by the Paul Bunyan Lumber Co. Is there a black and white photo of this picture available? Unfortunately, the magazine reproduced the picture in rather small size and I do not think that we could get a copy out of it that would make a suitable cut.

Let me know, for I will then copy some of the pictures which you sent me, and possibly we can use them.

Will also send you a copy of the Westwood story shortly.

Best wishes,

Bill Murphy

Susanville California
November 1 1957

Mr. Bill Murphy
Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles California

Dear Bill:

Received last night your letter of the 29th regarding the painting of Paul Bunyan owned by the Paul Bunyan Lumber Company. I contacted the photographer this morning and ordered a 5x7 shot that will give you a better reproduction than the halftone in the Southern Lumber Journal . He is badly tied up this week but will shoot it for me Sunday. I should be able to mail you a print by Monday or Tuesday and hope this will be in time for your job.

Since I mailed you the material I have come accross a drawing of the trade mark. This will give your camera man flat copy , easier to handle than the page in the booklet so I will mail it with the photo.

I still cant figure out howcome Jim Stevens would be sending you the Southern Lumberman story.

If you need anything more just holler.

Yours

328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

W.B.Laughead

Susanville California
November 4 1957

Mr. Elwood R. Maunder, Director
Forest History Foundation, Inc.
2706 West Seventh Boulevard
St. Paul 16 Minnesota

Dear Mr. Maunder:

Please accept my thanks for the bound copy of the transcript of the tape recording I made with W.H.Hutchinson. Physically it is an attractive format in which to live with posterity but the very fact that the words are preserved like flies in amber makes me critical of the copy.

It was my understanding that I was to receive a preliminary draft for approval or revision before the final typing was made up. This I did not get and for the degree of accuracy implicit in historical data (of greater importance than my own self respect as a workman with words) I am sorry that I did not get this copy and have a chance to do some proof reading.

The fault is mine. For what mental processes I have pencil and paper have always been necessary. Words come slowly with many revisions and not, as the poet says, trippingly from the tongue. In plain language my dictation is lousy.

Reading the copy in cold blood I can see where false inferences can be drawn from the language used. They would not be extensive before page 31. From there on so much seems irrelevant to the Paul Bunyan record that I would like further clarification from Hutch for his reasons for going into it. My own thought would be to cut a lot of it out.

Of course what I said is on the tape and must stand as is but future readers may use the written copy rather than the oral record so there would be some chance to relieve some of these faults,

I would like to hear from you on this and particularly whether you have made the distribution of copies listed in your letter. Can revisions still be made?

With repeated thanks and good wishes,

Yours very truly

328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

W.B.Laughead



Forest History Foundation, Inc.

2706 West Seventh Boulevard
SAINT PAUL 16, MINNESOTA

November 7, 1957

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ELWOOD R. MAUNDER
St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. W. B. Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville, California

Dear Mr. Laughead:

As you undoubtedly know, Mr. Maunder is at present on the West Coast on Foundation business and will not be back in the office for ten days or two weeks. Therefore, I am taking the liberty of answering your letter of November 4th. Of course, when Mr. Maunder returns he will no doubt go into this matter in more detail with you.

I transcribed your interview from the tape recording and typed it into the form you received in the bound notebook. We were all so thrilled with the interview and the information it contained that Mr. Maunder took it with him to exhibit at the Pacific Logging Congress as one of our very best interviews. As you can understand, it certainly would not have been used by researchers and historians at that time but as an exhibit of the type of invaluable historical information that can be obtained through tape interviews.

Naturally we have not sent the other copies of the interview out to any repositories inasmuch as you had not indicated your approval of the form you recently received. Mr. Hutchinson has received a copy inasmuch as he was the interviewer, and his corrections and additions were also solicited. However, I understand that he is now on a cruise in the Pacific as "historian emeritus" on the Lurline so cannot be contacted for some time. May I suggest that you go over the bound copy we sent you on October 25th making any corrections, deletions or additions you deem necessary, and we will be glad to incorporate them into a final draft of the interview.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Ann Lindquist
Oral History Secretary

al

FOREST HISTORY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1

FALL 1957

Number 3

Oral history as obtained through the tape-recorded interview continues to be a major part of the Forest History Foundation's program. Featuring this aspect of its work, the Foundation will have an exhibit at the Pacific Logging Congress in Seattle, October 30-November 1, 1957. While the Congress is in session, Elwood Maunder, director of the Foundation, has arranged to conduct a series of tape interviews relating to the history of fire control and prevention, logging methods, and logging machinery with men who are pioneers and specialists in each field.

A noteworthy addition to the Foundation's store of interviews has been made by W. H. Hutchinson, Chico, California. Acting for the Foundation, Hutchinson interviewed William Laughead, Susanville, who originally published the Paul Bunyan tales for the Red River Lumber Company of Westwood, California. The tapes contain Laughead's own explanation of the Paul Bunyan story, and his reminiscences of old-time logging and lumbering in Minnesota and California.

Bruce Harding who is now "field-tripping" in the New York-New England area also has lined up several tape interviews. One of Bruce's interviews will be with Ralph S. Hosmer, emphasizing especially Hosmer's work in Hawaii. During this past summer, Bruce recorded interviews with Len Costley of International Falls, Minnesota, and J. A. Mathieu, Rainy River Lumber Company, Fort Francis, Ontario, and arranged for other interviews in Wisconsin and Minnesota this winter.

RECORDS REPORT--The papers of Colonel William B. Greeley have been placed in the library of the University of Oregon at Eugene by the Greeley family. Included are diaries, manuscripts of speeches and magazine articles, memos, statements, and some 5000 letters dating from 1929 to 1955. Some of the material is from the files of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association which turned over to the family such of the Colonel's papers as were in its files. Dr. Martin Schmitt, University of Oregon's manuscripts curator, would like to locate additional Greeley correspondence to augment the collection. If you have any, or know of any, he would be pleased to hear from you.

Lucille Kane, manuscripts curator of the Minnesota Historical Society, reports that 2 boxes and 30 volumes of records of the Bovey-DeLaittre Lumber Company, Minneapolis, are processed and ready for

use. They comprise labor, land, and logging contracts, ledgers, journals, day-books, and some correspondence.

According to Dr. Robert S. Maxwell, director of the Bureau of East Texas Research, Stephen F. Austin State College, work on the Kurth papers has been going ahead and the collection will be moved into the new State College library this fall.

A small collection of reports relating to timber and land made in connection with surveys for the Northern Pacific Railroad by George H. and Fred Plummer were recently turned over to the Washington State College library at Pullman by the Minnesota Historical Society. Originally placed in the MHS manuscripts department by the Forest History Foundation, the collection was turned over to WSC because of its greater importance to western Washington and the Pacific Northwest.

HARDWOOD HISTORY-- The Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association is interested in collecting materials and information pertaining to lumbering and sawmilling in Indiana and the adjacent hardwoods area. Eventually the Association would like to get a history of the region written. Anyone who can supply historical data is urged to get in touch with Roy C. Brundage, secretary of the Association, at the Horticulture Building, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

LUMBERJACK LORE--For more than 25 years, Dr. E. C. Beck, Central Michigan College, Mount Pleasant, has been collecting the songs and stories of the lumberjacks. Getting his material directly from the men of the woods, "Doc" Beck has traveled from coast to coast and border to border. His collections (two of which, **SONGS OF THE MICHIGAN LUMBERJACKS** and **LORE OF THE LUMBER - CAMPS**, are out of print) have been published by the University of Michigan Press. His latest volume **THEY KNEW PAUL BUNYAN** (November 1956) stresses the Great Lakes region.

WEST VIRGINIA--O. D. Lambert, historical records specialist at West Virginia University, Morgantown, who has ferreted out and brought into the University's archives many of the records of West Virginia's forest industries, is beginning work on a history of the industries. Mr. Lambert, in his own words, helped "to cut the forests and manufacture them into lumber" and hence has an "intimate knowledge of the thought, manners and customs of the woodsmen." Anyone who can provide further information or knows the whereabouts of available records should write Mr. Lambert.

50TH ANNIVERSARY--Our congratulations to the Faculty of Forestry of the University

of Toronto, Canada's first professional forestry school, on the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, October 25.

PIKE-POLES AND PEAVEYS--Interest in collecting the colorful materials associated with the life and work of the lumberman is growing apace. At Flint, Michigan, where **FLINT JUNIOR COLLEGE** plans an historical museum, Dr. Robert H. Van Bolt would be pleased to hear from anyone who could help locate objects reminiscent of Flint's importance as a lumbering center.

At the **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**, plans are in progress for a forest industries museum. Don Clark of the Institute of Forest Products is working with the Hoo-Hoo Club of Seattle in developing the project. The Hoo-Hoos are not only sponsoring the museum, but expect to actively assist in locating and collecting materials for it.

The **IDAHO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, Boise, is also looking to the collection of its forestry and forest industries' history. Museum objects, photographs, personal letters and memoirs, diaries, and business records are all being sought to provide a permanent and fruitful source for study by scholars of Idaho's history.

HISTORYLAND at Hayward, Wisconsin, operated by Tony Wise, offers the tourist a visit to an Indian village and an old-time logging camp. A feature of the exhibit is an old gear-driven Lima logging engine.

The **W. J. MCCREADY LUMBER COMPANY**, Forest Grove, Oregon, has been collecting various kinds of log transporting vehicles. William McCready writes that the company would like to locate a locomotive to go with some cars they have obtained from the old Sumpter Valley Line in eastern Oregon which started out as a logging and gold mining line.

TIMBER TERMS--L. G. Sorden (Ag. Extension Service, University of Wisconsin)

and Isabel J. Ebert (Tomahawk, Wisconsin) have published an interesting booklet on logging terminology. *LOGGER'S WORDS OF YESTERDAY*, a dictionary of some 1200 words common to the Lakes States lumberjack, may be obtained from Mr. Sorden, 212 N. Allen Street, Madison, Wisconsin.

60 YEARS OF FORESTRY--Arthur Meyer, editor, *JOURNAL OF FORESTRY*, and Henry Clepper, executive secretary, Society of American Foresters, have been authorized to compile a book tentatively titled, "American Forestry - the First Sixty Years," to be published in connection with the sixtieth anniversary of SAF in 1960.

RETAIL HISTORY--The Briggs Lumber Company, Inc., Oneonta, New York, has compiled an illustrated, manuscript history of its seventy-four years in the retail lumber business. This history resulted when old pictures of the Oneonta yard were found in Weyerhaeuser files, and the suggestion was made to Mr. Roscoe Briggs that his company's story would add important insights into the history of retail lumbering.

IN THE FIELD--Bruce Harding has spent most of the past summer traveling in Wisconsin and Minnesota laying the groundwork for Forest History Committees in those states. He has visited local libraries, museums, and historical societies to examine their holdings of printed and manuscript materials, photographs, and museum objects related to forestry and forest industries history. Bruce also stopped at many of the lumber and pulp and paper companies, exploring their records holdings, and interest in their own records and history.

DUPLICATES AVAILABLE--The library of the Institute of Paper Chemistry wishes to clear its shelves of duplicate materials, primarily forestry and pulp and paper

periodicals. Institutions wishing further information should write Eugene Bunker, The Library, Institute of Paper Chemistry, Box 498, Appleton, Wisconsin.

MAINE AGAIN--Another State of Mainer is delving into the state's forest industries' history. Vincent York, Phillips, is seeking material dealing with early operations in the Androscoggin or Richardson Lakes area.

CONSERVATION HISTORY--Dr. Lawrence Rakestraw, Northern Montana College, Havre, is working on a revision of his doctoral dissertation, "A History of Forest Conservation in the Pacific Northwest, 1891-1913." He is also interested in "Lightburning," and in the early career of E. T. Allen. (From *FORESHADOW*, March 1957)

GIFTS TO THE FHF LIBRARY--From Walter J. Damtoft, Champion Paper and Fibre Company, a file of the *JOURNAL OF FORESTRY*, 1917-1925.

American Paper and Pulp Association, complete file of *COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRESS*, March 1954 - September 1957.

Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, 54 issues of *THE MANDONIAN*.

Wisconsin Conservation Department, copies of all of its "in-print" publications, including "History of State Forestry in Wisconsin" (42 p., mimeo.)

NEW BOOKS--Emanuel Fritz (comp.), *CALIFORNIA COAST REDWOOD*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Resource Management, 1957. Annotated bibliography.

HISTORIAE AGRICULTURAE, v. 1, 1950; v. 2, 1951; v. 3, 1952-1953. Groningen, The Netherlands: Het Nederlands Agronomisch-Historisch Institut, 1953, 1954, 1956. International bibliography (includes forestry).

Gordon Newell and Joe Williamson, *PACIFIC TUGBOATS*. Seattle: Superior Publishing Company, 1957.



A. R. Reynolds, **THE DANIEL SHAW LUMBER COMPANY: A CASE STUDY OF THE WISCONSIN LUMBERING FRONTIER.** New York: New York University Press, 1957. NYU Graduate School of Business Administration, Business History Series.

ARTICLES--J. Leonard Bates, **Fulfilling American Democracy: The Conservation Movement, 1907-1921.** **THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW**, June 1957.

Nollie W. Hickman, **Logging and Rafting Timber in South Mississippi, 1840-1910.** **JOURNAL OF MISSISSIPPI HISTORY**, July 1957.

Harold T. Pinkett, Gifford Pinchot at Biltmore. **NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL REVIEW**. July 1957.

Herman Work, **Forests on the Old Fields.** **THE PAPER MAKER**, Number 2, 1957.

BOOKLETS--J. H. Ainsworth, **THE LOWER FOX: A RIVER OF PAPER.** Kaukauna, Wisconsin: Thilmany Pulp & Paper Co., 1957.

C. Raymond Clar, **FOREST USE IN**

SPANISH-MEXICAN CALIFORNIA. [Sacramento], California: Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, 1957.

Vernon W. Roelofs, **50 COLORFUL YEARS.** Appleton, Wisconsin: The Appleton Coated Paper Company, March 29, 1957.

Roelofs, **100 YEARS.** [Oshkosh], Wisconsin: Paine Lumber Co., Ltd., 1953.

Karl E. Stansbury, **THE FIRST SEVENTY YEARS.** [Kaukauna], Wisconsin: Thilmany Pulp & Paper Company, [1953].

MANUSCRIPTS-- H. H. Chapman, **Menominee Indian Timber Case.**

Chapman, **An Historical Account of the Two National Forests in Minnesota.**

Charles S. Cowan, **History of the Washington Forest Fire Association.**

George B. Engberg, **Men for the Pineries Lumber Workers in the Lake States, 1830-1930.** Revision of doctoral dissertation.

Published quarterly by the Forest History Foundation, Inc., 2706 West Seventh Boulevard, St. Paul 16, Minnesota.

FOREST HISTORY FOUNDATION, INC.
2706 West Seventh Boulevard
Saint Paul 16, Minnesota

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Mr. William Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville, California



AIR MAIL

Susanville California
November 13 1957

Mrs Ann Lundquist
Forest History Foundation Inc.
2706 West Seventh Boulevard
St.Paul 16 Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Lundquist;

Thanks for your letter of the 7th and the information contained therein.

Hutch must be living pretty high on the hog cruising the Pacific . Can you tell me when he is due back home ? I do not want to hold you up in putting the interview into final form but if Hutch will not be gone too long I should go over it with him before making any deletions . Now that I know he has a copy this will be a simple matter.

Yours sincerely

328 Pardee Avenue

W.B.Laughead



Forest History Foundation, Inc.

2706 West Seventh Boulevard
SAINT PAUL 16, MINNESOTA
November 29, 1957

Mr. William Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville, California

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•

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ELWOOD R. MAUNDER
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Laughead:

By now you will have had some opportunity to review the transcript of the oral history interview which W. H. Hutchinson made with you earlier this year and perhaps you have made the corrections and additions you mentioned in an earlier letter. As soon as you have completed these, please send the manuscript back to us and we will make the changes on other copies which we have on file here. I hope that these changes will not be major since it is our hope that the full content of the interview can be preserved. It is a very worthwhile addition to our knowledge of the subject of Paul Bunyan folk lore.

You will be interested, I am sure, to know that I recently made a similar interview with your friend, Jim Stevens, in Seattle. Your interview and that with Jim make up a very good and authoritative fund of information on a subject which is becoming of increasing interest.

I sincerely hope that you are giving serious thought to the suggestion I made in an earlier letter concerning the permanent preservation of personal papers in your possession. Our Foundation library here in St. Paul would be especially pleased to have any contributions of Paul Bunyan literature which you might be able to give us.

I will follow up your suggestions relative to company records as soon as the opportunity presents itself. Because we are a relatively small organization with a large field to cover, (the whole continent) we can't always follow up these things as quickly as we would like.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Elwood R. Maunder,
Director.

ERM:ee



Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES 53 · CALIFORNIA

MAdison 5-2345

November 12, 1957
3445 S. Sycamore Ave. Los Angeles 16.

Mr. W.B. Laughead
328 Pardee Ave.
Susanville, Calif.

Dear Bill:

Thanks for sending the picture down. I have sent you all your other material back under separate cover. The picture you sent, I am turning in with the story which I have completed. I don't think that we could use the trademark--too commercial--so I am sending that back.

It was Jim Stevens who sent me the article from the Southern Lumber Journal. At first I got the material mixed up and thought that you had sent it to me, but then at the top he has written, please return to James Stevens; so then I was sure I hadn't received it from you.

I imagine that it will be several weeks before the article appears, but when it does I will send you a copy.

I just got out of the hospital myself, and I will be away from the office for several months. I fell victim to that traditional ailment of most newspapermen--I developed a real fine ulcer--hence the necessity for a lot of rest and careful diet. It is quite difficult to re-adjust one's self to I assure you.

Hope to see you in the spring when I get back there again. I have to plan on getting that house of mine in Westwood furnished. I'd like to take off for there right now, but the medics won't let me.

With best wishes,


Bill Murphy

W. B. Laughhead:

JOE MUFRAW,

the One Named Pete

When a man gets the reputation in the woods of being a "good man" it refers only to physical prowess. Frequently he is challenged to fight by "good men" from other communities.

There was Pete Mufraw. "You know Joe Mufraw?" "Qui, two Joe Mufraw, one named Pete." That's the fellow. After Pete had licked everybody between Quebec and Bay Chaleur he started to look for Paul Bunyan. He bragged all over the country that he had worn out six pair of shoe-pacs looking for Paul. Finally he met up with him.

Paul was plowing with two yoke of steers and Pete Mufraw stopped at the brush-fence to watch the plow cut its way right through rocks and stumps. When they reached the end of the furrow Paul picked up the plow and the oxen with one arm and turned them around. Pete took one look and then wandered off down the trail muttering, "Hox an' hall! She's lift hox an' hall."

Susanville California
November 18 1957

Mr. Bill Murphy
3446 South Sycamore Avenue
Los Angeles 16 California

Dear Bill :

Recieved with thanks materials returned and your
letter of the 12th.

I am very sorry to hear about your ulcers . Can't you
come up here for a while ? They say this smog free sunshine is
good for whatever ails you. It would help you shake off the
tensions that cause your worry warts and pressure blisters.

Anyhow I am pulling for your early recovery.

" Hang Her Tough"

Sincerely

328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville

W.B.Laughead

The Times-Mirror Company

Office Correspondence

90-345

To

Date 11-20-57

Subject:

From

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your note of cheer. In the same mail I received a letter from the gentleman who is acting as sort of a caretaker for my house in Westwood. He informs me that he has everything fortified for the coming snow. I'd sure like to be there, but the medics ~~was~~ don't want me to take any long trips as yet, and then it would be difficult to follow the prescribed diet.

I hope to make a trip up there though before returning to work. In the spring, we will start furnishing the house at Westwood, so I can spend more time up there. I sent the yarn down to the office yesterday, so I imagine it will be in print within a couple of weeks, and I'll send you a copy.

Here's an article that Al Klotz
owns

of American Forest Products Industries
in San Francisco sent me. Ever since
I did a feature on the California Lumber
industry about a year ago, Al has designated
me as the lumber expert for the Times
and keeps bombarding me with literature
Actually I know very little about it

(Best wishes)

Bill

CHICO STATE COLLEGE

CHICO, CALIFORNIA

November 22, 1957

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF INSTRUCTION

Mr. W. B. Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville
California

Dear Mr. Laughead:


I appreciate very much hearing from you, and I shall certainly send you the six copies of the transcript to which you refer. I am also enclosing as many of last year's scripts as we still have in stock in order that you may catch up on the whole series. We are continuing the programs this year, and I shall add your name to the mailing list.

Since our postage budget is somewhat limited, I shall make out your check for \$1.00 which will be ample to cover your share of the postage.

I have been reading with considerable interest the transcript of the interview W. H. Hutchinson had with you recently. This will be, I am sure, a great contribution to the serious students of American folklore.

I am sorry that I haven't had the opportunity to talk with you personally, but perhaps I can come to Susanville before too long and have a talk with you. My friend, "Old Hutch" Hutchinson, who is a true scholar in these matters, has spoken with sincere appreciation of the time you spent with him.

Sincerely yours,



Hector Lee
Dean of Instruction

HL:bh

11/20/57

Susanville California
February 1 1958

Hector Lee, Dean
Chico State College
Chico California

To correspondents in a position
like yours I never know whether
to write Mister or Doctor.

It is a long time since you sent me the transcripts but
I hope it is not too late to thank you for your generosity. They
are all interesting, informative, entertaining and stimulating.

Have you changed your T.V. hour? I have not been catching
you at 6 P.M. Sunday .

So you met Hutch and saw a transcript of his tapes ? I
have to do a lot of revising . They were supposed to send me an
advance copy but did not do so. Jim Stevens writes that Mr. Maunder
took tapes from him and he is having the same experience. May be
Jim is like me . I have always done my thinking with a pencil and
paper. I am not versed in the tricky art of dictation , particular-
ly documents for posterity. Trying to do so between rounds of an
off record chewing match with a guy like Hutch I said a lot of
things the wrong way.

I am looking forward to meeting you and such a visit is
worth serious effort to get to Chico . As I do not have a car that
sometimes takes some doing . For a joint session with you and Hutch
I will walk.

I could not talk to a scholar but I have a hunch that not all
your views of what goes on in this complicated Cosmos are made from
the window of an Ivory tower. We can find some spots of common
ground.

Yours very truly



W.B. Laughead

328 Pardee Ave
Susanville

Sunday- 29-IX-57

Dear Bill:

The enclosed copy of a letter to Forest History Foundation will treat of matters and I hope what I have done meets with your approval.

Glad the Advocate used the story. Reading it, I can see a lot of construction that is not good newspaper copy. Wrote it in a hurry and, as you know, it is easier by far to write long than to write short.

Bill, what you wrote about A BAR CROSS MAN touched me where it counted. "A fit audience, if few" is about what the author gets out of a book like that and coming from you, words of praise mean something. YOU are qualified to give them.

I had a Rockefeller Grant-in-aid to do the initial primary research at Huntington Library. This was in the Fall and winter of 1952/53. Spent the best part of the next two years in my spare time finishing up the loose ends. Then took me six months to write it. Final MS was delivered in the summer of 1955 and the book appeared in July, 1956. Kept alive writing for the pulps and announcing little-bitty rodeos, horse-shows, etc. Well, like Kipling's "Galley Slave" : "There's my name upon the deck beam///Let it stand there for a space."

No more for now....Con Dios, Amigo, Siempre su Vida

Hutch

Bill - Blind Copy FYI -
H

Cohasset Stage
Chico, Cal.
29- IX - 1957.

Mr. Elwood Maunder, Director,
Forest History Foundation,
2706 West 7th. Blvd.,
Saint Paul, 16, Minn.

Dear Mr. Maunder:

Enclosed is a letter from W.B. Laughead together with two photographs and eleven reprints of drawings which he sent to me.

I am sending them to you for the Foundation's archives. They will be better preserved and of more value to the industry with you than ever they could be with me.

It would be appreciated, I know, if you could drop a line to Bill Laughead thanking him for this material. He is a grand person with one of the clearest, most practical minds about the lumber industry I ever have encountered. Only the endemic disease of the free-lancer -- creeping poliomyelitis of the exchequer-- prevents me from offering to pay you for the privilege of having met him.

Also enclosed are two clippings from the Susanville newspaper of 25-IX. I wrote the story for them myself, like the man who bought a watchdog but continued to do his own barking, since it seemed to me that you should get some publicity out of the venture and, additionally, that Laughead should get some honor in his own country.

A note from Ernie Kolbe of Western Pine Assn. has mentioned that several hundred negatives taken by the late Mr. Rognon, Susanville photographer, wound up in the Western Pine files; many of these pertain to the Red River operation at Westwood. This information might be useful in enhancing your files of photographic material available to students of the trade.

My best regards, as ever.....

w.h.hutchinson.

Susanville California
September 24 1957

Dear Hutch:

Here are the two 8x10 prints you liked Jam at Camden Place and Load on Four Horse Sled/, I had copies made which were delivered today.

Also , since you left I found a bunch of reprints of a series of drawings " Old Timers Will Remember " I made for the Timberman in 1946 . There were twelve in the schedule and here are eleven of them . The missing one showed the river drive . If it shows up I will send it to you. These may give you the idea of some phases of pine logging in the Lake States at the turn of the century better than I could describe it for you.

One subject High Wheels is typical of California when I came to Westwood in 1922 . The other ten are Lake States logging.

They did have a few high wheels similar to this in Minnesota when I was there but not many. Summer logging was rarely done and then it would be a lake-shore or river-shore chance. Logs would be dragged to the water one at a time on travois . This was a small sled like rig under the front end of the log.

I saw these high wheels in Minnesota only once. On a Summer job the contractor was going broke trying to haul logs over soft ground on narrow tired horse trucks. He dug up a few sets of wheels somewhere but they were rotted in the hubs. By the time his wood butchers had them rebuilt the job was over.

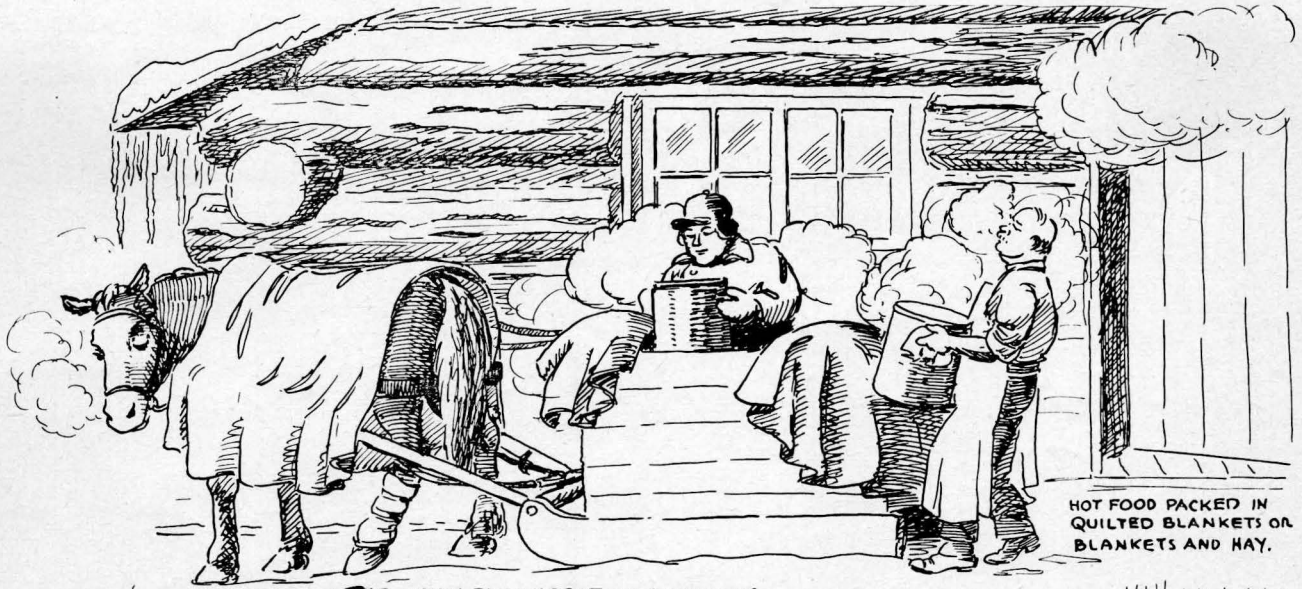
I thought that maybe these drawings will be useful to you so here they are. If you think of anything else I might have that you can use let me know.

Best Regards

W.B.Laughead

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER *The Winter Lunch Ground*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD

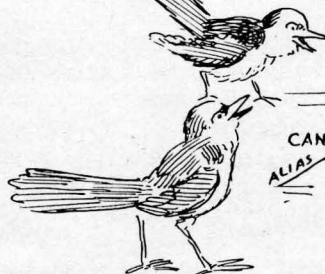


HOT FOOD PACKED IN QUILTED BLANKETS OR BLANKETS AND HAY.

THE LUNCH SLED HORSE WAS USUALLY A DISABLED VETERAN.



WINTER LUNCH GROUND



THE IMPUDENT COMEDIANS
CANADA JAY OR WHISKEY JACK
ALIAS "MOOSE-BIRD" OR "LUMBERJACK"

SPOILED PETS WHEREVER FOOD
COULD BE BEGGED OR STOLEN.

OLD TIMERS CLAIMED THE MOOSEBIRD WAS THE EMBODIED SOUL
OF A DEPARTED LOGGER AND MUST ALWAYS BE FED.



IN SUB-ZERO WEATHER
HOT FOOD FREEZES ON YOUR PLATE
BUT—OH BOY— DOES IT TASTE GOOD.

W.B. LAUGHEAD



The sawmill setting of the 1002nd Engineer Forestry Battalion is located on the very road over which the infamous "death march" of Bataan took place in 1942. Logs came in by truck and tractor. Note the extensive use of gravity rolls for handling lumber. An everlasting struggle with mud was fought in the woods and around the mill yard.

BATTLE FOR LUMBER IN THE PACIFIC

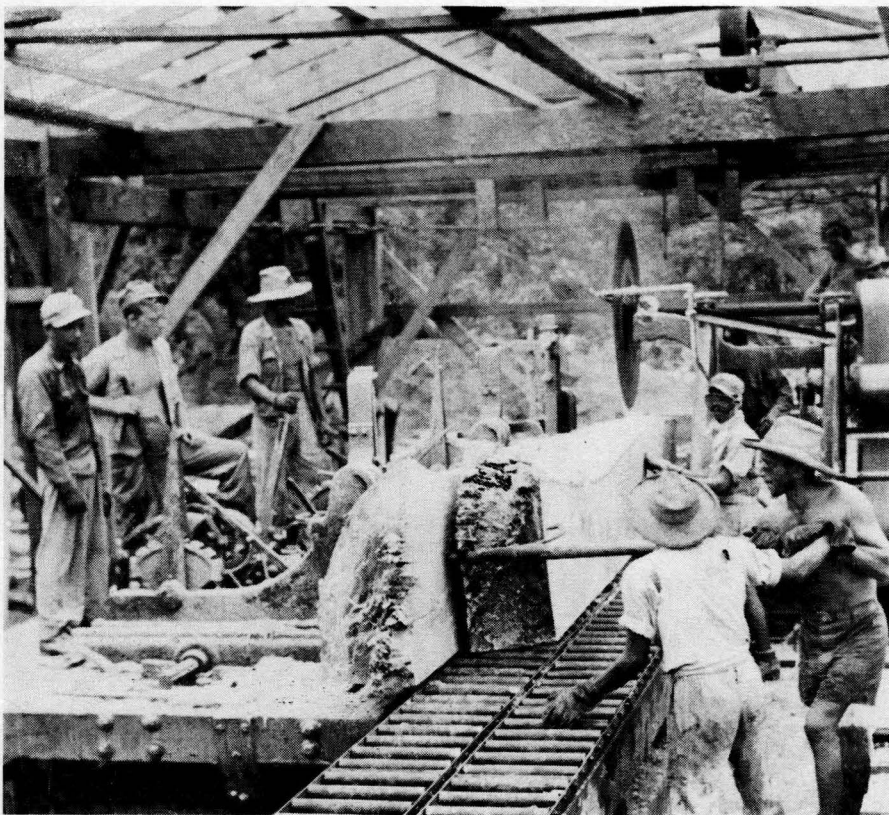


AN EXCELLENT photographic record has been made of the exploits of the 1002nd Engineer Forestry Battalion, which performed prodigious feats of lumber production in New Guinea and later in the Philippines, first at Leyte and next on Bataan Peninsula. On these pages are a few pictures of the outfit in action.

Recruited for the most part from green lads, who never handled a saw or an axe in their lives, the battalion was whipped into a first-class lumber outfit by Lt. Col. Joseph E. McCaffrey of Mobile, Alabama, commanding officer, assisted by Major A. G. Jacobson of Gillham, Arkansas, and a nucleus of non-commissioned officers with lumber and logging experience.

The scenes presented are on Bataan Peninsula, at a site on the very road over which the infamous "death march" took place in 1942, when thousands of American and Filipino troops perished en route from Bataan to Camp O'Donnell.

Our forestry troops, such as the 1002nd Forestry Battalion, became extremely



One of the 14 circular mills operated by the 1002nd Forestry Battalion in the Pacific theater. This one is equipped with a 60-inch circular headrig and cut about 10,000 feet of hardwood lumber a day. Saws were changed every two hours.

●Mid-Columbia River lumber concern finds flume transportation satisfactory after many years of actual experience. Description of one of the few remaining enterprises of its kind in the West.



make a flat surface. Otherwise a large cant may strike a slight obstruction and rip a hole in the flume. At a number of points there are gates, where the water flow can be quickly diverted, or where lumber for maintenance can be stopped.

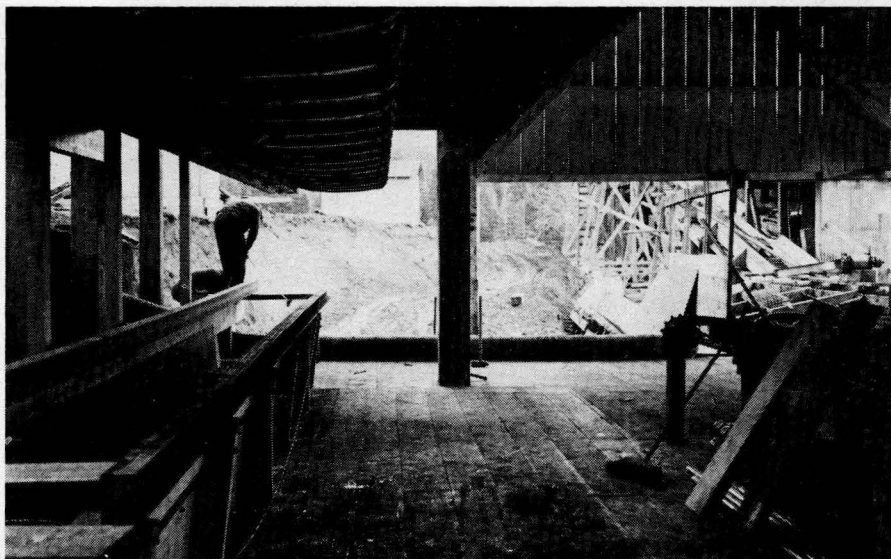
Inspection and repair of the flume is a year 'round job for one man. Annual maintenance, which includes re-building of certain sections each year, takes a small crew. The owners estimate that during the 23 years of operation, they have practically rebuilt the entire nine miles.

Cat-walk Along Flume

This job of inspection and maintenance is no small chore. A catwalk made of 2x12's runs the entire length of the flume, following the hill side. The flume takes off from the mill, drops down into the valley and pokes along on a fairly even grade for several miles, with an occasional spurt. As it approaches the break down into the Columbia River Gorge, the pitches get steeper and the water starts "talking." Over the canyons it crosses on stilts and at one place it is 75 feet above the ground. When the flume finally gets down into the big gorge it hangs to the sides of cliffs and drops in long dips and sweeps, winding up in a level stretch near the



D. M. Stevenson, who looks after the upper plant and supervises the logging operations of the Broughton firm.



New trimmer and roll case are being installed at the sawmill, together with other improvements which will increase the efficiency of the operation. The flume takes off at a point on the right side of the picture.

planing mill and emptying into a wide flat bottomed section where the cants can be sorted and diverted.

Up to this year, the terminal arrangement was a simple pair of idler rolls over which the timbers and water both rolled, the water dropping through to a wasteway. But the wet material carried a lot of water over onto the chain deck, so a new terminal is being built consisting of several rolls in an open case which will let the water drain off.

Lumber from the flume goes onto the green chain, a few feet over to the re-saw deck for one or more passes as required, and it goes out over the cable green chain for stacking for the Hyster carrier. The green chain consists of four cables running in grooved pulleys set slightly above the deck. Pull-off rolls along the sides of the chain save a lot of heavy work.

Increasing Yard Facilities

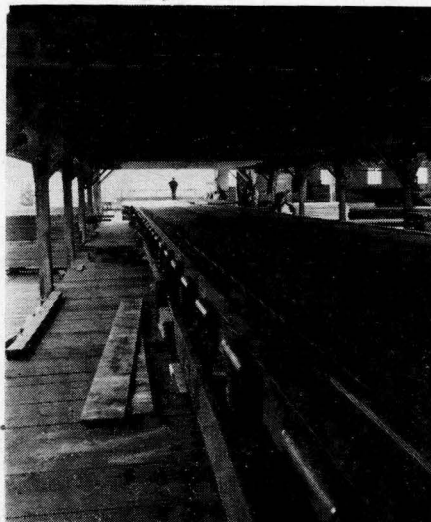
The storage yard, occupying the level parts of a considerable tract with the basalt outcroppings characteristic of this part of the Columbia Gorge, is being leveled. The old docks have been torn out, and by dint of blasting powder, shovel, and a couple of tractors, several acres will be leveled and paved, with further extensions as required.

Pride of Harold Broughton is the planing mill. Here everything runs on roller bearings. There are so many motors the switch panel covers a whole wall, and while the plant is compact, the offbearers are out of sight of the feeder and have electric signals by which to communicate.

Cants entering the mill on rolls can be put direct through a 16x20 Stetson-
(Continued on page 58)



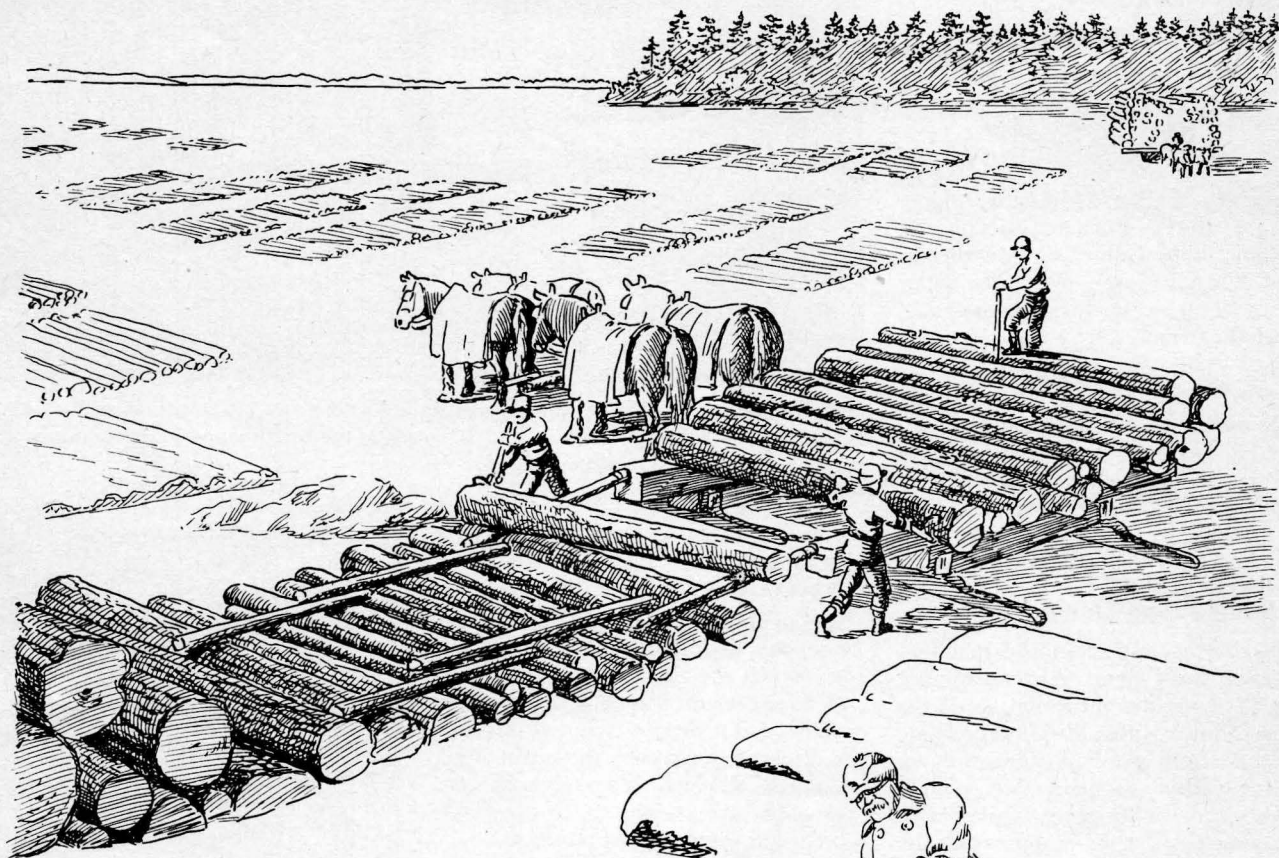
Flume terminal at planing mill, where V-section gives way to flat channel. (Shown dry during repair operations.)



View of the green sorted, at Underwood. Four cables run in rollers. Note pull-off rolls at side.

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER . . . *The Lake Landing*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



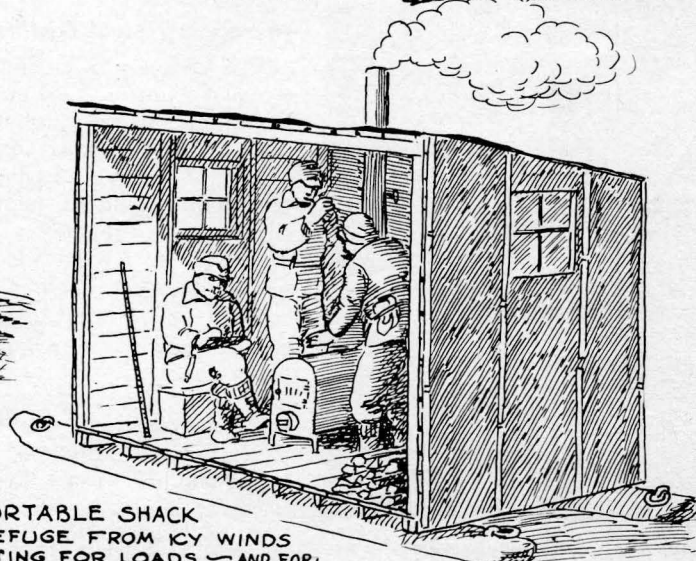
LANDING BOSS KEPT UNLOADING POINTS SCATTERED, AND ROTATED — BUT LANDING MUST NOT SPREAD TOO FAR FOR ECONOMICAL BOOMING —



END STAMPING



WATER ON THE ICE

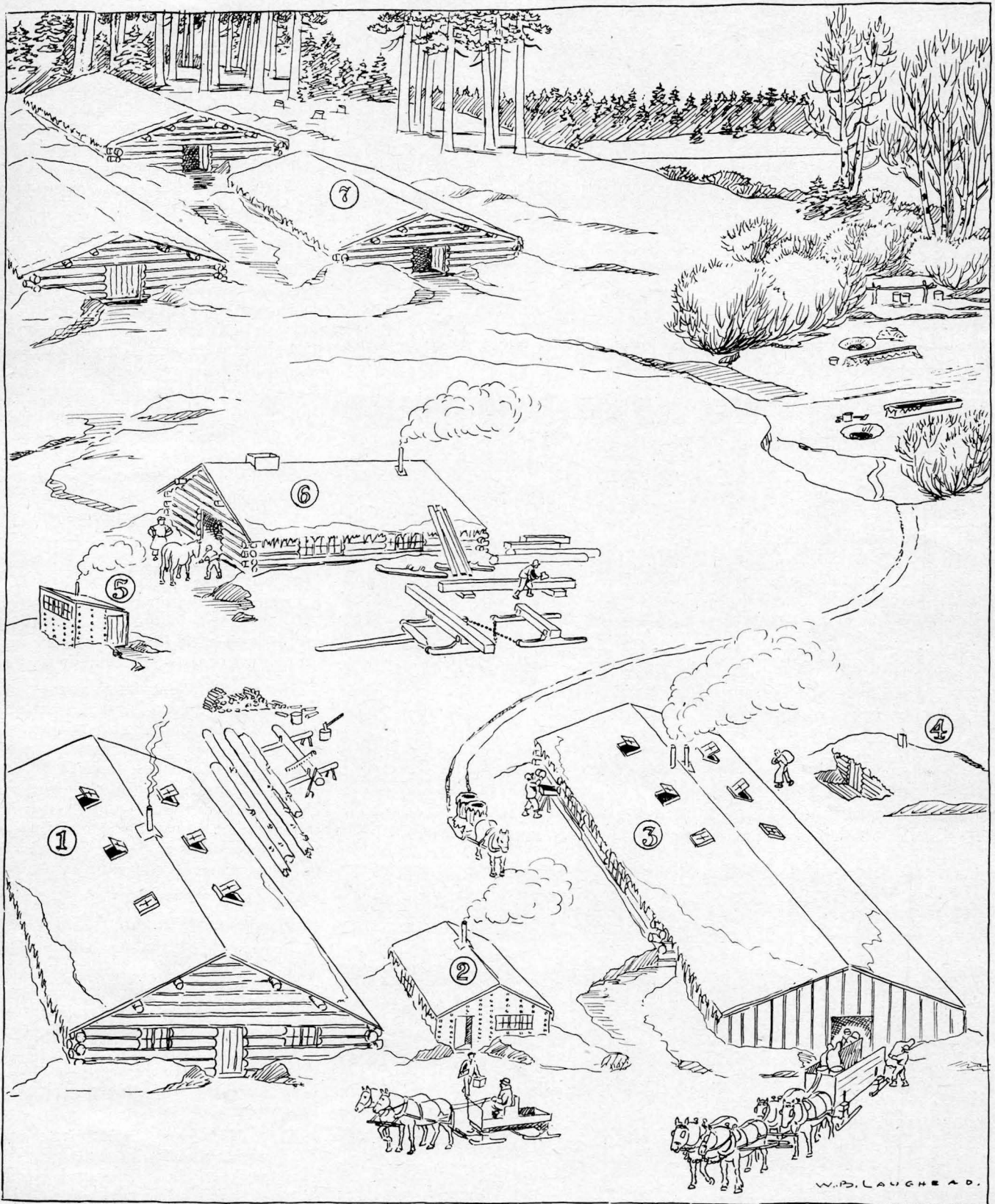


PORTABLE SHACK
A REFUGE FROM KY WINDS
WAITING FOR LOADS — AND FOR
THAT LATE TRIP — LONG AFTER DARK

W. B. LAUGHEAD.

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER . . . *The Logging Camp*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD

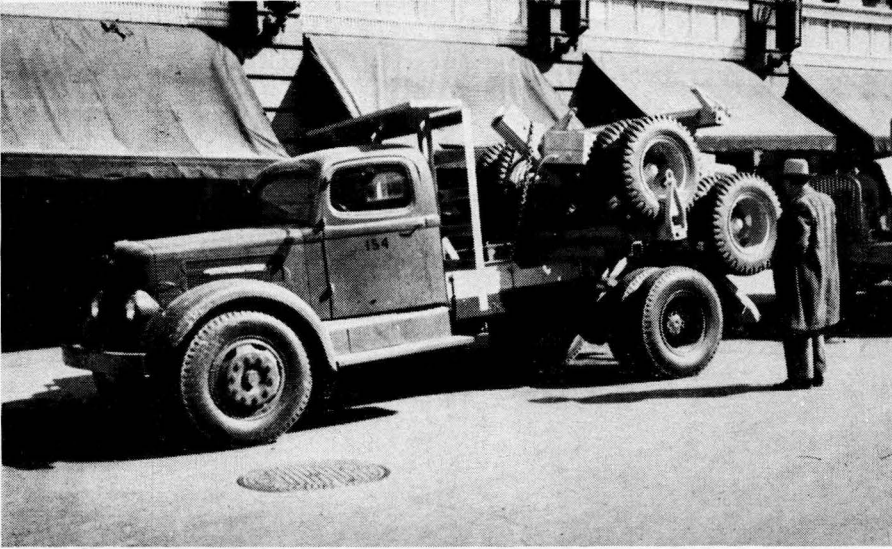


1. BUNK HOUSE filled with two-tier muzzle loading bunks. 2. OFFICE. The Big Shot is going to town, driving team with sleigh bells, charcoal footwarmer and all. 3. COOK HOUSE. Tarpaper addition in front is the warehouse. At the rear a choreboy is delivering water. 4. ROOT CELLAR

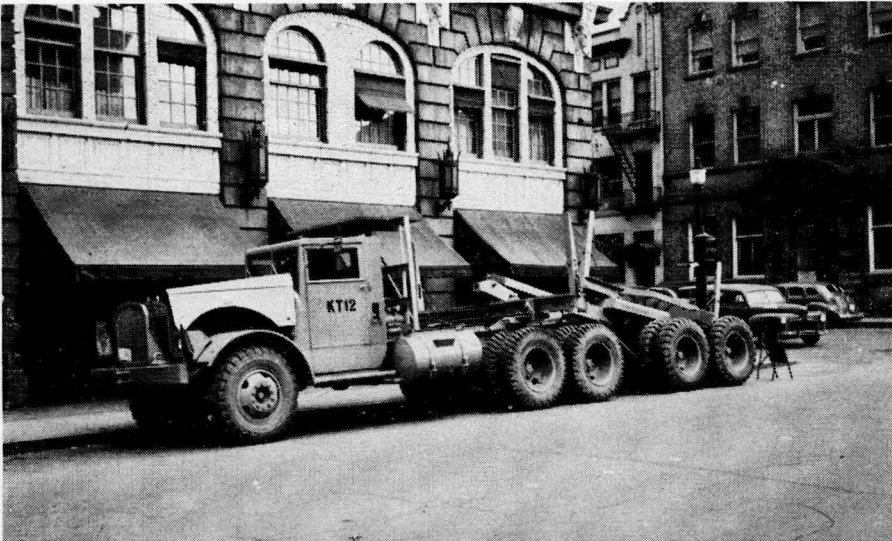
where potatoes, carrots and other root vegetables were stored for winter use. 5. FILER'S SHACK where the saws were kept in shape for crew. 6. BLACKSMITH AND WOOD BUTCHER'S SHOP. The wood butcher is hewing a bunk for a log sled. 7. BARN OR HOVELS.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES: At the right rear is the water hole. Filtered water, it was. The biggest wigglers were strained out with a gunny sack. It was good water and did not taste (much) of the barns until spring. Back by the trees is the washing grounds where the boys boiled up on Sundays.

AMONG TRUCKS AND TRAILERS ON DISPLAY AT SPOKANE



White super special logger, with American Machine Works trailer, shown by Jones White Truck Co. of Spokane. Self-loading trailer.



Kenworth model 548 with Cummins HHB6 diesel motor, 4-speed main transmission, Timken rear axle, Paul Bunyan trailer. Shown by Spokane Kenworth agency.



Peterbilt heavy duty logger, model 335 DT, with Fruehauf trailer, equipped with Hydro-tarder, displayed by P. J. Oldershaw, Spokane dealer.

from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. Emmet Aston of Biles-Coleman Lumber Co., Omak, Washington, served as chairman of the panel.

It was reported in general, that the western states have been lenient during the war years in the matter of load limitations but that the peacetime statutes must again prevail. The extra service performed by the highway systems of the West has left its mark in costly program of repairs and rebuilding soon to get under way. The states represented are in favor of uniform load and length regulations, it was apparent from the opinions voiced.

Larger Loads Wanted

Emmet Aston expressed the belief that some roads can stand heavier loads than others, and that this fact ought to be taken into consideration. He insists that properly designed large trucks are easier on roads than lighter equipment.

Phillip Neff of the U. S. Forest Service, Missoula, Montana, declared that new access roads to be built in the national forests in his region, will be engineered to handle gross loads up to 150,000 pounds. Such roads will be 26 feet wide and be capable of accommodating trucks with 12-foot bunks.

E. C. Rettig of Potlatch Forests, Inc., Lewiston, Idaho, spoke on fire protection and related matters. His company has succeeded in cutting down smoking in the woods during the fire season through a campaign of education.

Among the latest developments in equipment to be tried out this season will be the fog fire-fighter developed by the Food Machinery Corporation of San Jose, California. These units will be placed on winch lines so they can be hauled into the woods by tractors. It is expected that they will give quick service on small fires and can be delivered to areas where it would be extremely difficult to drive a fire truck.

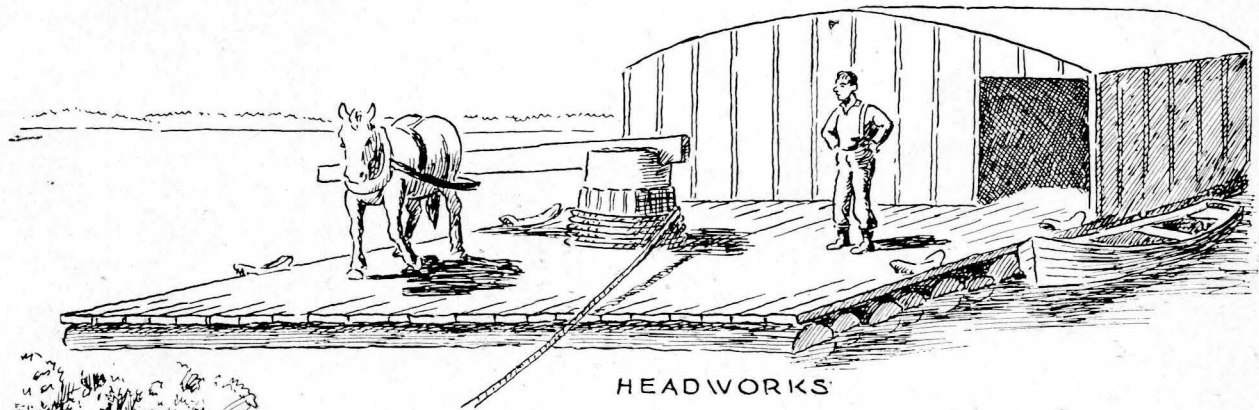
Radio Deemed Useful

R. W. Olin of the Potlatch organization is hopeful that greater progress in fire detection and communications will be made when radio equipment is readily available and when the Federal Communications Commission recognizes that forest fires are entitled to an emergency rating in the matter of wave length assignments.

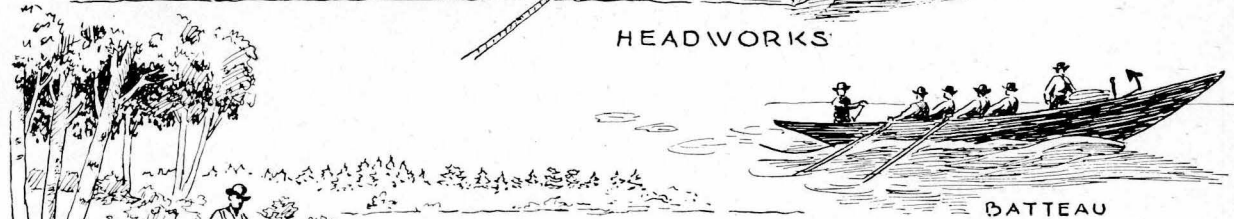
T. S. Goodyear, state forester of Washington, complimented the pine region for the excellent fire record during 1945. Of the total acreage burned over in the state during that year, only 12 per cent was in the pine area east of the Cascades. The manpower outlook for fire detection and suppression is better this year than last, reported Mr. Good-

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER *The Lake Drive*

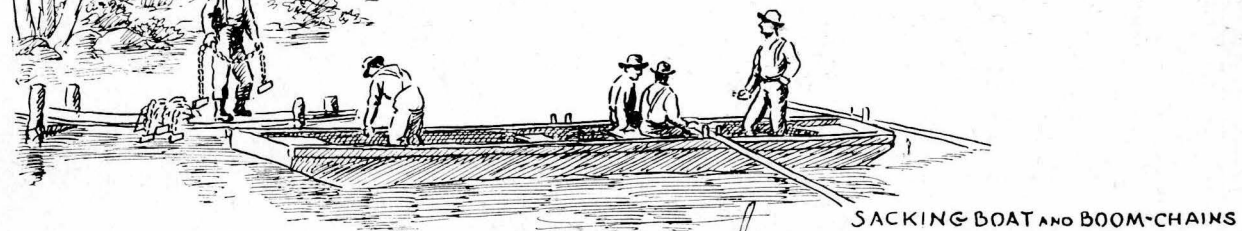
BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



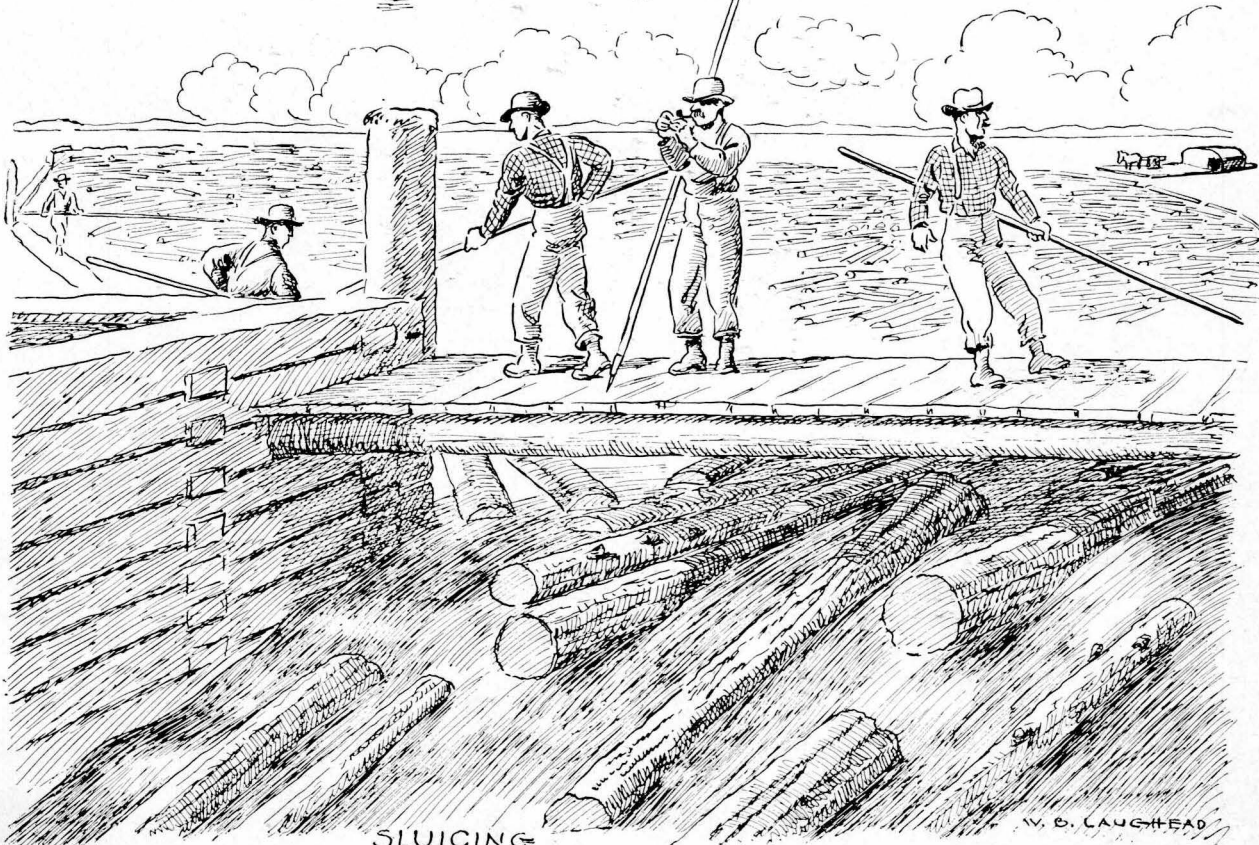
HEADWORKS



BATTEAU



SACKING BOAT AND BOOM-CHAINS

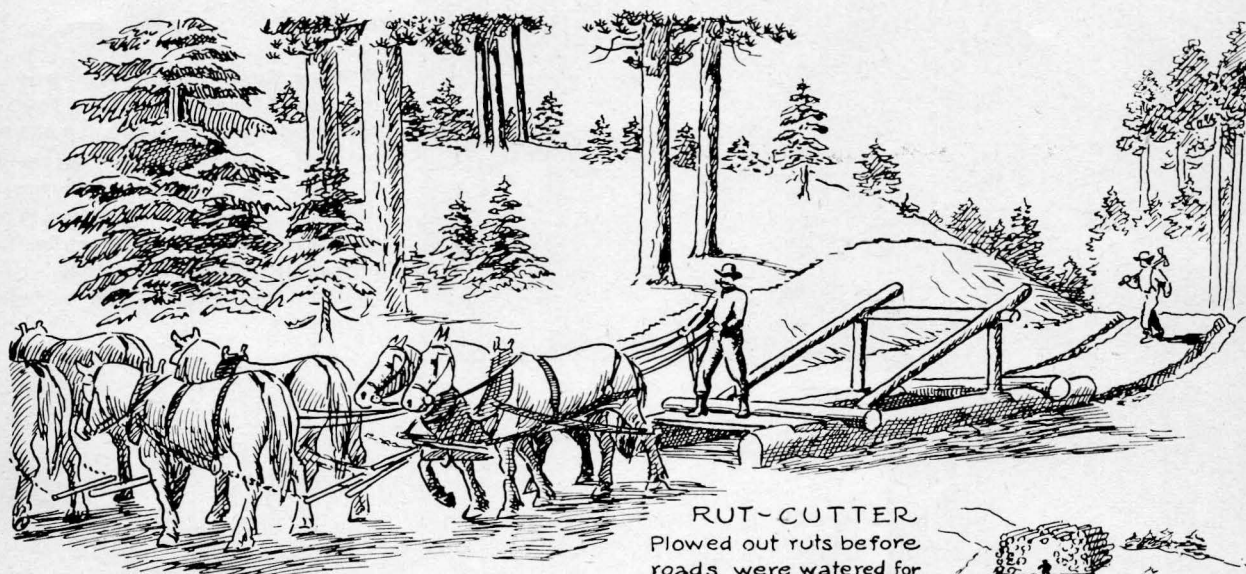


SLUICING

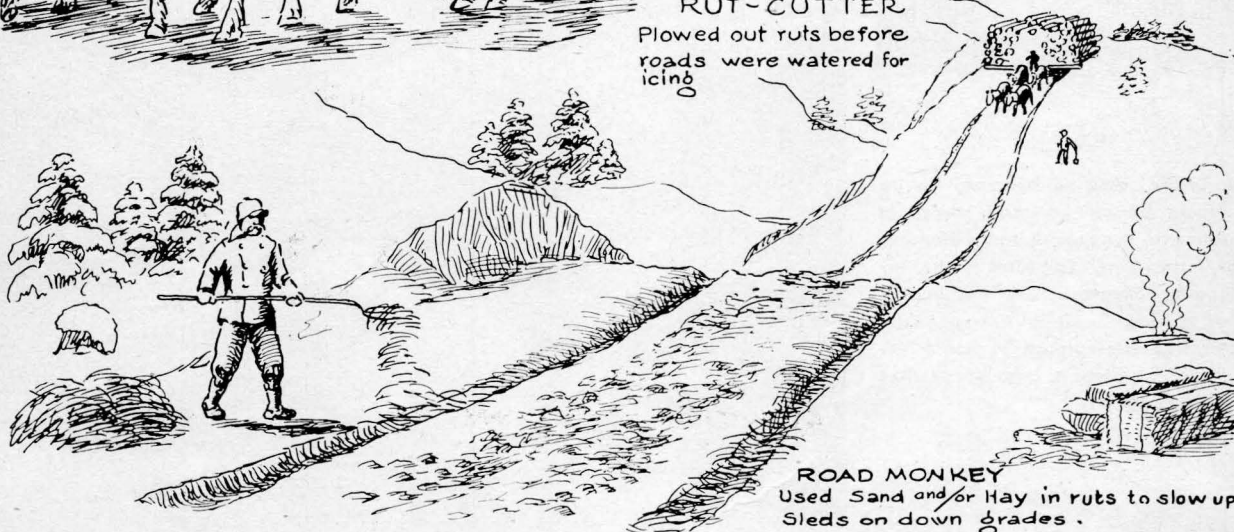
W. B. LAUGHEAD

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER The "Ice Roads"

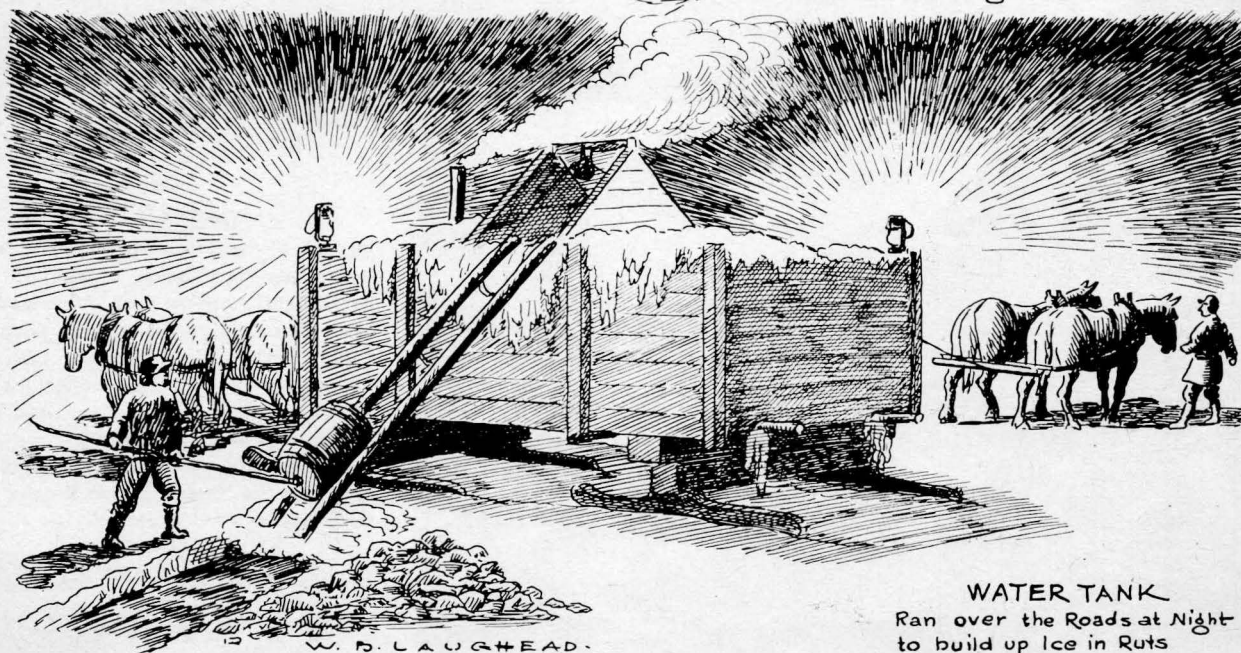
BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



RUT-CUTTER
Plowed out ruts before
roads were watered for
icing



ROAD MONKEY
Used Sand and/or Hay in ruts to slow up
Sleds on down grades.



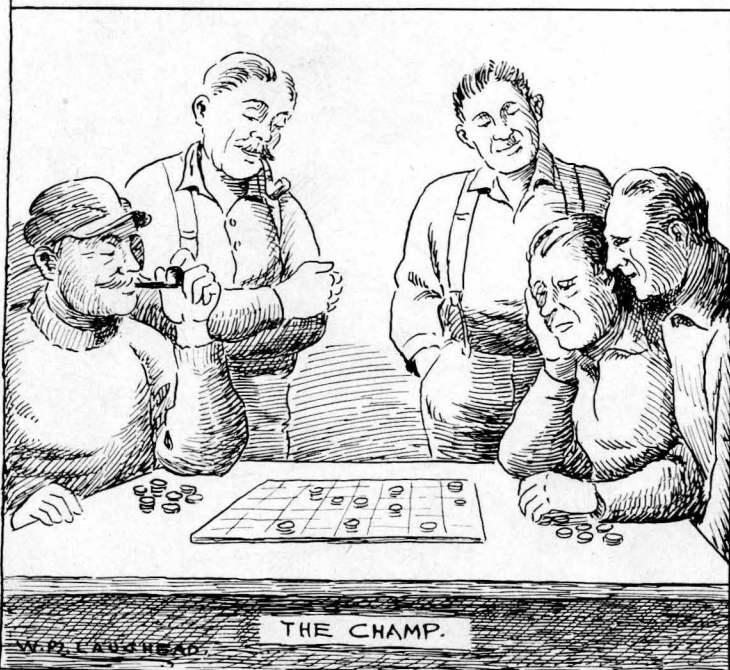
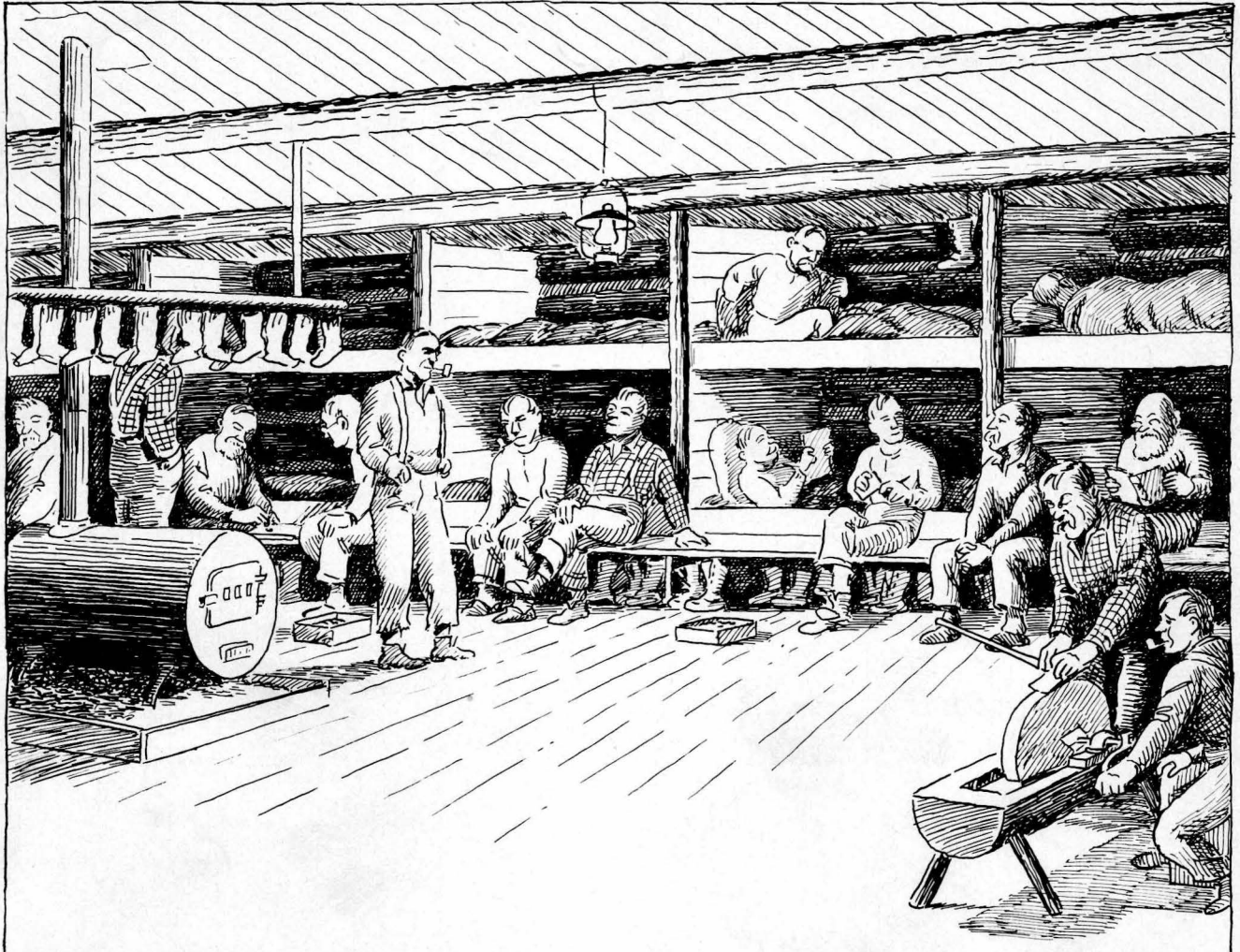
WATER TANK
Ran over the Roads at Night
to build up Ice in Ruts

W. B. LAUGHEAD.

[NUMBER 6 OF A SERIES OF 12]

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER The Bunkhouse

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



THE CHAMP.

W. B. LAUGHEAD



IF YOU CAN STAND IT TODAY - KID - YOU ARE GOOD FOR ALL WINTER.

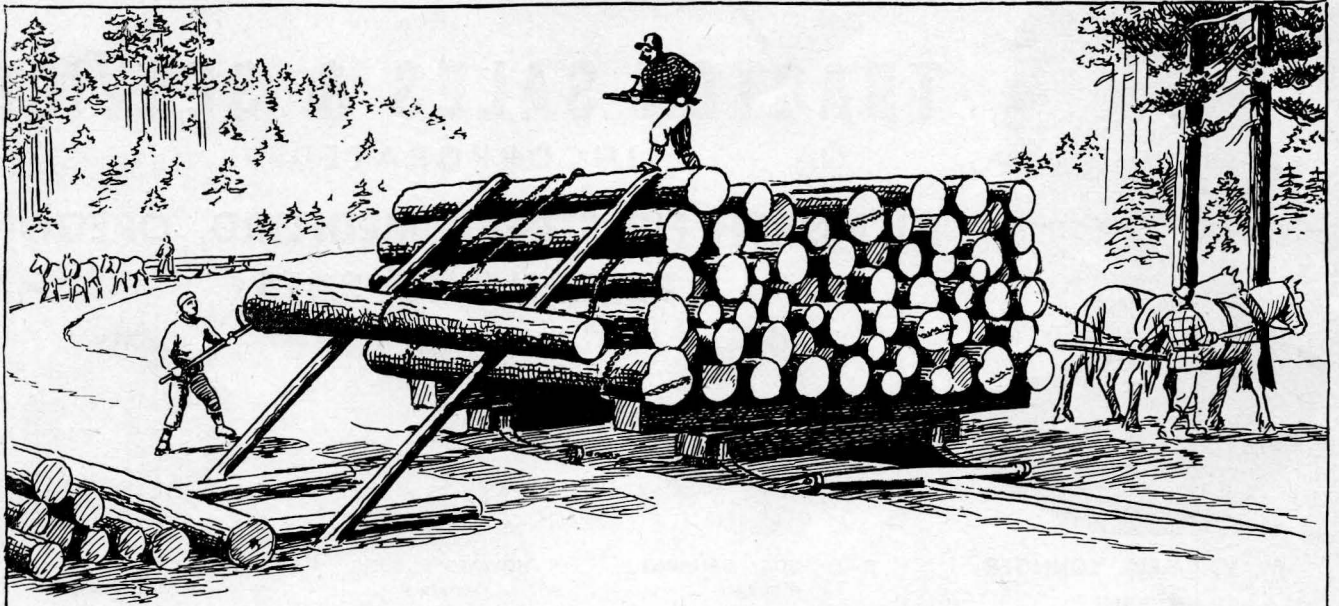
IS IT COLD THIS MORNING?

SKINNERS GIVE THE WEATHER REPORT THEY'VE BEEN UP AN HOUR TAKING CARE OF THEIR HORSES BEFORE THE REST OF THE CREW ROLLS OUT.

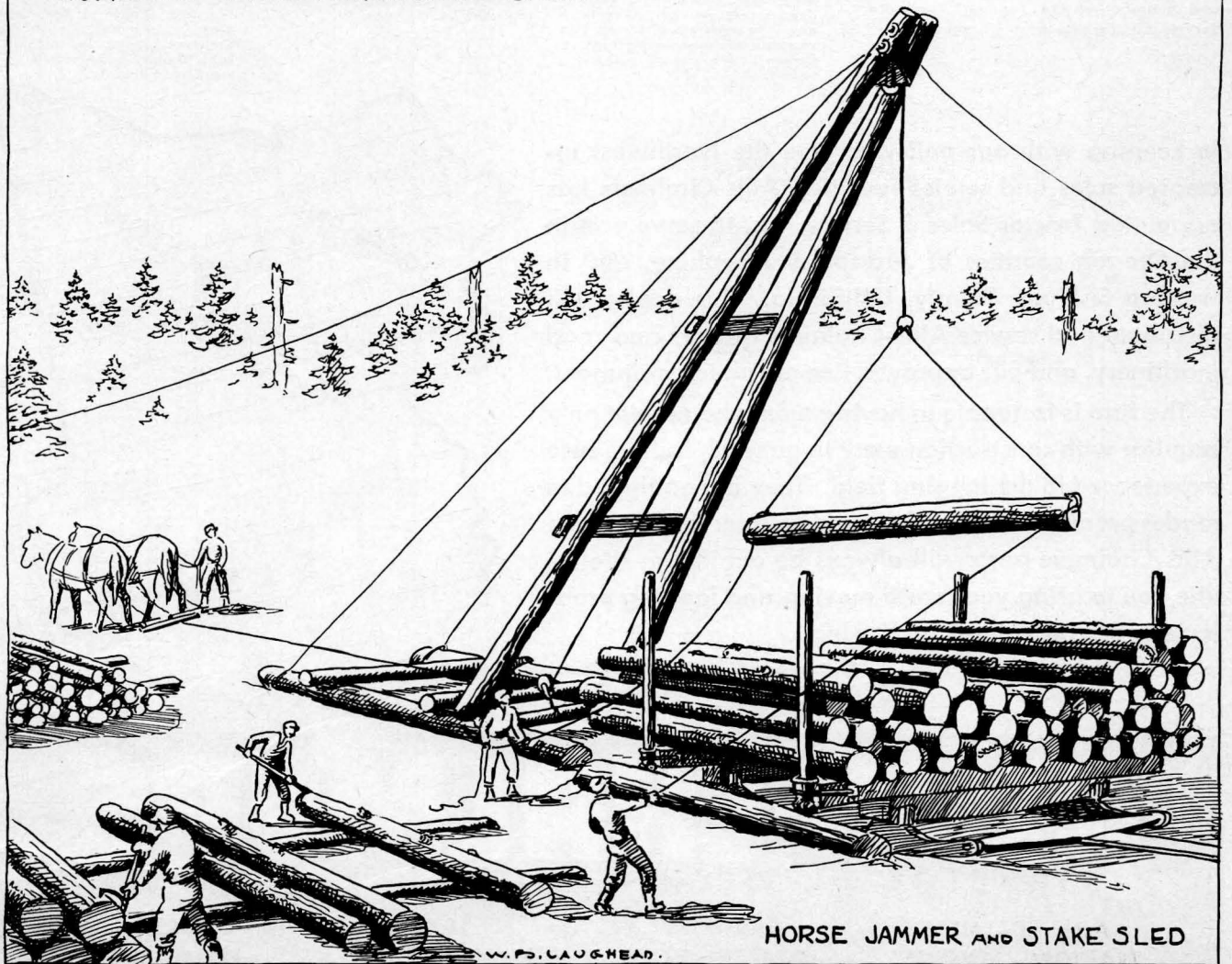
[NUMBER 7 OF A SERIES OF 12]

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER *Loading Sleds*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



LOADING WITH PARBUCKLE CHAIN.



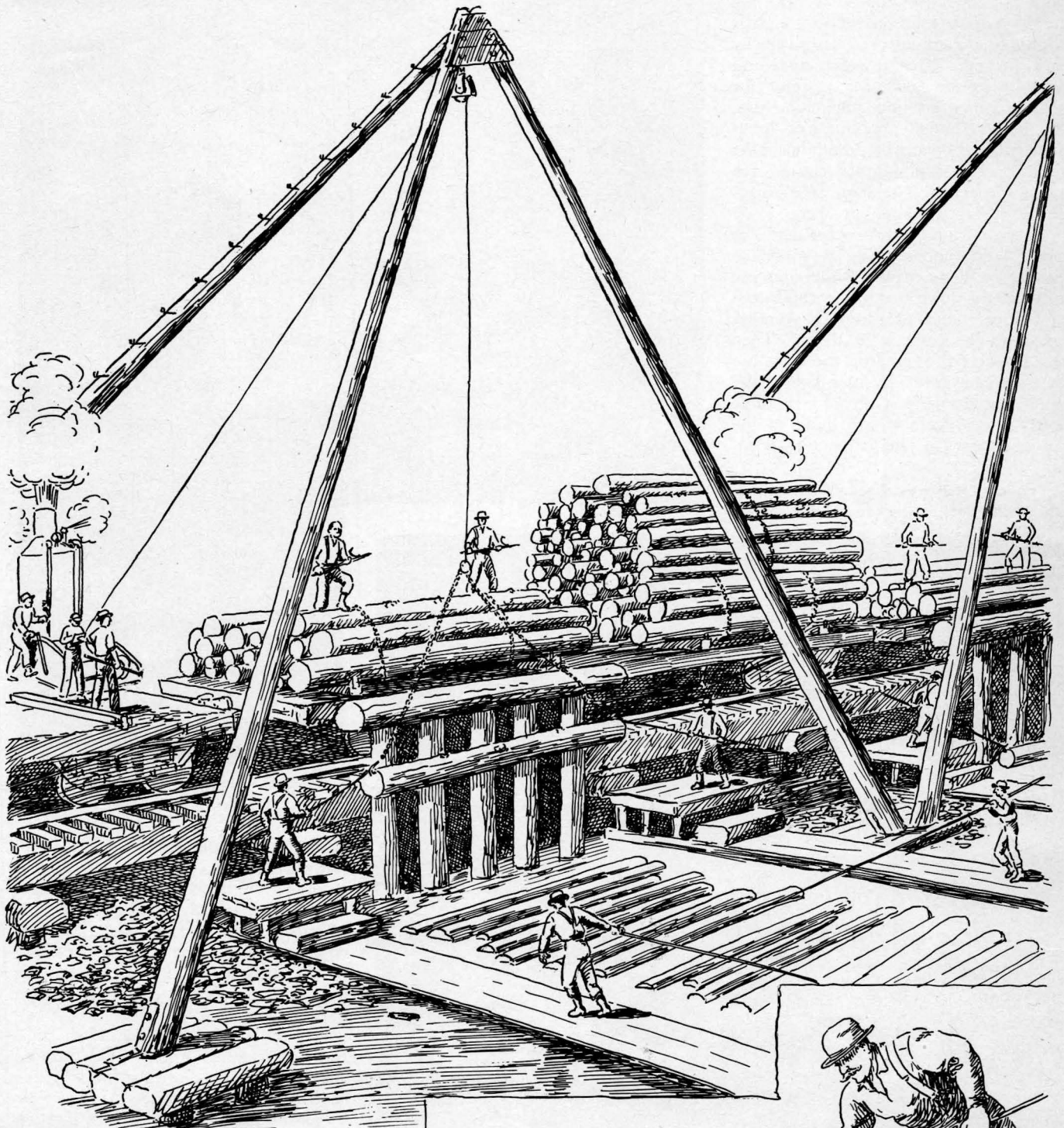
HORSE JAMMER AND STAKE SLED

W. B. LAUGHEAD.

[NUMBER 8 OF A SERIES OF 12]

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER *The Log Hoist*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



THE LOG HOIST
("HISTE")
THAT SUPPLANTED THE DRIVE
WITH RAIL HAULS UP TO 300 MILES

THE HOOKER
MASTER OF SPLIT-SECOND TIMING
4 OR 5 LOGS A MINUTE FOR A
14-HOUR WORKING DAY.



W. B. LAUGHEAD.

[NUMBER 9 OF A SERIES OF 12]

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER *The Tote Sled*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



THE START BEFORE DAYLIGHT
DE LUXE TRANSPORTATION TO CAMP



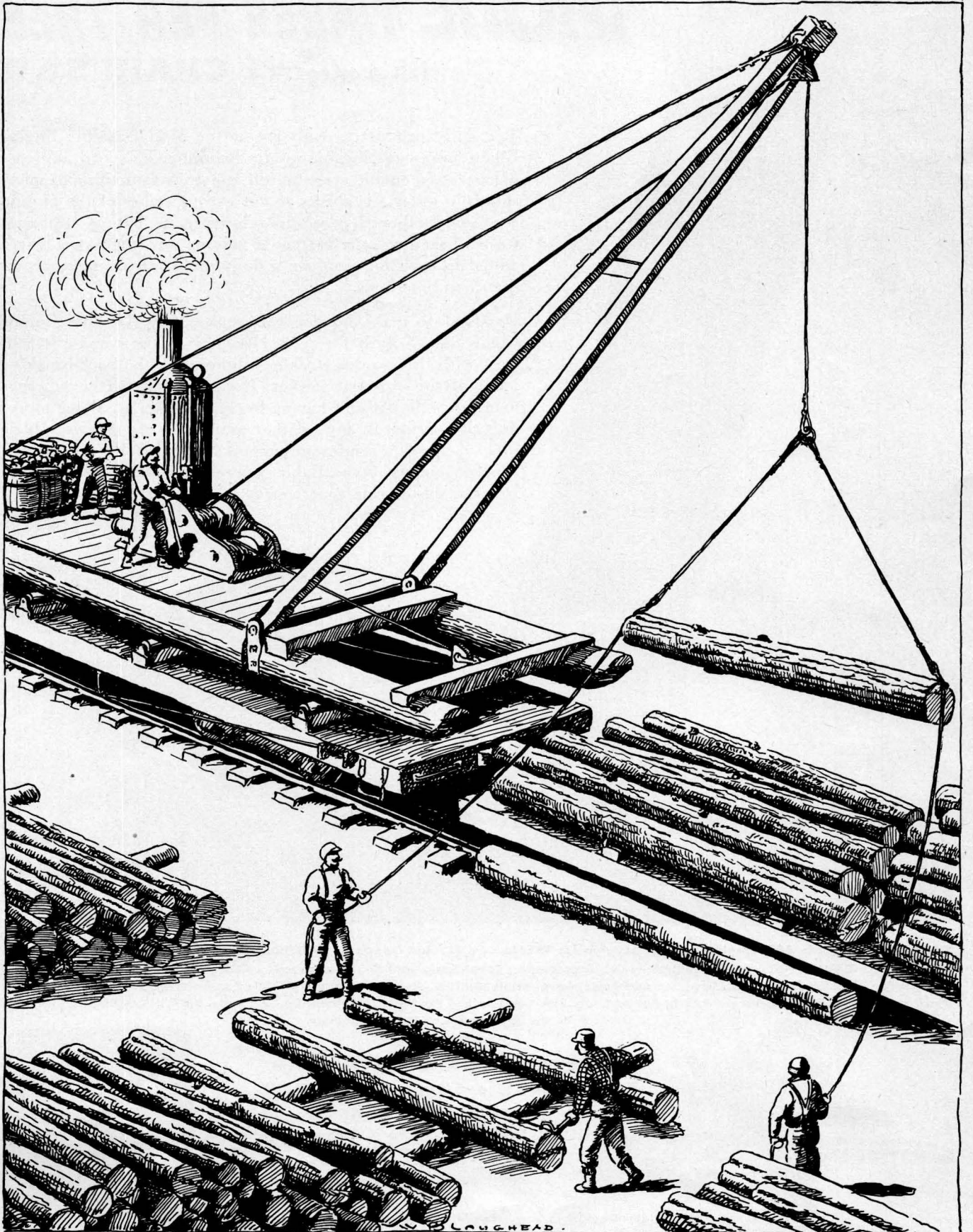
THE LAST FIVE MILES

W. B. LAUGHEAD.

[NUMBER 10 OF A SERIES OF 12]

OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER . . . *Early Type Jammer*

BY W. B. LAUGHEAD



[NUMBER 11 OF A SERIES OF 12]

Susanville California
December 6 1957

Mr. James Stevens
West Coast Lumbermens Association
Seattle Washington

Dear Jim:

Tell me something. Howcome that Bill Murphy, feature writer for the Los Angeles Times had a copy of the Southern Lumbar Journal Dec. '54 that he recieved from you? This carried a piece about the Red River Paul Bunyan and some of my timber paintings. I have been wondering why you sent it to him. Does it also carry something pertinent to you that I missed reading?

The way I learned of it Bill wrote to me asking for a photo of the Paul Bunyan painting. He thought at the time that he had recieved the magazine from me along with some other Paul Bunyan material. Then he checked and said that your return was on it. I am thinking that maybe he is doing a story with you and this was included in other material he has from you.

This all started from a piece in the Susanville paper that the Forest History Foundation had sent Hutch Hutchinson here to run a tape with me on Red River's Paul Bunyan. Murphy caught it and came in here with the idea he might find a story for the Times. I gave him some source material.

It appears that the Foundation is interested in the old controversy (you know all about it) over the authenticity of Paul Bunyan as a folklore figure. By the way did you catch the statement in TRUE last February that Paul Bunyan is fakelore, not Folklore?

Mr. Maunder writes that he has just run a tape with you on it. Now that is one that I would sure like to hear. There is no one so well informed and with your power of expression to give the scholastic hair splitters a bad time.

Maybe I could borrow your copy of the transcript?

If Murphy is doing a story with you will you let me know the publication date so I can send for a copy?

I have had a big bang out of every line I have had from you sine you wrote me from Bend that you had sold the BLACK DUCK DINNER to Menken. A lot of logs have gone down river since that day.

Take her steady and hang her tough.

Yours

328 Pardee Ave
Susanville California

W.B. Laughead

719 Randolph Place
Seattle 22, Wash.
January 21, 1958 - *god!*

Dear Bill:

Sorry, sorry, sorry---and forgive all the delay in answering your query of December 6. My retirement was more confusing than my discharge from the Army in 1919, and that is a story I've never been able quite to straighten. The climax was an infection in my only operating eye, so all letters were just set aside.

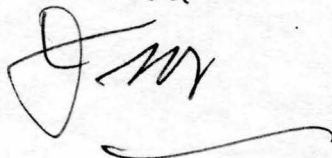
By now of course you have seen Bill Murphy's fine story--- or so it seems to me. We had several exchanges, and I was glad indeed to have had a copy of SL for Dec. 54 to send to Bill, and will be gladder to git it back. I'm writing him for it today too. The eye is in tolerable shape again. I should add that as soon as the thing was usable I touched nothing for a couple of weeks but the third draft for a little juvenile on which Random House gave me a contract in September. I had to have the manuscript in pronto or ~~xxxx~~ miss the fall publication. I'll let you know more about it when the deal is finally cinched up.

Elwood Maunder was here and taped me up last fall. He was happy about your production. The best thing in mine is the part in which I placed you in the history of American folklore alongside Davy Crockett. That is, he published his Frontier folk tales to promote his political career. You first published yours to promote Paul Bunyan Pine. This was the Lincoln method. Its basis is that of the parables of Jesus, who has never been given the credit that is His due as a master storyteller. Thomas Jefferson rigged up a version of the Gospels for himself in which he kept all the parables, while deleting the miracles. I don't go so far, but if I were compelled to take my choice I'd go along with Jeff.

I missed that TRUE phoney, mainly on purpose, for I heard about it. Providence disposes of all such issues, and there's not much that you and I can do about this matter. Bill, the story is the thing. I predict that people will go on reading your stories, in their form, for the appeal that has abided in them always. And so they will, in regard to my stuff, if its story values survive changes in story appreciation~~x~~ by readers. Be of good cheer. Keep wonderful! With best wishes. (My transcript copy is being drastically edited. So much I did not quite mean to say. I'll be glad to send you final copy. ◊)

Mr. W.B. Laughead
328 Pardee Ave.
Susanville, Calif.

Sincerely,



Susanville California
February 3 1958

Mr. James Stevens
719 Randolph Place
Seattle 22 Wash.

Dear Jim:

Any word from you is an event particularly your letter of Jan 21.

I will be looking for your Random House book as I have for everything you have written and I hope you will let me see your tape transcript when you get it in shape. I know it will be good reading for you are the boy to do the job. Background, positive opinions and the ability and temper to tell 'em.

As for your plug for me of course I want to see that. You know Jim you have always been over-generous to me and I have been deeply grateful. Red River's publications and trade journal advertising may have broken the ice and reached a number of cross-section people but it was your hard cover books that reached the literary field and carried the gospel to the world at large. To make it good you are the word craftsman and creative mind of the Paul Bunyan field and fortunately your blisters are on your hands and not your butt.

I have to overhaul the transcript of my tape. They were to send me an advance draft but did not do so. I was taped by "Hutch" Hutchinson a professional historian but a Real Guy who got his stuff the hard way. The visit with him was a rare privilege. I have always done my thinking with pencil paper and sweat. The tricky art of dictation, particularly documents for posterity is not my line. Trying to do it in time out between rounds of off the record chewing with a character like Hutch I said too many things the wrong way.

Reference to miracles always reminds me of two friends of old days, Peterson and Prenk. Peterson was unlettered, a non-churchman with a good I Q and an open mind. Prenk an atheist with the self satisfied intolerance of the totally ignorant. This time Prenk's argument was against miracles. "How could a man walk on water?" "Prenk," said Peterson, "If you really KNEW you could walk on water you could." "Haw" sneered Prenk "If I threw this hatchet out of the boat would it float?" Peterson tried to explain the difference between belief and faith, a job where bettermen have failed. "Now listen carefully Prenk. If you Knew the axe would float it would". Overboard went the axe and Prenk yelled "Yust vat I tot". Telling me about it Peterson said "Do you know that swivel head still thinks he won the argument."

Murphy writes that you are planning a trip to Los Angeles. If you drive could you possibly make a detour to Susanville? At Red Bluff on Hy 99 turn East. Its 115 miles on Hy 36. I am here most of the time but you could phone care Mt. Lassen Hotel number 8201 to prevent a wild goose chase/

Take good care of that eye. Don't let any pressure drive you into abusing it. Taint worth it.

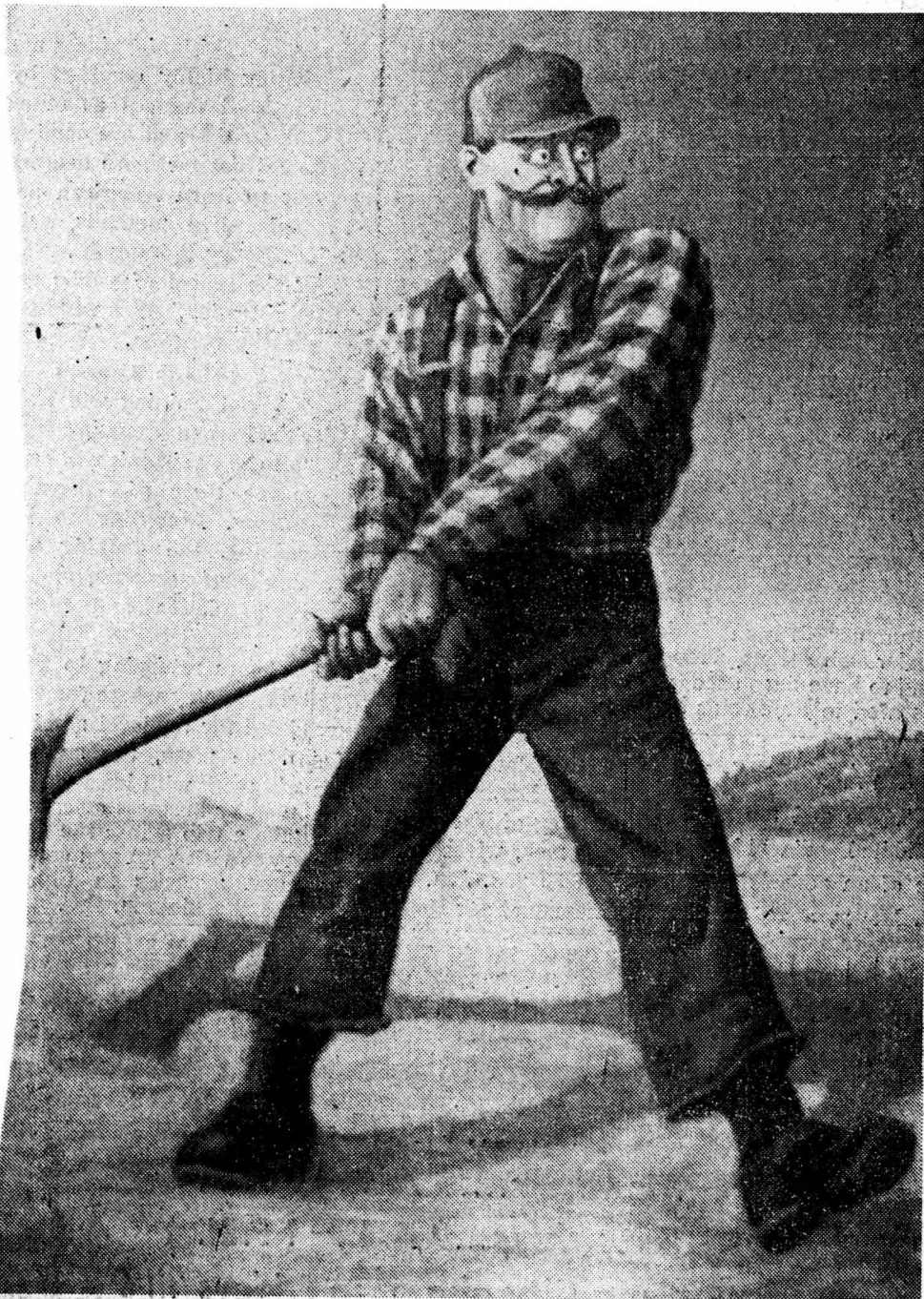
Yours

328 Pardee Ave
Susanville

W.B.Laughead

This is the hotel's number
My house number - nights
+Sundays only - 8252

Case Backlog in L.A. Courts Higher Than Ever Despite 'Pretrial' System



LEGENDARY LOGGER—Paul Bunyan, as depicted in a painting by William B. Laughead, of Susanville. It was Laughead who made the first drawings of figure and compiled some of first tales he heard in lumber camps as young man.

Most Jurists, However, Laud Short-Cut Plan

BY RUDY VILLASENOR

Despite inauguration of the much-heralded "pre-trial" system and the increase in judicial manpower, the Los Angeles County Superior Court ended 1957 more than ever bogged down in the welter of untried cases.

Quick access to civil justice seemed more unattainable than ever. But few of the judges and the lawyers in a position to study the workings of the court had more than minor criticism for the pretrial shortcut to justice.

At worst, the consensus seemed to be that pretrial did no harm and may have prevented the court from falling ever farther behind in getting lawsuits to trial. At best, the most enthusiastic backers of the new procedure thought it cut the average trial time of cases by 25%.

Big Increase Cited

But the fact remained that as of Jan. 1, 1957, the court had on its docket 10,271 cases ready for trial and that 11 months later, on Dec. 1, the number had increased to 12,730 and reached approximately 13,000 the first of this year.

In terms of time it means that jury cases now are being given trial dates 13 months away from the time lawyers report them "at issue"—that is, ready for hearing on their merits. A year ago the waiting period

LEGENDARY LOGGER—Paul Bunyan, as depicted in a painting by William B. Laughead, of Susanville. It was Laughead who made the first drawings of figure and compiled some of first tales he heard in lumber camps as young man.

Legend of Paul Bunyan Still Lives in Land of High Timber and Snow

BY BILL MURPHY

High in the snow-capped Sierra Nevada, which forms California's northern barrier, the legendary lumberjack of superhuman strength, Paul Bunyan, is once more swinging a might ax.

Giant stands of ponderosa pine topple like matchsticks and a huge blue ox named Babe snakes the trees down the mountains to a mill which hums with activity.

Of course this is all imaginary, for Paul Bunyan is a myth of American folklore, just as was Babe, the ox who measured 42 exhandles and a tobacco plug between the eyes.

Very Much Alive

But to William B. Laughead, 75, of Susanville, a town which lies in the heart of California timber country 600 miles northeast of Los Angeles, Paul Bunyan is still very much alive.

For it was from Bill Laughead's inkwell and his recollections of lumbering in the Minnesota north woods that the Paul Bunyan legend spread across the continent and into the far corners of the world.

Laughead stirred a log in the fire. Outside, rain drummed a soft tattoo against the windows.

Paul Finds Babe

"Be snowing up here in this country soon," he observed, reaching for his pipe. "Sort of like the winter of the blue snow when Paul found Babe. She was just a calf then."

He paused to strike a match and grinned over his pipe.

"But let's start at the beginning. Who knows where Paul Bunyan really originated? It's said that stories about him date back to the early 1800s in Canada. In those days logging was real



POPULARIZED — William B. Laughead, 75, first to popularize legends of Logger Paul Bunyan. Times photo

labor. Loggers lived on beans, salt pork and sourdough.

"At night they would sit around the shanty stove and spin their stories. Bunyan and his fantastic feats began to develop then. From Canada Paul soon was branching out, operating logging camps in New Brunswick, Me., and the Great Lakes.

"As a young man I worked in the lumber camps of Minnesota. That was around

1900. At night I would sit around and listen to other loggers swapping yarns about Paul. I never did dream he would go commercial, but that's what happened when they decided of Paul was moving to California."

Laughead was working as advertising manager for the Red River Lumber Co. in Minnesota in 1914. The firm had exhausted its timberlands in that State and was about to begin operations in California.

Archie Walker, secretary of the concern, called him into his office.

Becomes a Slogan

"We're moving to California," he announced. "We need a new advertising gimmick to let our customers know about it. We've both worked in the logging camps. What about this mythical Paul Bunyan? Let's make him a slogan."

Bill Laughead went back to his desk. He began to sketch, and a jovial-looking lumberjack sporting a wide mustache and possessing the confident air of a man who accepts no challenge as impossible suddenly appeared.

Paul Bunyan, as he would be known to thousands, was born.

Laughead began jotting down some of the tall tales he had heard in the woods

Turn to Page 7, Column 3

months away from the time lawyers report them "at issue" that is ready for hearing on their merits. A year ago, the waiting period was 12 months.

For nonjury cases the waiting time is now 10 months. It was nine months a year ago.

No Guaranty

But a trial date 11½ or 13 months away does not carry gilt-edge guaranty. Litigants may find that on the appointed day the Master Calendar Court may be clogged with cases and there are too few jurists free to clear the congestion.

When that happens, the court arbitrarily postpones some of the trials — anywhere from two or three days to two or three months. It is a fate that befalls about 10% of the cases day in and day out.

For the benefit of the layman, a case is not at issue until all the pleadings are in order and there are no more preliminary motions to be heard. The average case does not reach that position for two or three months from the time of filing.

18 Months Is Average

All of this means that under the present state of affairs, the ordinary civil case will not reach trial until some 18 months after it is filed.

Uncontested cases, like most divorce suits, however, are heard sooner. The law also gives early trial preference to some types of cases in which the element of time must be considered.

The pretrial system was put into operation Jan. 2, 1957, in a court staffed with

Turn to Page 8, Column 1

PAUL BUNYAN

Continued from First Page
about this famous logger. The Red River Lumber Co. printed a booklet which was distributed to its customers. It was greeted with apathy. Few of the people in the industry knew who Paul Bunyan was and cared less.

Paul belonged to the men who worked in the woods. He was the hero of every logging camp. No one else was interested. Then some of the booklets began to fall into the hands of the public.

Here was Paul Bunyan, not only a master logger, but an organizer who kept his lumberjacks happy by catering to their mammoth appetites. At the camp on the Big Onion, for instance, cooks skated around the skillet with hams on their feet to grease it for the pancakes. Boys rode bicycles up and down the tables, dropping the cakes off when called for. Paul fed his men pea soup that came out of a giant pipeline.

Four-Horse Sleds

A visitor at one of Paul's camps was astonished to see a crew of men unloading four-horse logging sleds at the cook shanty. They appeared to be rolling logs into a trap door from which poured clouds of steam.

"That's a heck of a place to land logs," he remarked.

"Them ain't logs," grinned a cook. "Them's sausages for the teamsters' breakfast."

Bunyan was also a thinker. Once his timekeeper, Johnny Inkslinger, was running out of ink.

Two Barrels Left

"I only have two barrels left, Mr. Bunyan," he lamented. "How am I to get through the winter?"

"Just leave off dotting the i's and crossing the t's and you'll save ink for the necessary writing and figuring. When the spring ink supply comes in, you can go over your books again."

It worked.

"It was then that the storme broke," Laughead explained. "Requests for the booklets poured in from all over the United States. And not just from children. There were plenty from adults.

about Paul. Said they were interested in the tales from a propaganda standpoint. sent him a book."

In 1951, a Vladivostok newspaper claimed that Russian loggers first made up the stories of a giant woodsman. His name was Paulsk Bunyanovitch.

Collector of Legends

James Stevens of Seattle a veteran of many years in the logging business, and the author of a collection of Bunyan legends himself sums up the story like this:

"It is a true American legend now, for Paul Bunyan as he stands today is absolutely American from head to foot. He visualizes the American love of tall tale and tall doings. He has become the creation of whole generations of men. Thousands of narrators by far flung campfires have contributed their mites to the classical picture of him, and he at least will live as long as there is a forest for his refuge, as long as there are shadows and whispers of trees."

Laughead gazed into the fire.

"Ol' Paul's probably up in the high timber nearby right now, chopping away," he reflected, rapping his pipe against the hearth. Then he winked.

Crossing Guard Jobs Available

The City Civil Service Department yesterday urged persons interested in part-time work to file applications for jobs of school crossing guards.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. tomorrow. There is no maximum age limit for the jobs which pay \$1.58 an hour.

**SHOP
MONDAY
NIGHT**

(MAIN STORE)

Open 9:30 a.m.

PRENTICE BLOEDEL.

ROUTE 1, BOX 712

WINSLOW, WASHINGTON

January 6, 1958.

Mr. William Laughead,
Susanville, California.

Dear Sir:

In the Fall Newsletter of the Forest History Foundation I read that you were the author of the Paul Bunyan stories published by the Red River Lumber Company. As I remember these to be the best of the various versions that have come to my attention, I would like to secure a copy and wonder if you could let me know if and where any of these are available.

Yours very truly,

Prentice Bloedel

pb/g

*sent book
1-31-58*

PRENTICE BLOEDEL

ROUTE 1, BOX 112

WINSLOW, WASHINGTON

March 10, 1958.

Mr. W.B. Laughead,
328 Pardee Avenue,
Susanville, California.

Dear Mr. Laughead:

The little Paul Bunyan book-
let arrived quite some time back now and
I have read it over again. My memory
did not mislead me. It had the same
ring of authenticity that I had expected.
It is safely put away with other memorabilia
of that golden age of logging.

Many thanks for your trouble.

Yours very truly,

Prentice Bloedel

pb/g

736 W. Pine ave
Fresno, 5, Calif
Jan 7 - 1958

Mr. William B. Laeghead
Susanville, Calif.

Dear Sir -

We read the article by Bill Murphy
in the Los Angeles Times of Jan. 6 - 1958
with great interest. We were
the proud purchasers of your
book about Paul Bunyon. We
lived in the "short log" logging
country of Northern Idaho, at
the time - But we
loaned the book to someone
who never returned it -
so we would like to have
another copy. Will
you please tell us where
we can get one and the
price -

Thank you

Jack W. Rodner
736 W. Pine ave
Fresno 5 - Calif

Re: book
3-26-
Sylvia Ed

*Answered
1-31-58*

North Hollywood, Calif
Jan. 8th, 1958

Mr. Laughead,
Susanville, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

I read your article in the Los Angeles Times and am very interested in it as my father had several Lumber Camps in northern Minnesota when you worked in them. I believe was about that time. What I'm interested in knowing is this--Did you ever hear of Charley Colbroth and John Colbroth. Charley was my father. I lived in the lumber camps as a child. My father also had lumber camps in Wisconsin, near Superior also near a town called Maple. I remember the Cook Shanty, the Root house the Toat Team and the Wanigan. I'm not quiet sure what the Wanigan was. What I didn't remember about the camps, my mother told me.

The Lumber Camps I refer to were the ones that hauled the logs on sled to the river and floated them down the river to the Mills. I remember the Road Monkey and the iced ruts for the sleds and the long hours the drivers of the sleds had to do. Had to haul a certain amount of loads to the Landing, I believe they called it. I believe the drivers were called teamsters. Am I right on that. There was a town in Northern Minnesota named Colbroth after my father and uncle. I don't know just were it is and don't know if the name stills stands.

In the summer my father was engaged with *Jim Hill* in building the Great Northern through the West. *It got as far as*

the Dokatos when he was taken sick and dies before it was completed.

Would like to hear from you,

Mrs. M. Vollhaber,
4507 Van Noord,
North Hollywood, California

Mr. Laughter,
San Jose, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

I read your article in the Los Angeles Times and am very interested in it as my father had several lumber camps in northern Minnesota when you worked in them. I believe was about that time. What I'm interested in knowing is this--Did you ever hear of Charley Coltrich and John Coltrich. Charley was my father. I lived in the lumber camps as a child. My father also had lumber camps in Wisconsin, near Superior. I also recall a place called Maple. I remember the Cook Shanty, the Root house the Post Team and the Wagon. I'm not sure what the Wagon was. What I didn't remember about the camps, my mother told me.

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% 1227 Magnolia Ave Los Angeles 6 Calif. 11/9/58

ANSWERED 2-1-1958

Mr William B. Langhead Susanville. Calif

Kind regards greeting to you my what marvellous experiences some people have - that was a very interesting write up in the paper re Logger Paul Bunyan - and God in mercy has spared W.B.L. to a reasonably good age already, in fact I also am in my 75th year born Sept 8 1882 - in Ontario Canada - when at home we would live in Victoria B.C. Prescibly you have been there. - I was in business there for many years but am now what is called ^{retired} altho of very limited dollars - we left Victoria Dec 17th & drove down to visit

R. Langton Carter
c/o 2578 Vancouver St.
Victoria B. C. Canada
Wages or Gift (Romans 6-23)

among many of our Christian friends. How
ever dear Mr W.B.L; our lease of life is fast
running out - & the most important thing is to
make sure now that ones trust is in Jesus Christ
as Saviour for He is the only Passport to God's
Heaven & "He is mine" - is He yours?

Its now in this life we each must get the
question of our sins settled for no person
can ever enter Heaven in their sins & only
the blood of "Jesus Christ" cleanses us from
all sin (1st John 1 Verse 7)

Please read the enclosed & see for yourself
how these soldiers got saved & notice the
change that was effected in them - a

proof of the work effected inside of them
& proved by their conduct. isn't it grand?
Now God wants to secure W.B. for Heaven
are you going to yield to Him & receive
Jesus as His free gift of salvation to you?
— no Saviour means no Heaven —

Well those 7 soldiers Saviour is now mine
& I am seeking to win some other dear ones
for my Saviour "out of love to Him & an
appreciation of what He has done for me."

May God grant you to see that Jesus is
your Saviour too for there is no other

Sincerely with kind regards

R. L. Carter

SEVEN MEN WENT SINGING INTO HEAVEN

"One of the strangest experiences in my life is connected with war," says Nordenberg, an eminent engineer in Finland.

"I offered my services to the Government and was appointed an officer in General Mannerheim's army. It was a terrible time. We besieged the town. It had been taken by the Red army and we re-took it. A number of Red prisoners were under my guard. Seven of them were to be shot at dawn on Monday. I shall never forget the preceding Sunday. The seven doomed men were kept in the basement of the town hall. In the passage my men stood at attention with their rifles.

"The atmosphere was filled with hatred. My soldiers were drunk with victory and taunted their prisoners, who swore as much as they could and beat the walls with their bleeding fists. Others called for their wives and children who were far away. At dawn they were all to die.

"We had the victory, that was true enough; but the value of this seemed to diminish as the night advanced. I began to wonder whether there did not rest a curse on arms whichever side used them.

"Then something happened; one of the men doomed to death began to sing! 'He is mad!' was everybody's first thought. But I had noticed this man, Koskinen, had not raved and cursed like the others. Quietly he had sat on his bench, a picture of utter despair. Nobody said anything to him - each was carrying his burden in his own way and Koskinen sang, rather waveringly at first, then his voice grew stronger and filled out, and became natural and free. All the prisoners turned and looked at the singer who now seemed to be in his element:

'Safe in the arms of Jesus, Safe on His gentle brest,
There by His love o'ershaded, Sweetly my soul shall rest.
Hark, 'tis the voice of angels, Borne in a song to me
Over the fields of glory, Over the jasper sea.'

"Over and over again Koskinen sang that verse and when he finished everyone was quiet for a few minutes until a wild-looking individual broke out with 'Where did you get that, you fool? Are you trying to make us religious?'"

"Koskinen looked at his comrades and his eyes filled with tears. Then he asked quietly: 'Comrades, will you listen to me for a minute? You asked me where I got this song: it was one I used to hear my mother sing. At first I also laughed at this song but it got me. It is cowardly to hide your beliefs: the God my mother believed in has now become my God also. I cannot tell you how it happened, but I know that it has happened. I lay awake last night and suddenly I felt that I had to find the Saviour and to hide in Him. Then I prayed--like the thief on the Cross--that Christ would forgive me and cleanse my sinful soul, and make me ready to stand before Him whom I should meet soon. It was a strange night,' continued Koskinen. 'There were times when everything seemed to shine around me. Verses from the Bible and from the Song Book came to my mind. They brought a message of the crucified Saviour and the Flood that cleanses from all sin 1st John 1, Ver.7, and of the Home He has prepared for us. I thanked Him, accepted it, and since then this verse has been sounding inside me. It was God's answer to my prayer, I could no longer keep it to myself! Within a few hours I shall be with the Lord, saved by His grace.'

"Koskinen's face shone as by an inward light. His comrades sat there quietly. He himself stood there transfixed. My soldiers were listening to what this Red revolutionary had to say.

"'You are right, Koskinen,' said one of his comrades at last. 'If only I knew that there is mercy for me, too! But these hands of mine have shed blood and I have reviled God and trampled on all that is holy. Now I realize that there is a Hell and that it is the proper place for me.' He sank to the ground with despair depicted on his face. 'Pray for me Koskinen,' he groaned, 'tomorrow I shall die and my soul will be in the hands of the devil!' And there these two Red soldiers went down on their knees and prayed for each other. It was no long prayer, but it opened Heaven for both, and we who listened to it forgot our hatred. It melted in the light from Heaven for here two men who were soon to die sought reconciliation with God. A door leading into the invisible stood ajar and we were entranced by the sight.

"Let me tell you shortly that by the time it was four o'clock all Koskinen's comrades had followed his example and began to pray. The change in the atmosphere was indescribable. Some of them sat on the floor, others talked of spiritual things.

"The night had almost gone and day was dawning. No one had had a moment's sleep. 'Sing the song once more for us, Koskinen,' said one of them. And you should have heard them sing! Not only that song but verses and choruses long forgotten came forth from

get into, you fool! Are you trying to make us religious?"

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"The night had almost gone and day was dawning. No one had had a moment's sleep. 'Sing the song once more for us, Koskinen,' said one of them. And you should have heard them sing! Not only that song but verses and choruses long forgotten came forth from their memories as buds in the sunshine. The soldiers on guard united their voices with them. The town clock struck six. How I wished I could have begged for grace for these men, but I knew that this was impossible. Between two rows of soldiers they marched out to execution. One of them asked to be allowed once more to sing Koskinen's song. Permission was granted. Then they asked to die with uncovered faces and with hands raised to Heaven they sang with might and main: 'Safe in the arms of Jesus, Safe on His Gentle brest.' When the last lines had died out the lieutenant gave the word 'Fire!' and the seven Red soldiers had fought their last fight. We inclined our heads in silent prayer.

"What had happened in the hearts of the others I do not know; but so far as I was concerned I was a new man from that hour. I had met Christ in one of His lowliest and youngest disciples and I had seen enough to realize that I too, could be His. 'The Lord looked from Heaven; He beholdeth all the sons of men.' (Psalm 33:12.)"

Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25)

These are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God and that believing ye might have life through His name. John 20-31

Susanville
1-10-58

Dear Bill:

Received the tear sheets yesterday for which manu thanks. I have ordered some more from the Times. It made quite a layout with Paul striding across the top of the page and me stretching my turkey neckias though I was gaping at both spotnecks at once.

I liked your story particularly the fire place . All we lacked was ~~the~~ buttered rum and St.Nicholas and his tiny reindeer pattering on the roof. We will have them the first time you come to Lassen County. If St. Nicholas don't show up we can have another rum and hear the reindeer anyway.

I hope your physiological maladjustments have responded to treatment and that it will not be too long before you are up this way again.

Say tell me something. Howcome Jim Stenems sent you that Southern Lumber Journal with the story of my paintings ? Were you getting background material from him before you contacted me ? And why would he send you a story about me? Was there something in the magazine about Jim ghat I missed ? I have known Jim to do some highly original things but I can't figure that one.

Take her steady

As always



Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES 53 · CALIFORNIA

MAdison 5-2345

1-11-58

Dear Bill:

Glad that you liked the story. Sorry you bothered to write the circulation department, as I am afraid that they will send you the final editions. They had to bump the picture of Paul in that run and they just carried the shot of you. I'll find you a couple of tear sheets and send them along. If you have a chance, drop around to the Advocate and show them to ~~Rickard~~ Richard Myers and say hello. It was because I follow his paper every week that I saw the item about you. This reminds ~~me~~ me that the fellow who came up to see and do the story works for the Diamond Match Co. and I met him about a year before when I was up at Diamond doing a piece on the lumber industry.

I decided to toss the fireplace bit into the story because I must have been feeling nostalgic about Westwood. We own two houses which are side by side on the same street. One is a big rambling place that half the lumber mill must have once occupied, and the other is smaller somewhat and much more liveable. I intend to ~~fix~~ furnish this one in the spring. I don't know what will become of the other unless we make it an old soldier's home, or perhaps a museum.

Well, it was real cold, and outside there were flurries of snow in the air--this last October when I was up there. Art Bates, who is one of the local Deputy Sheriff's suggested that I warm up the houses, because they had been vacant for so long. He brought over a big load of wood and left it on the doorstep. So I went inside and built a fire for each house. Each has a wonderful big fireplace, and they were soon blazing merrily. I alternated by walking from house to house watching both of them blaze, and of course having a few tots of Old Ned, because as I mentioned it was getting cold outside. I guess that is where I got the idea about the fire when I sat down to write the story. I just moved the setting in my mind from Susanville to one of those houses and visualized how pleasant it will be when one of them is furnished.

Al Klotz who is the manager of the American Forest Products Industries office in San Francisco sent me Jim Steven's address. Al has helped me on lumber stories before, because this is the nation wide outfit which represents the American lumber industry. I wrote Jim and told him about the story I was writing about you and he sent me the article from the Lumber Journal. I sent him a copy of the story, but I haven't heard from him. The quotes I used from him in my article came out of a book which he wrote a number of years ago, and which I liked very much.

Hope to see you again after the Blue Snow melts. I like to get back there as often as I can. This town is really getting frantic. People are pouring into Southern California by the thousands, and I think they're all trying to squeeze into Los Angeles. This was a great town to live in once--but that was twenty years ~~ago~~ ago.

Best wishes - Bill

Mrs. W^m Smith
3386 E. Century Blvd
Lynwood, California

COMPTON
JAN 15
D. SUPP.
1958
CALIF.

PRAY
FOR
PEACE

UNITED STATES
2 CENTS
POSTAL CARD

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

William B. Laughhead
Susanville,
California

Answered
2/1/58

11/19/58

Mr. William B. Laughhead,

After reading the article in
the Los Angeles times, I'm anxious
to know if you ever knew
Big Charlie Anderson - a logger
in northern Minnesota around
1900. If you know anything I would
like to hear from you. My father

January 18 1958

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles 53 California

Circulation

Gentlemen:

Please note attached copies of my letters of
January 9 and 10.

Yesterday I received 12 copies of section III
of January 6 issue. These were from the late edition from
which the halftone of Paul Bunyan had been removed. Evidently
my order was filled from my letter of the 9th before you
received my letter of the 10th.

If possible I want to have the tear sheets that
carry the Paul Bunyan halftone . If 18 tear sheets are not
available please send what you can. I am returning the 12
sections.

Yours truly

W.B.Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

January 9 1959

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles 53 California

Circulation

Gentlemen:

Please mail 12 tear sheets or clippings from your
January 6 1958 issue. Part III pages 1 and 32 col 2 . Story
by Bill Murphy PAUL BUNYAN STILL LIVES.

I inclose my open check to cover cost and postage.
Thanking you for this service,

Yours truly

W.B.Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

January 9 1958

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles 53 California

Circulation

Gentlemen :

Please mail 12 tear sheets or clippings from
your January 6 1958 issue , Part III pages 1 and 32 col2 ,
story by Bill Murphy PAUL BUNYAN STILL LIVES .

I inclose my open check to cover cost and postage .
Thanking you for this service,

Yours truly

W.B.Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

January 10 1958

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles 53 California

Circulation

Gentlemen:

Yesterday I wrote asking you to mail 12 tear sheets of Bill Murphy's story PAUL BUNYAN STILL LIVES in your issue of January 6 . I specified pages 1 and 32 of Part III.

Shórtly after this letter was posted the next mail brought tear sheets sent to me by Bill Murphy . These were pages 1-3 of Part III and carried a halftone of Paul Bunyan that was not included in the pages 1-32 make up that I had seen first. evidently the 1-32 was from a later edition from which the halftone had been dropped.

I want the layout that carries the Paul Bunyan halftone and to increase my order from 12 tearsheets to 18.

Yours truly

W.B.Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California

January 10 1958

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles 53 California

Circulation

Gentlemen:

Yesterday I wrote asking you to mail 12 tear sheets of Bill Murphy's story PAUL BUNYAN STILL LIVES from your issue of January 6. I specified pages 1 and 32 of Part III .

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I want the layout that carries the Paul Bunyan halftone and to increase my order from 12 tear sheets to 18.

Yours truly

W.B.Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Susanville California



Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES 53 • CALIFORNIA

MAdison 5-2345

Dear Bill -

Excuse the fact that we changed the locale of our talk to a house with a fire-place instead of a hotel lobby - but I have to add a little color. I was probably thinking of my place in Westwood where I'd like to be right now.

Noted in the Susanville paper that you had a white Christmas - which I would certainly have liked to see.

Hope to be up that way in a few months & will drop by to say hello. I am planning to spend one month at Westwood, but that won't be until next fall.

I sent a copy of this story to Jim Stevens in Seattle.

Best wishes to you

Bill Murphy

ROBERT S. MANSUR

2051 Layton Street
PASADENA • CALIFORNIA

January 20, 1958

Mr. William B. Laughead
Susanville, Calif.

Dear Mr. Loughead;-

Was greatly interested in the article of yours in the Los Angeles Times of January 6th. about Paul Bunyan.

We lived in Minnesota many years and at one time had a place at Nisswa which is a whistle stop just north of Brainerd And I heard plenty in those years about Paul and his Ox Babe. Maybe you have heard them all but one I remember distinctly was the day Paul was hauling a big tank of water with Babe and the tank sprung a leak and started the Mississippi River. Anyway I am greatly interested in reading all the tales I can get my hands on about this great woodsman. Just north of us at Bemidji they erected a statue of Paul on the main street and I presume it is still there.

Would you be kind enough to tell me if it is possible to get one of the booklets from the Red River Lumber Company? Enclose stamped envelope addressed for your reply also would appreciate address of Mr. James Stevens of Seattle if you have it. I do thank you for any assistance you can give me in obtaining these Paul Bunyan stories. Thank you so much.

Very truly,
Robert S. Mansur

*Rec'd Book
1-31-58*



Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES 53 • CALIFORNIA

MAdison 5-2345

Jan. 26

Dear Bill:

Thought the attached letter to the editor would be of interest. I had a letter from James Stevens. He said that he expects to come to L.A. within the next few months. Regarding the article he said: "Thanks for sending me the article. It will please every oldtimer of the pines to see this tribute to Bill Laughead, the dean of all Bunyan inkslingers since McGillivray and Malloch. I'm sending your story on to Elwood Maunder, Director of the Forest History Foundation, St. Paul, Minn. It will add a fine lean streak to his fat Laughead file.

Also had a call from that busy art collector, Jim McBride who retired from the Times a number of years ago. He says: Why I saw the letter about Paul in the Times, but I missed the article, and I've known Bill Laughead for years. I'll send him a copy.

I've taken on a little task to complete two books for a publisher on California history by September. One is going to be a pictorial history and the other about the California missions, also illustrated. I think I will include a chapter on the logging industry from the earliest days. The Union Lumber Co at Fort Bragg has some good pictures of the early days which I hope to use.

Best regards,

*Bill**Answered
1-31-58*

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JAN-26-1958

LETTERS TO

Mighty Man

I was interested in your article about Paul Bunyan by Bill Murphy in The Times of Jan. 6.

I am sure that everyone who has lived in the Northwest around the logging camps has heard the tales of this legendary man. I have a book, "Paul Bunyan," by James Stevens, with woodcuts by Allen Lewis, published in 1925 by the Garden City Publishing Co.

There is a note that the woodcuts were originally made for and were used by courtesy of the Century magazine. Mr. Laughead's picture of Paul looked nothing like Mr. Lewis' interpretation of the legendary figure. Probably there are other books on Bunyan.

However, I believe the stories do not vary in that Babe, the blue ox, measured 42 ax handles between the horns, that the Winter of the Blue Snow was the worst ever experienced by man, and I am sure that no true logger would ever admit that there was a greater forest warrior than the great Paul Bunyan.

According to my book, the Paul Bunyan legend had its origin in the Papi-neau Rebellion of 1837 in Quebec, Can. Paul Bunyan later came to the Midwest and then still later came to the country west of the Cascades.

One story that used to make the rounds when I lived in Washington, and which is not in my book, is how old Puget got Paul to help him dig the Sound. The dirt thus excavated, of course, was piled high and later called "Mount Rainier."

OLIVE VAN SCHAICK,
Los Angeles.

ROBERT MANSUR
2051 LAYTON ST.
PASADENA 7, CALIF.

Pasadena 7 Calif.
February 3, 1958

Mr. W. B. Laughead
328 Pardee Avenue
Sanville, Calif.

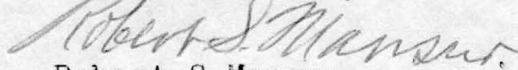
Dear Mr. Laughead;-

Your good letter and the Paul Bunyan booklet arrived today and I was delighted to receive them and I do thank you so much for your kindness. No one could appreciate them more than myself and I do want to show some measure of it by sending you an etching of Will Rogers done by a Pasadena artist. As an 'old timer' am sure you will enjoy looking at the twinkle in his eye. Will Rogers Jr told me it was a good likeness of his father and he said "you know there are a lot of poor pictures of him out.

The trainload of logs on page 3 of the booklet remind me of the Minnesota & International log trains that came down from International Falls to Brainerd and of the section hand that told me how the section boss was after him all the time to "Keep the joints up" (referring to the rail joints that made for rough riding when they got down)

To us there is no place like the Northern Minnesota woods and lakes for a vacation and maybe some day we can go back and hear loggers tell some more Paul Bunyan stories. Thanks again to you Mr. Laughead and may the good Lord bless you bountifully.

Very truly yours,


Robert S. Mansur

Susanville California
February 21 1958

Dear Ray:

Thanks for another notice in the highly esteemed Herald in which my name is associated with one Paul Bunyan .

I don't know what caused the recent rash of publicity. There was the statement in a popular magazine that Paul Bunyan never existed as lumber camp folklore , that he was "fake lore " invented to advertise lumber . Then on the folklore side of the controversy a tape recorded interview for the archives of the Foreat History Foundation, a T V broadcast and a couple of newspaper stories.

It might be timely to recall Paul from retirement to head our national defense . Franklin D. Roosevelt one asked Archie Walker for the loan of Paul Bunyan to head the N R A, the only appointee the president could think of who had what it took to enforce the act.

Paul Bunyan might come up with something to beat these nuclear missles and all this modern what not.

Regards as always

P.S. THE LIA-TIMES HAD ME REFER TO THE BIG BLUE OX AS "HER" - DUMB AS I AM I KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.

[1958?]

Susanville
Washington's Birthday

Dear Brad:

Got your very interesting letter last night. I wish I could respond in kind but my life is rather hum drum and I don't have any interesting adventures like your fishing trip or anything outside the regular routine to write about. The last fishing licence I bought was in 1935 about the time we got real busy painting.

Maybe I would have been better off enjoying the recreational advantages of the wonderful country and time in which we were living but on the other hand that experience with you holds many memories I would not want to be without. I picked up a lot of odds and ends of learning and viewpoints that go to make up life and a companionship that has since been missing.

I have done no painting the past four or five years. One reason is the lack of a place to work. Ive been doing drawings that do not scatter paint and debris that ruin a room.

You see I live out on Fruit Growers hill nearly a mile from up town. Up to about three years ago Mrs. Quarles lived with me in my three bedroom house. Since then I have been in it alone (a hell of a way to live). I am stuck with the house and a lot of Mrs. Quarles furniture and possessions that include period antiques. You can't dispose of them as sccond hand furniture and aftervall they are still her property although she will never use them again.

I could fix up painting space at the house but then I would be alone all the time. I am no worry wart but I know that in case of accident or illness I could lay there for weeks before anyone would miss me . Another thing a 100 per cent loner is the kind of critter I don't want to be. So I rent a rocm at the Mt. Lassen hotel an added expense but a good rate as a permanent. I show up every day and sooner or later would be missed. Beside there are the constant contacts with folks. These have paid off in a small way through the sale to transients of some of the paintings I had on the lobby and coffe shop walls(Nebraska, Alabama, Hollywood, Bay Region and Minnesota).

If I could paint faster maybe I could pick up a little side money that way but I am still an amatuer, too much detail too much fussing and doin over. I saw a quote from one of the great French artists the other day " Painting is not difficult if you don't know anything about it. Otherwise it is a toilsome job." Maybe I know too much about the way I want it to look and not enough to get it that way.

Inclosed clipping is one item in some recent publicity about Paul Bunyan. Last spring TRUE magazihe carried the statement that Paul Bunyan never had any folklore origin in camp tales that he was "Fakelore" invented to advertise lumber. I don't know whether that had anything to do with what followed or not but along in November the Forst History Foundation of St. Paul sent researcher to tape record an interview with me to establish the actual logging camp origin. Prior to that there was a T.V. broadcast from the folklore stand point then two newspaper stories like this one. This Los Angeles reporter did not do a bad job. He got some of it right although he did have me refer to the Big Blue Ox as "she". Now dumb as I am about some t things I know that draft cattle are "he".

I did not know anything about the T V program until after it came off and had no part in supplying material for it . Got a transcript later on. By the way you would get a kick out of these Northern California history and folklore programs from Chico State College . Sundays use to be 6.00 p.m. currently 10;00 P.M. The narrator in Hector Lee a Phd , Bean of Education but one of those rare exceptions a down-to - earth,hard way guy that is really human. I find from correspondence with him he is really that way off the screen.

I also had a great stroke of luck with the tape interviewer. It was "Hutch" Hutchinson a recognized professional historian who started life as a cow puncher , got all his stuff the hardest kind of way and still looks at life like a boomer working stiff. Can you imagine the combination? We wasted a lot of time and had some great jam sessions.

We have had a remarkable winter. Of course there is plenty of time left to catch it but so far nearly all the storms stopped up around Inspiration Point . A couple of times the snow lasted a couple of days on the streets . Some moisture that we always are short of in slow drizzly rains that have time to sink in the ground and not run tight off down hill.

The flood tide of population you speak of has not reached us yet although it is bound to come sooner or later when all the other places get filled up. Susanville is still an easy going place to live . The old small town " Hello Bill" "Hi Brad" sort of community where you know every body. Last Summer the new owners sold about all the houses in Westwood . A lot of them to outlanders from Southern California looking for summer homes but many to workers at Greenville Chester and the Almanor tunnel . What will come of that we dont know yet but once the high pressure from the outside world starts to leak into our region it may not be long until we are as bad off as you are. It is not funny to grow old but when its all said and done I am glad I lived when I did.

I know what you mean about incentive . You have to create it. Some sort of long term project on which you can work high pressure or low pressure as opportunity or mood comes along but enough importance to be really interesting and not just make believe work.

I am lokking for something like that myself.

Write again whe the spirit moves you and you might catch me at a time when I have something to say. Best regards and wishes as always to Anna Laura and yourself ,

W. E. HORN, PRESIDENT
M. W. INKMANN, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT
C. R. SWARTLING, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT
E. S. ERICKSON, TREASURER
D. C. ROBERTSON, NATIONAL AFFAIRS

MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

W. B. HANMER, CHAIRMAN
DONNA BURNS, VICE CHAIRMAN

STAFF:

HELMER E. OLSON, MANAGER
CHARLOTTE CHEEVER, SECRETARY

Hibbing Chamber of Commerce

ANDROY HOTEL
PHONE AMHERST 3-7611

HIBBING, MINNESOTA

"The Iron Ore Capital of the World"

March 18, 1958

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William B. Laughead
Susanville, California

Fellow Paul Bunyan enthusiast:

Gene Newnham, a classmate (USC '34) of Los Angeles sent me a copy of Bill Murphy's article which appeared in the Los Angeles Times on January 6, 1958. I enjoyed it very much and will appreciate the opportunity to exchange any duplicates of information that you may have. I've searched for a hobby and have adopted Paul Bunyan as mine with considerable success in keeping our folklore hero alive.

You mentioned the 1951 Russian claim to Paulski Bunyanovich. I refuted this claim to a United Press correspondent. The story appeared all over the country which mandated the printing of the enclosed card. Over 30,000 of these cards have been sold and the Hibbing Graphic Arts still consider it a hot item.

A former University of Southern California Journalism Professor, also from Minnesota, in 1955 published a book, "Paul Bunyan and His Men" by PHD Ivan Benson, C. E. Tuttle Company of Rutland, Vermont and Tokyo, Japan. Our Governor Orville L. Freeman and I have had a lot of fun autographing copies with "Fellow contriver for the great potentials of: "Minnesota, Land of Paul Bunyan and Big Opportunities. Confidently yours," I have the Governor sign "For Paul Bunyan". To get Hibbing in the act I sign "For Johnny Inkslinger." Our legendary hero has proven to be an excellent means to help sell our state. It has been most effective. The enclosed Ox-O-Meter is one of them. The enclosed Wall Street Journal advertisement is another. With all the bad weather elsewhere, we've had a hay-day in our comparative "Banana Belt."

Enclosed also is Charles LeRoy Hood's run down on my hobby. An extra run of 1,000 copies is about exhausted.

Two years ago I played host for 2 days to a Russian Delegation visiting this area. I told them of the U. P. story. They insisted on having copies of the refuting card and my autographing copies of the book. We enjoyed every minute of their stay as a result. They gave me cavier and vodka after many drinks and before farewell. Some months later my daughter received 16 dolls which represented the several states of the USSR to add to her doll collection. Last year Minnesota Mining and Peat team visited Russia. Last fall a second group of Russians again visited Hibbing which was equally as interesting. My point is that thru Paul Bunyan I was able to help in my small way to create a better understanding that penetrated the Iron Curtain.



Your St. Louis County Fair and Industrial Exposition, July 31, August 1, 2, 3

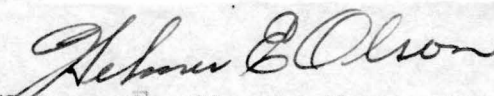
-2- Laughead

Under separate cover I am forwarding a copy of a Paul Bunyan size menu. It was sent to every Chamber manager in the U.S. including Harold Wright of the Los Angeles with whom I had a nice visit with back in 1954 while attending a class reunion at S.C.

If you happen to have extra copies of Bill Murphy's story, I'd appreciate as many as you can spare. I'll also send a copy of this to him, in case he can spare some extras. I used to handle the Winter Sports for USC, ice hockey, ski jumping, slolum, cross country and even some speed skating. Maybe Bill Murphy was even around at that time, so I'd have known him.

I'd like to hear from you. I have quite a bit more I will send. I sincerely believe that we can have some more fun.

Sincerely yours,


Helmer E. Olson, Mgr.

HEO:cc
Encls.



23-III-1958.

Dear Bill:

Your note on 7 January was written the day we sailed from SF on the Lurline for 72 days which now are over, Alas! Had a fine trip, tell you about it someday when we foregather. Hope you wintered well. Mail is feet deep on my alleged desk and am being more than usually incivil in answering it.

Good luck and God Bless !

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hettite", is written in black ink. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, sweeping flourish that extends across the width of the signature.

Susanville
April 8 1858

Dear Hutch :

The Diamond-Gardner book arrived and it is a masterpiece, no less , every phase of the job strictly Big League.

After a quick look-through I read the first paragraph and from then on I was hooked until the last page at some time past midnight. During the after noon I loaned it to a retired oldtime lumberman who is a discriminating reader. When he returned it he said " I want that book again when I have plenty of time to read it. You read it fast enough because it is facinating but he tells you so much in each sentence you have to go back and re read each page over to digest it."

In other words a masterpiece of condensation to put all that you give us into 32 pages without sacrificing the touches of color, side comment and associated history that capture the reader.

That research must have been a terrifying job. Then you take that collection of facts so hardly come by and toss them to us two or three in the same sen tence or paragraph like currents in a coffee cake (in the old days before we had to buythem),

And who knows the long sweaty apprenticeship and thw waste baskets full of torn up copy that produced that writing style that makes it look so easy.

Incidentally I learned one hell of a lot I never knew before. Nothing will do but a long talk sesseion about all the angles and the spaces between the lines.

Many thanks for the book and your inscription and many more for printing my name in it where it will stick like a fly in amber. Any one would be proud and grateful to be mentioned even as an also ran in such a Hall of Fame.

AS Always

W.B.Laughead

P.S. Got your Rhodes Reader. Saw a review and sent to Paul Elder for it. That calls for another letter .

Susanville California
April 11 1958

Mr. Helmer E. Olson Manager
Hibbing Chamber of Commerce
Hibbing Minnesota

Dear Mr. Olson:

I enjoyed your letter and the interesting account of your association with Paul Bunyan . Also the inclosures and the menu from the Viking Room of the Radisson . I've had some fun with the menu and my friends in the restaurant business.

I am inclosing a copy of the Red River Lumber Company's Paul Bunyan book which literary researchers say was the source book for much of the Paul Bunyan writing that followed.

The book had a unique history . We made but one mass mailing That was to the lumber trade out of the first printing of ten thousand in 1922 . Copies strayed into the hands of non-lumbermen and we had to print another 5,000 the same year. After that books were sent only to individual requests. Up to 1944 when Red River liquidated the manufacturing side of their business the book went through 13 editions for about 125,000 copies. Now out of print these books are collectors items.

Where Bill Murphy's story states that the Russians claimed the origin of Paul Bunyan is Murphy's own statement. I had not heard that before although I did send some literature to a request from the Kremlin . I never got a reply.

Naturally I have kept track if the great job Minnesota has done capitalizing Paul Bunyan . Most of it has come about since I left Minnesota and I want to get back. this year if possible to see it . My residence and work was over in the Mississippi country around Bemidji but I did get into Hibbing , the old town that was moved. A great country and people .

Inclosed with the booklet are two postcards showing the Paul Bunyan and Blue Ox images on the Redwood Highway over on the Coast. They have an annual show at Fort Bragg where the Redwood loggers stage a three day rodeo of skill contests.

Under separate cover I am mailing you a Sugar Pine cone . Just got it yesterday which delayed my reply to your letter. The Sugar Pine is the largest of the pines but not to be confused with the giant redwoods which are not of the pine species. I got this cone from the Paul Bunyan Lumber Co. which bought the trademark from Red River when they quit.

The greatest reward for my 30 years work with Paul Bunyan for Red River was the fan mail and the many friends that came through this correspondence. I greatly appreciate your letter and hope it will be followed by other contacts.

Yours sincerely

328 Pardee Ave.
Susanville

W.B.Laughead

THE MAN WHO NOSES AROUND

Items Out of the Ordinary
Captured and Reduced to
Current Literature

MEN AND THINGS

If you would keep in touch
With the World, Read
This Column

"Will Success Spoil Bill Laughead?"

The native Xenian who turned a lumber camp legend into a career, has been the target of a rash of publicity lately.

This department has given ample attention to Bill in the past. He used an imaginative turn of mind and a natural gift for drawing into turning Paul Bunyan into authentic American folklore.

From the stories he picked up listening to lumberjacks amuse themselves by lying to each other about Paul and his fantastic companions, Bill crystallized the whole thing using deft drawings of the characters and putting the stories down on paper for the first time.

Writers recently have beaten a typewriter path to his door . . . or to the lobby of the hotel in Susanville, Calif., where Bill hangs out. He has provided fuel for many a newspaper feature story, the latest of which, from the Los Angeles Times, has reached this desk in triplicate. If for no other reason than the new audience reading this column, it deserves repeating:

High in the snow-capped Sierra Nevada, which forms California's northern barrier, the legendary lumberjack of super-human strength, Paul Bunyan, is once more swinging a mighty axe.

Giant stands of ponderosa pine topple like matchsticks and a huge blue ox named Babe snakes the trees down the mountains to a mill which hums with activity.

Of course this is all imaginary, for Paul Bunyan is a myth of American folklore just as was Babe, the ox who measured 42 axehandles and a tobacco plug between the eyes.

But to William B. Laughead, 75, of Susanville, a town which lies in the heart of California timber country 600 miles north-east of Los Angeles, Paul Bunyan is still very much alive.

For it was from Bill Laughead's inkwell and his recollections of lumbering in the Minnesota north woods that the Paul Bunyan legend spread across the continent and into the far corners of the world.

Laughead stirred a log in the fire. Outside, rain drummed a soft tattoo against the windows.

"Be snowing up here in this country soon", he observed, reaching for his pipe. "Sort of like the winter of the blue snow when Paul found Babe. She was just a calf then."

He paused to strike a match and grinned over his pipe.

"But let's start at the beginning. Who knows where Paul Bunyan really originated? It's said that stories about him dated back to the early 1800s in Canada. In those days logging was real labor. Loggers lived on beans, salt pork and sourdough.

"At night they would sit around the shanty stove and spin their stories. Bunyan and his fantastic feats began to develop then. From Canada Paul soon was branching out, operating camps in New Brunswick, Me., and the Great Lakes.

"As a young man I worked in the lumber camps of Minnesota. That was around 1900. At night I would sit around and listen to other loggers swapping yarns about Paul. I never did dream he would go commercial, but that's what happened when they decided ol' Paul was moving to California."

Laughead was working as advertising manager for The Red River Lumber Co. in Minnesota in 1914. The firm had exhausted its timberlands in that state and was about to begin operations in California.

Archie Walker, secretary of the concern, called him in to his office.

"We're moving to California", he announced. "We need a new advertising gimmick to let our customers know about it. We've both worked in the logging camps. What about this mythical Paul Bunyan? Let's make him a slogan."

Bill Laughead went back to his desk. He began to sketch, and a jovial-looking lumberjack sporting a wide mustache and possessing the confident air of a man who accepts no challenge as impossible suddenly appeared.

Paul Bunyan, as he would be known to thousands, was born.

Laughead began jotting down some of the tall tales he had heard in the woods about this famous logger. The Red River Lumber Co. printed a booklet which was distributed to its customers. It was greeted with apathy. Few of the people in the industry know who Paul Bunyan was and cared less.

Paul belonged to the men who worked in the woods. He was the hero of every logging camp. No one else was interested. Then some of the booklets began to fall into the hands of the public.

He was Paul Bunyan, not only a master logger, but an organizer who kept his lumberjacks happy by catering to their mammoth appetites. At the camp on the Big Onion, for instance, cooks skated around the skillet with hams on their feet to grease it for the pancakes. Boys rode bicycles up and down the tables, dropping the cakes off when called for. Paul fed his men

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MAN WHO . . .

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pea soup that came out of a giant pipeline.

A visitor at one of Paul's camps was astonished to see a crew of men unloading four-horse logging sleds at the cook shanty. They appeared to be rolling logs into a trap door from which poured clouds of steam.

"That's a heck of a place to land logs", he remarked.

"Them ain't logs", grinned the cook. "Them's sausages for the teamsters' breakfast."

Bunyan was also a thinker. Once his timekeeper, Johnny Inkslinger, was running out of ink.

"I only have two barrels left, Mr. Bunyan", he lamented. "How am I to get through the winter?"

"Just leave off dotting the i's and crossing the t's and you'll save ink for the necessary writing and figuring. When the spring ink supply comes in, you can go over your books again."

It worked.

"It was then that the storm broke", Laughead explained. "Requests for the booklets poured in from all over the United States. And not just from children. There were plenty from adults.

"Soon we had distributed over 100,000 of them, and we still couldn't keep up with the demand. Franklin D. Roosevelt became a fan of Paul Bunyan. Why back in 1931 some Russian commissar wrote us for details about Paul. Said they were interested in the tales from a propaganda standpoint. I sent him a book."

In 1951 a Vladivostok newspaper claimed that Russian loggers first made up the stories of the giant woodsman. His name was Paulski Bunyanovitch.

James Stevens of Seattle, a veteran of many years in the logging business, and the author of a collection of Bunyan legends himself sums up the story like this:

"It is true American legend now, for Paul Bunyan as he stands today is absolutely American from head to foot. He visualizes the American love of tall tales and tall doings. He has become the creation of whole generations of men. Thousands of narrators by far-flung campfires have contributed their mites to the classical picture of him, and he at least will live as long as there are shadows and whispers of trees."

Laughead gazed into the fire.

"Ol' Paul's probably up in the high timber nearby right now, chopping away," he reflected, rapping his pipe against the hearth. Then he winked. RAH