

THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER BULLETIN

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

MAY/JUNE 2013

VOLUME 68

**Building is in His Blood –
Kallinen Contracting**

TPA Annual Meeting Highlights

TPA Scores at Legislature



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Volume 68
May/June 2013
Duluth, Minnesota

IN THIS ISSUE

Building is in His Blood –
Kallinen Contracting..... **8**

TPA Annual Meeting Highlights.....**14**

TPA Scores Major Victory
in DNR Funding at Legislature**24**

Timber Talk.....**26**

Loggers of the Past.....**28**

On the Markets**32**

Classifieds.....**34**

Advertisers Index.....**34**



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ON THE COVER

Kevin Kallinen operates his slasher on a logging job just west of Silver Bay. For more on Kallinen Contracting, please see page 8.

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Well, summer is here and we are feeling the heat. The late spring and wet, cold conditions of April and May have given way to warmer weather and dryer conditions so far. I hope all of you are able to take time to enjoy the summer with family and friends.

I would like to thank all those who attended our annual meeting and I hope everyone

President's Column



enjoyed the golfing and fishing. Once

again our TPA staff did a great job setting things up for us. Thank you.

I would also like to welcome our new board members Bill Hettver from Brainerd, Ross Korpela from Cloquet and Monte Nelson from Big Falls. Thank you for contributing your time and knowledge to the TPA board.

Congratulations to John Rolle for being voted Logger of the Year. Nice recognition for hard work and dedication.

"He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty, he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself."

Thomas Paine

Hope you have a great summer.

Kit Hasbargen

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Here are some of the events in the coming months you'll want to make sure are on your calendar:

Sept. 6-7

Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association

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Thank you to everyone who made this year's Annual Meeting a success! We appreciate your participation and the work of our members and staff who organized the event. Mark your calendars for the North Star Expo on September 13 and 14 at the Itasca County Fairgrounds.



No Special Session. No government shutdown. The Legislature completed its work on time this year and reached agreements with Governor Dayton on the budget and numerous policy bills by the constitutional deadline

Executive Vice President's Column



of May 20. We are deeply grateful to Senators Bakk, Tomassoni, Saxhaug, Skoe and others for their leadership on our issues in the Senate. Representatives Dill, Anzels and others provided

great support in the House of Representatives this year. We appreciate everything that they did in making this session very successful.

Through their efforts and the support of the governor we were able to help the DNR Division of Forestry get the most new money for forest management in my memory. When the House and Senate went to conference committee on this portion of the budget, the House level for new funding for the biennium was \$5 million and the Senate level was \$11 million. They compromised at \$10.1 million.

To put that into context, the DNR Division was down about one hundred people since the recession hit. This level of new funding will allow them to fill vacant positions, though not all of them; replace retiring employees; begin updating their inventory again; and do needed silvicultural work. They won't be swimming in money but will clearly have the funds to sell at least 800,000 cords of wood each year of the biennium.



On the energy front, which I wrote about in my last column, the state enacted a new solar energy standard. Since electricity generated from solar sources is vastly more expensive than coal or wind sources, electrical rates will go up because of this law.

But, we were successful in exempting *all* segments of the forest products industry from this standard and its costs. This was a highly significant victory in preventing higher costs that would have made us less competitive in the future.

Now, if we could just get the Public Utilities Commission to quit making industrial customers subsidize residential customers, regardless of need, we'd get more competitive.



The dust continues to settle in International Falls after Boise's announcement that they would be permanently shutting down two old paper machines. Dr. Jim Skurla at UMD's Labovitz School of Business ran the numbers. The total economic impact for the Arrowhead Region is expected to be 908 jobs (direct, indirect and induced), \$108 million in value added/wages and \$318 million in output. My heart goes out to every person that is impacted.



As devastating as the floods in Duluth and the surrounding area were a year ago, reports from the DNR are that they little impact on fish habitats and populations. That's good news and pretty amazing considering the torrents of water that inundated streams and the massive amounts of sediment that were washed down them. If this event, up to a foot of rain in a day or so, didn't cause significant impacts to fish habitats how can the occasional logging job following BMP's.

It kind of makes me wonder about the rumors coming out of the DNR that some elements inside the agency want to increase riparian buffers in excess of the MN Forest Resources Council guidelines in the

next round of planning for DNR land management. They better strap on their helmets and buy new ropes because they have a pretty rugged set of rocks to climb to make that argument.



Congratulations to LUA President Mike North, who just retired. Mike started out with LUA in Indiana and was the regional vice president who oversaw Minnesota for a number of years before going to LUA headquarters and ultimately becoming President.

Mike was a regular visitor to our state and a strong supporter of the TPA/LUA workers' compensation program. Mike stood with our program through thick and thin. We appreciated his support and I valued his friendship.

Just prior to retiring I had the chance to have breakfast with Mike, new LUA President Bill Broich and Wil Nance, the new senior vice president of operations. Both Bill and Wil are familiar with our program and Wil has been to Minnesota a number of times through the years in his various roles with LUA. We look forward to work with Bill and Wil.



Speaking of workers' compensation, I think we can all take a lesson from our Annual Meeting banquet speaker Lt. Col. Eric Chandler. Part of his message was to endlessly review everything we do. To me that sounds like going over every job before it starts and after its done. It sounds like regular safety meetings and reviewing safe procedures. If it's good enough for the Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force, it ought to be good enough for us.

Wayne E. Brant

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Kevin Kallinen

Building Is In His Blood

Kevin Kallinen has used work ethic, adaptability, and faith to build his business, Kallinen Contracting.

by Ray Higgins

Kevin Kallinen likes to build stuff. In fact, he started building houses and doing other carpentry work when he graduated from Silver Bay High School in 1981.

But these days, he's logging, harvesting trees for the carpenters and the folks that build stuff, you might say. And paper makers too, of course. That's one reason why Kallinen thinks of himself as a

builder, too.

"There are people that say I'm goofy being a logger because I'm wasting that carpentry talent," Kallinen says, standing on the landing of a logging job just west of Silver Bay on Minnesota's North Shore of Lake Superior. "But that building talent is used out here every day, all the time. You're building a pile of wood, you're building a landing, you're building roads. The ability to look at something in the raw and see a

finished product later, and put it together and make it happen."

It's an ability and an outlook that's served him well since starting his logging business nearly 25 years ago.

But Kallinen Contracting didn't start the way most Minnesota logging companies start. Kallinen wasn't "born into" the business like so many of the state's loggers were, following in the footsteps of their fathers and grandfathers. Yes, Kallinen's dad Merlin did cut a



Kevin Kallinen drags harvested timber with a Timberjack skidder to the landing to be processed.

little pulpwood on the side back in the day, but his main job was at the Reserve Mining plant in town. And Kevin never joined his father in the woods on those occasions.

Kevin found his way to the woods after high school. Times were tough in the early 1980s around Silver Bay and northeastern Minnesota. The mining industry hit rock bottom and folks started moving away, meaning there wasn't much demand for building houses or carpentry work.

"People were leaving town," Kallinen says. "A guy that I knew, he was doing TSI work – thinning and releasing for pine trees – and basically running chain saw to cut brush around the pine trees when they're little. And he asked me to come and help him do that, so I did that for a year or two, off and on. There wasn't any other work around the area at the time, and he wanted to buy a skidder and get into logging. So I kind of partnered up with him on that. That's how I got a taste of the woods."

That venture was also short-lived, so Kevin moved to the Twin Cities area to go back into carpentry. It's a good thing too, because that's where he met his wife Laurie. But after

they were married, the construction business in the Twin Cities struggled as well. In the meantime, Kevin's brother Edwin was logging, so he moved back to Silver Bay and headed to the woods. That was 1989.

"We worked together until about ten years ago," Kallinen says. "I've been on my own since then."

By "on his own," Kallinen means as sole owner of the business. But there have also been times when he's been the only employee, operating at various times the feller buncher, skidder, and slasher/loader. Despite not having a worker for each machine at times, Kallinen doesn't feel his productivity was compromised.

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Kevin Kallinen processes harvested birch with a Serco 170-A loader with a 60-inch Siiro slasher.

“That would depend on the wood,” he says. “If you had the right wood, you could have four guys out here on all four machines, and that would be highly productive. But after being totally alone for years, the biggest thing I see when you put more men on the job is waste. Because when you’re out here alone, you hop on the skidder, you get those three or four skids or whatever, then you get on the slasher and you cut them up. There’s never a moment where that machine’s being run and not being productive. And when you have people running machines, the guy running the skidder pulling to the slasher, if the guy on the skidder isn’t getting the wood to the slasher quick enough, the guy in the slasher sits and waits five minutes or two minutes, whatever, it’s still two minutes, and every minute counts.”

Kallinen has had help from time to time as well, including a cousin who helped out for a while. Over the past few years, several of Kevin’s five sons have lent a hand.

“Last winter there were three of us,” Kallinen says. “I’d pretty much run the slasher and the faller, and

my one son would run the limber and the other one would run the skidder, pretty much.”

On top of that, Kevin’s wife Laurie is helping out with the books and office tasks, and his cousin, Brion Kallinen, drives truck, making deliveries.

“Brion’s been here a year and a half,” Kevin says. “He cut wood with me a little bit some years back. When we were kids, we’d play in the sand box, and even back then, he was driving truck and I was running the equipment. Isn’t that something?”

Brion’s off on a delivery, taking hardwoods to NewPage’s hardwood yard. There, he’ll pick up pine logs to deliver to Hedstrom’s Grand Marais mill, reducing the time the truck is empty. Louisiana Pacific in Two Harbors will also get some wood, as will Sappi in Cloquet. And some of the birch pulp will end up in the North Shore Forest Products yard north of Two Harbors. They’re also sorting out bolts to be hauled to White River Hardwoods down by Sanborn, Wis., 10 miles south of Ashland.

The current harvest site is a big

one: 2,500 cords of aspen, birch, spruce, and balsam on Lake County land, spread throughout five cutting blocks. Two have already been harvested.

“We moved in here the week before the road bans went on, the last week in March,” Kallinen says.

Knowing the ground would soften up soon, he harvested as many trees as he could and skidded them close to the road. Thanks to his knowledge of the road here, he knew the road would be good through break-up.

“Twenty years ago I worked really hard at making road to get down into this area from the other direction,” he says. “This road was made to build Forest Highway 11. There’s a gravel pit up here. We came in off the Beaver River Road 20-some years ago, built a bridge across the Little Thirtynine Creek and got into some area that hadn’t been logged yet. So I’ve been driving by these trees for 20 years. It’s nice wood, but we worked hard to get here. We’ve been processing the trees right at the road.”

It’s been almost two months since Kallinen has harvested trees here. The buncher is sitting idle while he

continues to skid and slash what is already on the ground.

“We had piles of wood within a tree length or two of the road, so it’s pretty easy to lay limbs and tops down and drive on them to get everything slashed, loaded, and delivered,” he says.

So it’s not the typical logging company, and in this instance, not the typical logging process. Kallinen had to adapt to different conditions in order to keep working and keep the wood moving.

“I would have to say adaptability is one of the biggest things that helps me out here,” he says. “I think loggers in general are adaptable people because all kinds of curve balls are being thrown at them, today way more



Kallinen Logging’s Timbco T425-C buncher is parked while Kallinen processes what has already been harvested.

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Harvested spruce bolts wait on the landing to be hauled to White River Hardwoods in Sanborn, Wis.

than ever, about environmental issues and this thing and that thing and we just keep dealing with it.

"I've found that if I don't get fifty solid hours in the woods each week, things start piling up and the money starts depleting. Really, you have to get sixty hours in. If you back off to 50 you can hold your own. If you put in sixty you can move ahead pretty fair, if things aren't breaking, of course. If we're cutting wood, I'm trying to put in sixty, even seventy hours each week."

Kallinen also says his religious faith is a big reason why he's able to adapt and keep working, even through difficult times.

"I attribute my ability to keep going to my faith," Kallinen says.


Work ethic, adaptability, and faith. These traits all pay off, not only in profitability, but also in helping to clear the obstacles his company faces each day. And it's those obstacles that keep the job interesting.

"To me it's a challenge," Kallinen says. "Setting up a landing so the truck can come and go without any problem. Setting up the job so it's the most efficient as far as getting the wood. I'm not saying I have it all figured out. And maybe that's another part. As soon as you think you have it good here, it changes and you have to do it different over there.


"Maybe that's another part. It's changing all the time. I get bored pretty easy," he chuckles. "You have four or five machines, you get tired of one and you can hop in another one."

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Boe, Mill Presentations Highlight TPA Annual Meeting



TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt gives his Annual Report on association activities to the TPA Annual Membership Meeting, including events in the industry over the past year and an outline of the 2013 legislative session.

TPA's Annual Meeting is traditionally a place where members can have access to information and presentations about Minnesota's forest products industry they can't get anywhere else, and the 2013 Annual Meeting didn't disappoint. This year's session at Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge featured a presentation from TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt on the association's accomplishments over the past 12 months, as well as a panel discussion featuring representatives from several consuming mills on markets and the state of the industry. In addition, DNR Division of Forestry Director Forrest Boe gave a presentation on his first year on the job, Sue Burks of the DNR shared the latest on a proposal to combat the gypsy moth in Minnesota's state forests, and Rebecca Barnard of the DNR the department's view of the SFI and FSC certification programs.

Annual Report of Association Activities

It was a critical year for Minnesota's Logging Community,

which had to adjust to several big developments, not all of them positive: closures at the Verso and Georgia Pacific mills, layoffs at Boise in International Falls, and blowdown events in the Bemidji and Deer River areas. These developments and others resulted in meetings with Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton and his staff, and a series of articles in the Minneapolis Star Tribune on the state of the industry.

The news wasn't all bad. Sappi completed a mill conversion that will enable the company to make specialized cellulose in addition to paper and ensure the mill's viability for years to come.

The elections of 2012 flipped control of both houses of the Minnesota Legislature to the DFL. Brandt and the TPA staff worked with the legislature and the governor on several pieces of legislation that will help the state's timber industry. Among them:

- Increased funding for the DNR's Division of Forestry
- Revisions to state law affecting timber sales and other DNR operations
- Relief for those holding state permits that contain balsam fir

Details on these pieces of legislation are contained in a full report on the 2013 legislative session elsewhere in this issue of the *Timber Bulletin*.

In addition, Brandt outlined a sampling of the other TPA activities of the past year, including:

- Work with the DNR on the topics of Extended Rotation Forestry (ERF) and Rotation Ages
- Completion of the Forest Management Guideline Revision Process
- Maintaining the \$1 million cap on mandated insurance liability in St. Louis County
- Approval of County Forest Management Plan in Hubbard County

Featured Speakers

Four representatives from Minnesota mills – Potlatch Mill Manager **Pete Aube**, Norbord Wood Procurement Manager **Jerry Richards**, Boise Woodlands Manager **Dan Toivonen**, and Sappi Manager of Wood Fiber Procurement **Gary Erickson** – discussed their views on the state of the industry and the health of

their mills, as well as expectations of market factors in their individual sectors in a panel discussion titled "Outlooks, Trends, and Considerations in Wood Markets."

In his presentation, Aube says the company has survived the worst depression in the history of the lumber industry, which was cut in half over the past several years. He said housing and related markets are improving, with the US on the way to building 1.4 million homes per year. Aube said there will be volatility, but that Minnesota is well-positioned to survive it.

"The winners in the recovery will be the ones with trees," Aube said, referring to geographic areas such as British Columbia, Quebec, the Southeast U.S., etc. "We have the trees here, which is a positive. Trees in Minnesota can create a high-quality stud, and we're excited about that."

Aube also announced the mill is adding a fourth kiln, which will allow the company to continue to buy balsam saw bolts. Aube said the company has already received the appropriate permits from the state of Minnesota, and he thanked the mill's parent company for providing funding.



Lt. Col. Eric Chandler of the Duluth-based 148th Fighter Wing speaks at the TPA Annual Banquet about his life as an F-16 fighter pilot through tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan, and how lessons learned on executing a plan can apply in the business world.

"This is good news for Potlatch and for our loggers," Aube said.

Erickson discussed Sappi's conversion to specialized cellulose, which was completed in May. Sappi is already the world's largest supplier of specialized cellulose, a high growth and high margin business, which speaks well for the

future of the Cloquet mill. Sappi expects to use roughly the same total volume of wood, with aspen and maple being the major species.

Richards also talked optimistically, citing improvements in U.S. housing markets. He said Norbord corporate is also showing confidence in Minnesota's timber

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industry by making improvements to the Solway mill, including a second scale. Richards said he expects the mill to increase production by ten percent in the coming year.

Toivonen talked about changes to the Boise mill, which included the idling of the I1 and I3 paper machines. Although this resulted in the loss of 265 jobs in International Falls, the move allows the company to focus on the more profitable office and printing papers, eliminates the need to purchase expensive market pulp, and provides a secure and competitive mill for the future of the 580 remaining employees.

Toivonen said the mill curtailments will have little impact on wood consumption, although they may see a slight increase in softwood usage.

For the second consecutive year, DNR Division of Forestry Director Forrest Boe addressed the Annual Meeting. Boe said he's now been on the job for just over a year and cited the difficulties in the industry over the past year, and thanked TPA members for their efforts in overcoming these obstacles.



L-R: Boise's Dan Toivonen, Sappi's Gary Erickson, Jerry Richards of Norbord, and Pete Aube of Potlatch participate in a panel discussion titled "Outlooks, Trends, and Considerations in Wood Markets" at the TPA Annual Meeting.

"We are survivors," Boe said of the members of Minnesota's forestry community. "We get through this stuff, and we work together to make that happen."

Boe said the state harvest in fiscal year 2012 was 2.4 million cords across all ownerships, down from a high of 4.1 million cords within the past decade. Boe said it's not because Minnesota doesn't have the wood, but due to the economic recession. But he echoed what Potlatch's Pete Aube had said moments earlier, that those with the trees will succeed.

"I like that," Boe said.

Boe said the division of forestry has had to overcome significant general fund reductions over the last few years, but thanked Wayne Brandt, TPA's staff, and members for their help in securing additional general fund dollars during the recently completed legislative session. He said the additional dollars will help the DNR do its job.

"We couldn't have survived this session without TPA's help," Boe said. "Our general fund increase is just a tad over \$5 million per year. I don't think there's been a time when



TPA Members had the benefit of hearing several valuable presentations during this year's TPA Annual Membership Meeting.

the division of forestry has garnered that much general fund support. It allows us to continue to offer our traditional levels of harvested wood on state lands. That's huge for you and it's huge for us too, because we live off of those revenues."

DNR Invasive Species Program Coordinator **Sue Burks** updated the membership on efforts to fight the gypsy moth in Minnesota, and specifically a proposal from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to quarantine Lake and Cook counties in the spring of 2014 "to restrict the movement of potentially infested items and thereby contain the infestation.

Burks discussed how the quarantine will work, if it is implemented as proposed. A quarantine would regulate movement of wood out of a quarantine area, so anyone



TPA members David Haley (L) and Mike Warren took the opportunity to ask questions of DNR Division of Forestry Director Forrest Boe (R) following his presentation at the TPA Annual Membership Meeting.

harvesting in a quarantine area and then moving it outside of the quarantined county would need a compliance agreement with the Department of Ag, as would any trucker transporting from the area, or any mill receiving that wood. Such an agreement would work

out a system of best management practices for transporting the wood.

Implementation of the proposal has not been finalized by the state. TPA is participating in discussions with the Department of Ag and the DNR regarding the proposal and its

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potential implementation.

In the morning's final presentation, DNR Forest Certification Coordinator **Rebecca Barnard** discussed the latest developments in Forest Certification that TPA members should be aware of. She outlined the market-driven forces that have resulted in the need for certified wood in our state, and how the implementation of the Forest Management Guidelines serve to facilitate wood certification.

Barnard also briefed TPA members on FSC's proposal to implement 343 new draft "International Generic Indicators" (IGIs), and the concerns the DNR has over the issue. Barnard said the DNR agrees with only 62 of the proposed IGIs – only 18% – and that they won't work here in Minnesota.

Among the problems with the proposed IGIs, according to Barnard:

- They reference international treaties that haven't been ratified in the U.S.
- Many won't lead to benefits on the ground.
- They broaden the definitions of "local communities" and



L-R: Jerry Richards of Norbord and Joe and Larry Dukek of Dukek Logging have the chance to spend time together during the social hour before the TPA Annual Banquet.

"forest workers," including one provision that would require the DNR to see to it that "forest workers" have a balanced diet

The balanced diet requirement is "clearly inappropriate," Barnard said. "We're not accepting this under any terms."

Barnard said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr has written a letter to FSC International that states, "Unless FSC revamps its whole

approach to the IGIs, MNDNR will need to reevaluate the viability of continued FSC Forest Management (FM) Certification on the 4.96 million acres of currently certified state lands."

FSC is still receiving comments on the proposed IGIs. TPA will be submitting comments on the proposals.

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TPA Safety Awards

Safety was again highlighted at the Annual Banquet, as the winners of the 2013 TPA Safety contest were recognized.

First and foremost was Lundberg Forest Products of Solway, a repeat winner for 25 consecutive years. Dan, Matt, and Kyle Lundberg were presented a plaque recognizing this achievement.

Those members with no lost-time accidents from April 2012 through March of this year:



L-R: Kyle, Dan, and Matt Lundberg of Lundberg Forest Products were honored for 25 consecutive years without a lost-time accident at the TPA Annual Banquet.

2013 SAFETY CONTEST WINNERS

Logging Division

- C & M Walsh Logging, Inc., Park Rapids
- C. O. Johnson Logging, Inc., Blackduck
- Dean & Bob Walsh Logging, Inc., Park Rapids
- Dick Walsh Forest Products, LLP, Park Rapids
- Dukek Logging, Inc., Bemidji
- Erickson Timber Products, Inc., Baudette
- Great Northern Logging, Inc., Pierz
- Greg Cook Logging, Inc. Bigfork
- Johnson Logging, Inc., Cannon Falls
- Junker Logging, Inc. Littlefork
- Kelliher Forest Products, Kelliher
- Killmer Bros., Inc., Big Falls
- Kimball's Logging, Inc., Park Rapids
- Lundberg Forest Products, Inc., Solway
- M & R Chips, Inc., Grand Rapids
- Mike Gates Logging, LLC, Big Falls
- Northwoods Chipping, Inc., Int'l Falls
- Page & Hill Forest Products, Inc., Big Falls
- Palmer Logging, Barnum

- Pittack Logging, Inc., Bovey
- Root River Hardwoods, Inc., Preston
- Shuster Logging, Gheen
- Simco & Habisch Logging, McGrath
- Third Generation Logging, Bigfork
- Tim Kelm Logging, Bemidji
- Weijo Logging, Ely

Trucking Division

- C & M Walsh Logging, Inc., Park Rapids
- C. O. Johnson Logging, Inc., Blackduck
- Dean & Bob Walsh Logging, Inc., Park Rapids
- DeMenge Trucking & Forest Products, LLC, McGregor
- Dick Walsh Forest Products, LLP, Park Rapids
- Erickson Timber Products, Inc., Baudette
- Great Northern Logging, Inc., Pierz
- Greg Cook Logging, Inc. Bigfork
- Johnson Logging, Inc., Cannon Falls
- Junker Logging, Inc., Littlefork
- Kelliher Forest Products, Kelliher
- Kimball's Logging, Inc., Park Rapids

- Lake Nebagamon Trucking Corp., Lake Nebagamon, WI
- Lundberg Forest Products, Inc., Solway
- M & R Chips, Inc., Grand Rapids
- Mannco Trucking, Inc., Int'l Falls
- Mike Gates Logging, LLC, Big Falls
- Northwoods Chipping, Inc., Int'l Falls
- Page & Hill Forest Products, Inc., Big Falls
- Palmer Logging, Barnum
- Pittack Logging, Inc., Bovey
- Root River Hardwoods, Inc., Preston
- Tim Kelm Logging, Bemidji
- Two Inlets Mill, Park Rapids

Sawmill Division

- Bergstrom Wood Products, Inc., Int'l Falls
- Cass Forest Products, Cass Lake
- Erickson Timber Products, Inc., Baudette
- Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
- Kelliher Forest Products, Kelliher
- Land O Lakes Wood Preserving, Tenstrike
- Two Inlets Mill & Building Supply, Park Rapids

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TPA Golfers and Anglers Battle Rain

Rain and fog were the dominant conditions at Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge for the TPA Golf and Fishing outings. But as is typical for a group that works in a wide variety of weather conditions, golfers and anglers weren't deterred – and were light on the land as well!

Fishing awards went to the angler with the longest fish and the angler with the shortest fish. Because it was again a catch-and-release event, fish were measured at the boat and anglers reported their lengths at the end of the day.

The Conservation Award (smallest fish of the day)

went to Chuck Hughes of Boise with a 7-inch perch, while the Big Walter Award (largest fish) went to Kelly Kimball of Park Rapids with a 22-inch walleye.

In the golf event, the Foot Wedge Award – earned by the team with the best score – went to Team RMS, featuring Ryan Milette, David Haley of Haley Logging, Mike Rieger of Rieger Logging, and Dave Hensel of UPM Blandin.

The Caddyshacker Award – for the team that had the most fun and the highest score – went to Dan Holen, Joe Ulwelling, Dale Erickson, and Kit Hasbargen.



Ben Preston and Mark Radzak of Bell Timber head out onto Sugar Lake in search of fish during the TPA Fishing Outing.



Ross Korpela of Sappi Fine Paper celebrates after golf teammate Brian Gulseth of North Shore Forest Products makes a putt at the TPA Golf Event.



Golfers at the TPA Event didn't let a little rain stop them from having a good time. (L-R): Andy Shermoen, Ryan Milette, Ted Kromy, Mike Rieger, Jon Rolle, Dave Hensel, Cam Hardwig, and David Haley.

Years Ago in the Bulletin

**A sampling of stories and
topics from over 75 years
of the Timber Bulletin**

25 years ago

Boise Cascade Corporation has detailed plans for a major modernization and expansion program at its pulp and paper mill in International Falls. The program represents approximately a \$525 million investment in the company's uncoated white paper business. Major components of the program include modernization and expansion of the existing pulp mill, construction of a state-of-the-art bleach plant, and a new 345-inch-trim paper machine. An estimated 190 new permanent jobs will be created when the expansion is fully operational in 1990.

40 Years Ago

On July 1, The Minnesota DNR changed from a 96-inch to 100-inch cord.

Enactment of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 makes possible the assignment to the Department of Labor and Industry responsibility for administration and enforcement of the work safety program in the state.

Hahn Machinery, Inc. of Schroeder will be relocating its entire operation to a new facility at Two Harbors. The new plant is in the Two Harbors Industrial Park.

50 Years Ago

TPA appointed Dana Worrall, Cloquet, as Acting Executive Secretary.

A new building is to be constructed for the Minnesota Forest Service in Finland, Minn. and it is to be made from western lumber, specified by the state architect.

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TPA Scores Major Victory in DNR Funding at Legislature

Thanks to TPA's lobbying efforts during the 2013 Minnesota legislative session, the DNR's Division of Forestry will receive an additional \$10.1 million in new appropriations, which will allow the state to continue to offer 800,000 cords of new wood annually.

The governor's initial budget proposal of \$4 million in new appropriations would have reduced state timber sales from just over 800,000 cords per year to the 600,000 - 650,000 cord range. The Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Omnibus bill in the House of Representatives also didn't contain sufficient funding. But because the version of the bill passed in the Senate contained a higher amount – one that would adequately fund the Division of Forestry – the provision went to a House-Senate Conference Committee where conferees agreed upon the final amount of \$10.1 million.

A decrease in timber offered by the DNR would have likely resulted in increased stumpage prices at auctions due to reduced supply. The additional funding will allow the DNR to hire additional foresters and maintain its recent yearly timber offerings. Thanks go to DNR Division of Forestry Director Forrest Boe, as well as several northeastern Minnesota legislators, including Sen. Tom Bakk, Sen. Tom Saxhaug, and Sen. Dave Tomassoni for their leadership on this issue.

The additional funds amounted



to 32% of the entire new General Fund money included in the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Omnibus bill.

In other actions affecting logging and the forest products industry during the 2013 legislative session:

Timber Sale Re-codification: The re-codification and revision of MN Chapter 90 laws dealing with timber sales was passed. The changes were mostly technical in nature and were reviewed by TPA prior to the introduction of the legislation.

Balsam Fir Sales: The TPA provision to provide relief for owners of DNR timber sales containing a minimum amount of balsam fir passed.

The legislation reads, "Upon written request submitted by a permit holder to the commissioner of natural resources on or before June 1, 2015, the commissioner shall

cancel any provision in a timber sale permit sold prior to September 1, 2012, that requires the security payment for, or removal of all or part of the balsam fir when the permit contains at least 50 cords of balsam fir. The remaining provisions of the permit remain in effect. The permit holder may be required to fell or pile the balsam fir to meet management objectives."

The provision will help loggers who lost their balsam market when the Verso and Georgia Pacific mills closed last year.

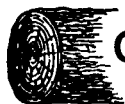
County Intermediate Timber Sales: Permissive language that clarifies that counties can offer timber for sale in the manner approved by the county board passed.

State Nurseries: The prohibitions on state nursery operations enacted in 2011 were repealed. Funding was appropriated to study and make recommendations on future nursery operations.

Taxes

SFIA: The cap on SFIA payments was lifted and a rate of \$7/acre was enacted. SFIA payments on lands with conservation easements greater than 60,000 acres are prohibited. SFIA payments on future conservation easement lands are prohibited.

Conservation Easement Land Valuations: County assessors are prohibited from lowering the



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valuation of lands with conservation easements with the exception of certain easement lands in Dakota County.

Sales Tax on Capital Equipment: Converting the refund program to an up-front exemption for the sales tax on capital equipment passed and will be effective in the third quarter of 2014.

Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT): PILT payments to local units of government for state-owned lands were increased. County administered lands were increased from \$1.283 to \$1.50/acre; "other lands" were increased from \$0.642 to \$1.50/acre; and "land utilization project lands were established at \$5.133/acre which is the same rate set for various other lands.

Utility Personal Property Taxes: Proposals to remove certain utility personal property tax exemptions, including the exemption on pollution control equipment, did not pass. The elimination of these exemptions would have ultimately cost the forest products industry several million dollars per year

when they worked their way through the rate-making system.

Fuel Tax: Proposals to increase the fuel tax and charge a 5.5% sales tax at the wholesale level were not enacted.

Sales Tax - Warehousing: The sales tax is extended to "warehousing." It will take some time to determine where, to what and how the tax will be implemented. It does appear that the tax will not apply to goods you own stored in facilities that you own.

Sales Tax - Machinery Repair: The sales tax was extended to labor on machinery repair. Again, it will take some time to sort out the application and impact of this provision.

Energy

Solar Mandate: Papermills, sawmills, oriented strand board plants and other wood products facilities are exempt from paying the cost of the new solar mandate. Electrical usage by these facilities will not be used to determine how much solar energy an investor owned utility must have. Electricity provided by co-ops and municipal utilities are also exempt.

Cost-Based Electrical Rates: After being part of the final negotiations in two different bills, the phased-in northern MN provision did not pass.

Other

Made in Minnesota Paper: A provision to require the State of Minnesota to purchase paper made on paper machines located in Minnesota wherever practicable passed.

Permanent School Trust Fund: Funding was not provided for the trust fund oversight position that was established in legislation passed in 2012 due to opposition from the DNR.

Bonding: The bare bones bonding bill that passed did not include any funds for reforestation or forest roads.

Truck Weights: A provision to expand current truck weight provisions for forest and agricultural products to certain distribution centers in western Minnesota passed. Provisions to also extend this to aggregate and all freight did not pass.



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New Hours of Service Rule in Affect

New federal regulations regarding Hours of Service (HOS) for truck drivers took effect July 1, 2013. The new rule:

- Limits the maximum average work week for truck drivers to 70 hours, a decrease from the current maximum of 82 hours;
- Allows truck drivers who reach the maximum 70 hours of driving within a week to resume if they



Timber Talk

rest for 34 consecutive hours, including at least two nights when their body clock demands sleep

- the most - from 1-5 a.m., and;
- Requires truck drivers to take a 30-minute break during the first eight hours of a shift.

The new rule retains the 11-hour daily driving limit and 14-hour work day.

The rule was implemented by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), which says it is designed to improve safety for the motoring public by reducing truck driver fatigue.

"Safety is our highest priority," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "These rules make common sense, data-driven changes to reduce truck driver fatigue and improve safety for every traveler on our highways and roads."

Trucking companies were provided 18 months to adopt the new hours-of-service rules for truck drivers. First announced in December 2011 by FMCSA, the rules limit the average work week for truck drivers to 70 hours to

ensure that all truck operators have adequate rest. Only the most extreme schedules will be impacted, and more than 85 percent of the truck driving workforce will see no changes.

The FMCSA has published the HOS changes on a Visor Card, which may be downloaded at <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/documents/hos/HOS-Regulations-7-1-2013.pdf>.

Wisconsin Wildfire Started By Logging Operations

Investigators say a 7400 acre wildfire in Northwest Wisconsin in May was caused by logging operations.

The Department of Natural Resources says that negligence wasn't involved in the blaze, which destroyed 17 homes and forced dozens of people to evacuate. The fire wasn't intentionally set and criminal charges aren't expected.

The fire, known as the Germann Road Fire, started near Simms Lake in Douglas County, Wis., 40 miles southeast of Duluth. It was Wisconsin's largest wildfire since 1980.

According to the DNR, a logging equipment operator noticed smoke coming from the equipment while harvesting timber. The operator unsuccessfully tried to put out the fire with a fire extinguisher while another operator called 911. DNR personnel were on the scene within ten minutes.

No injuries were reported from the fire.

Log A Load Golf Tournament Set

Prepations are underway for the 17th Annual Log A Load For Kids Golf Tournament, Friday Sept. 6 at Pokegama Golf Course in Grand Rapids.

In 16 previous tournaments, the event has raised more than \$93,000, and organizers hope to go over the \$100,000 mark in 2013.

The cost to enter is \$350 per 4-player team, and includes a 9 a.m. shotgun start, golf cart, and 2 p.m. dinner provided by the Pokegama Grill.

All proceeds benefit Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. For more info or to enter, contact Becky Holst at bholst@gillettechildrens.com.

Famous Dave's Comes to the North Star Expo

The North Star Expo will have a new visitor in 2013.

Famous Dave's Barbecue will cater the Friday night dinner at the 60th

Annual Expo, to once again be held at the Itasca County Fairgrounds in Grand Rapids. This year's dates are Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14.

"We're excited to have Famous Dave's at the Expo this year," said TPA Expo committee Joan Pomp. "The Friday night dinner is always a great chance to socialize with everyone in the industry, and having the great barbecue from Famous Dave's will make the evening even more special."

The North Star Expo is Minnesota's largest logging equipment show, featuring over 100 vendors from all over the Upper Midwest, with the latest and greatest in logging equipment and accessories on display.



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LOGGERS OF THE PAST . . .

"The Men with Authority"

by J. C. Ryan

This story is reprinted from an earlier *Timber Bulletin*—one of the first of "Buzz" Ryan's ever-popular contributions to these pages. The *Bulletin* will continue to reprint selected stories from the memories he recorded for us.—*Editor*



After his first winter in the woods, every young lumberjack from Maine to Minnesota had ambitions to be a camp foreman—the top job in all the logging camps.

No job in the logging industry was as important as that of a good camp foreman, and probably no group of men contributed more to the building and developing of this great nation of ours than did those who "ran camp."

Surely few in civilian life had more authority. The foreman was sole authority on everything that went on in the camp. And while the "walking boss" in the larger

company camps gave some advice during his trips around, the foreman was pretty much on his own as far as making decisions concerning the camp.

No industry ever produced so many "self made" men as did the logging industry, and the camp foremen were all this kind. In some industries, relatives of the owners were put in as foremen—but not so in the logging industry. Owners of the logging camps wanted self made men of ability in this very important job, leaving the softer office jobs for their relatives.

The first thing a foreman had to have

was the respect of the crew. This is probably the reason that most camp foremen were big men, as they often had to prove that they were worthy of respect by action as well as deeds. Of all the camp foremen I have known, none weighed less than 175 lbs. Second, the foreman had to have the confidence of the owners in his ability—so he would have the freedom of putting his particular methods into practice.

Most camp foremen worked year after year for the same companies, while others worked for contract loggers and several different companies. Some foremen pre-

The foreman was the final authority on all that went on in camp, as in checking the cut made by saw gang.



ferred railroad logging, others sleigh haul camps, others river driving, etc. Every camp foreman had his following of lumberjacks—good men he could depend on to do a particular job—and if the camp foreman moved from one company to another, probably the whole crew would also. This is maybe the reason that foremen stayed with one company year after year. However, there were times when a company would cut back the number of its camp operations during a certain winter, and rather than take a “straw boss” job, a foreman would go to work for another company.

In the early days of logging, when camps were smaller, the foreman was timekeeper as well. But all he had to do was mark on the calendar the day the camp started and the day it closed, as a worker seldom “went down” all winter.

He also ordered supplies and set wages for some of the men. Wages were pretty general, and he probably would adjust the pay for only a few special men. However, as camps got larger, ordering of supplies and timekeeping were done by camp clerks.

During the early days, when there were less than 50 men per camp, the foreman slept in the bunkhouse with the men, but as the camps became larger, the foreman slept in the office with the clerk and scaler.

Women in camp were a rare thing, but I know of several camps where the foreman had a special building built for his wife and himself. Tom Henderson of Pine City had his wife in camp with him for many years.

Each camp foreman had several “straw bosses,” but as a rule not over three—one for the skidding crew, one for the sawyers and one for the steel crew of a railroad camp or for the “landing” if a sleigh haul camp.

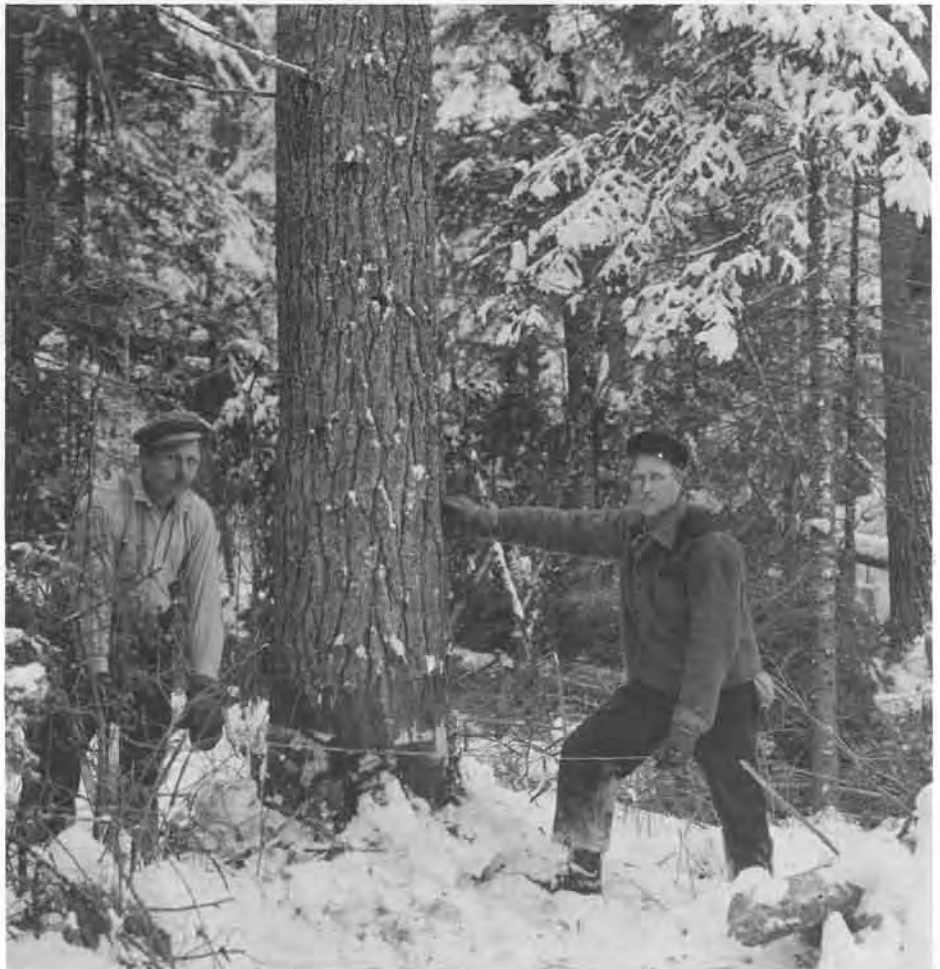
The foreman was the first man up in the morning, checking on the weather and checking to see if the water tank was off the road so he could start the sleighs. As a rule, he gave orders to the bull cook to wake him during the night if it started to snow, so he could get the teamsters up to begin snow plowing. I have known foremen to stay up several nights in a row when the weather was bad, keeping crews going so the roads would not block up with snow.

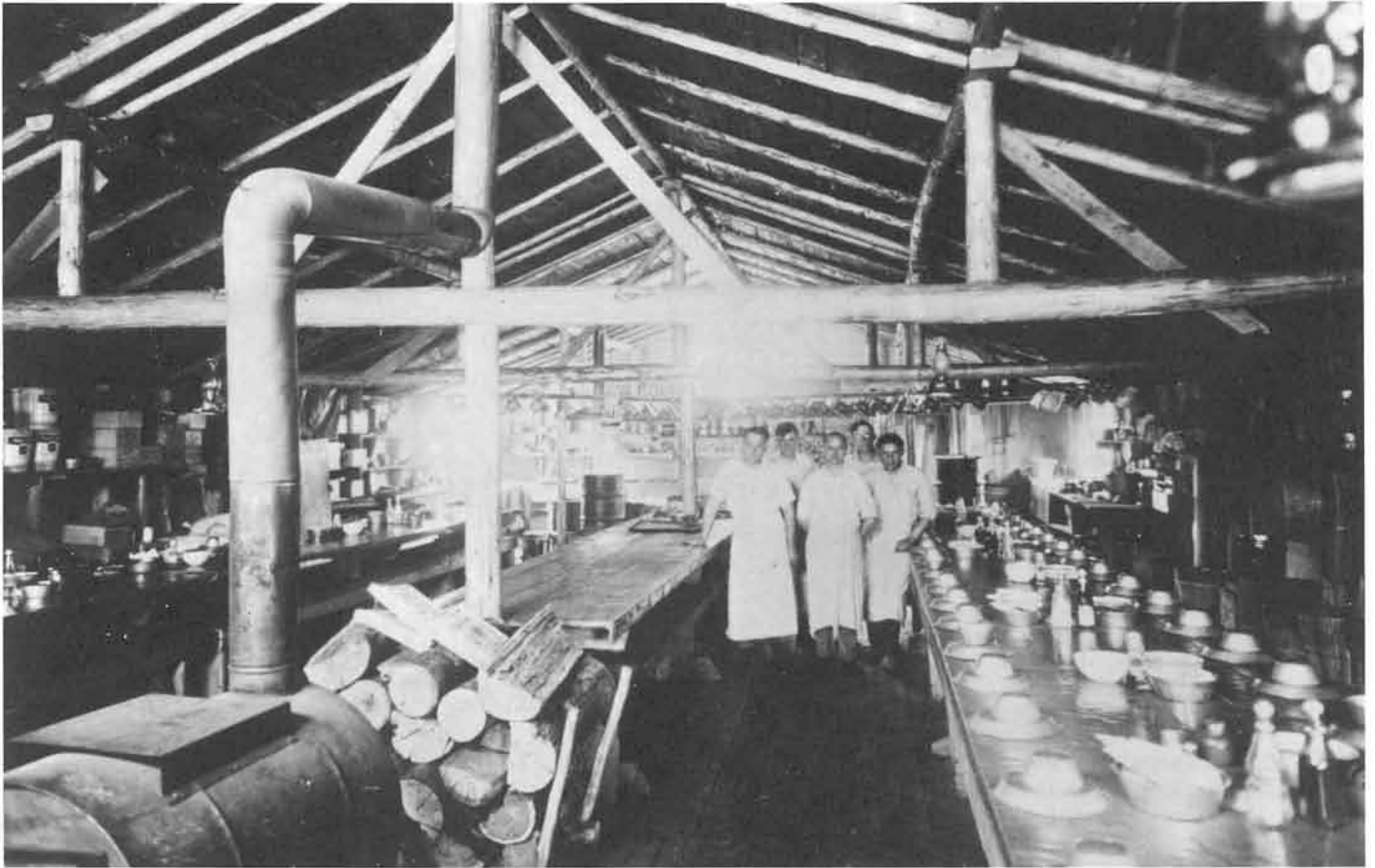
Work was never tied up because of cold weather. Lumberjacks, as a rule, did not mind the cold, and did not like soft weather when their clothing got wet. No foreman would allow a thermometer in camp. I recall one man bringing one to camp and hanging it outside the bunk house. One cold morning several men laid in after looking at the thermometer. But, somehow, the thermometer disappeared the next night.

Bunk houses were full of stories about the abilities and shortcomings of certain



A good foreman had logs skidded soon after cutting—so they did not get covered with snow. Note how saw gang below has scored bark to let saw run better.





The foreman made sure of clean cooks and good food, and always sat at the head of the table—even wearing a necktie (below).



foremen, with each lumberjack telling about his favorite. As a boy in the Bemidji area, one of the outstanding camp foremen I got to know was "Bum" Bush, who operated a camp about a mile and a half west of Turtle River on the road to Nat Lake, known now as Lake Beltrami. He was a large man with a large voice, and he had the distinction of being featured in Fitzpatrick's story "The Hospital Ticket," which appeared in the Dec. 19, 1914 issue of *Colliers* weekly—probably the reason I remember him better than any other foreman. Later on, as I grew up, I knew his brother George Bush, who "ran camp" in the Mizpah area. He also was a big man with a loud voice and every other word a curse word—but he had lots of ability as a camp foreman.

I knew many of the foremen for the Crookston Lumber Co. when they operated in the Northome, Mizpah and Kelliher area—including George Brown, Billie Betts, Merdick Morrison, Robert Mercerow, Andy Jordon and others.

Foremen for Backus & Brooks, or the International Lumber Co., included Ben Bronson, Lew Harmon, "Poker Jack" Bost, Bob Smith, Dave Argee, Tom Welsh, Jack McKibbin, "Hungry Mike" Sullivan and Tom Flemming.

Other great foremen who worked up and down the M.&I.R.R. were Paddy McLaughlin, Jack McTaggart, "Tar Paper" Smith, George Cox, Dick Green, Charley Blakely, Jack Robinson and more.

In the area north of Virginia, I remember Jim Haley, Finn Matt Whitting, Walter Boyce and George Nixon. Up around Ely and Winton, I remember Fred Murphey, Andy Cook, Herb Good, Gilmore and others, while the Alger Line had its "Gunny Sack" Kane, Dick Coolidge, George McCoullough—and I could go on naming more.

But the ones I remember best were the foremen of the later years for the Combined Cloquet Northern Lumber Companies that logged the last stands of virgin pine in the Cloquet Valley district. They included Hank Glasow, Ed Netser, Jack Daley, Fred Villard, Red Peabody, George Noland, Bob Harris, Fred Carter, Frank McMillen, Tom Henderson, Christ Lee, Black John, William Kimball, William Campbell, Mort Shiels, Jack Shea, Percy Vibert, Jack Chisholm, William Dewar, "Whiskers" Burton, William Roache and others.

When history is written, not only of the logging industry, but of the development of the entire Northwest, much credit is due the logging camp foremen—for it was their individual ability to produce, sometimes under the worst of conditions, that kept the logs rolling into the mills that furnished the lumber that built the homes for the wave of immigrants that settled our great Northwest between 1870 and 1910.

Early camp scene (top) shows barns and water tank. The camp foreman checked his roads and work crews daily. Note the oxen used in cross haul loading (bottom).



On the Markets

The *Timber Bulletin* publishes information regarding results of a sampling of recent timber sales and other market indicators, as well as other market-related news items.

Recent Timber Sales Average Prices, as reported by each agency

Agency Regular Intermediate

St. Louis County

May 16 – Oral Auction

Aspen		
pulpwood	\$28.76	NA
Birch		
pulpwood	\$ 8.43	NA
Balsam fir		
pulpwood	\$12.04	NA
Black Spruce		
pulpwood	\$26.36	NA

24 of the 28 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Park Rapids Area

May 20 – Sealed Bid

Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$29.90	NA
Oak Species		
(WMP)	\$24.51	NA
Spruce-Balsam		
(WMP)	\$29.87	NA
Paper Birch		
(WC)	\$ 8.50	NA

All 10 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Backus and Deer River Areas

May 20 – Sealed Bid

Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$22.34	\$26.89
Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$36.41	\$32.80
Mixed Hardwoods		
(WMP)	\$10.36	NA
Black Spruce		
(WC)	NA	\$26.31

17 of the 22 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Backus and Deer River Areas

May 21 – Oral Auction

Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$26.22	\$24.86
Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$29.60	\$33.47
Balsam Fir		
(WC)	\$11.75	\$11.53

12 of the 19 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Park Rapids Area

May 21 – Oral Auction

Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	NA	\$23.71
Norway Pine		
(WMP)	NA	\$35.53
Red Oak		
(WMP)	NA	\$25.82
Paper Birch		
(WC)	NA	\$ 8.96
Pine Species		
(WMP)	NA	\$28.54
Spruce-Balsam		
(WMP)	NA	\$18.19

All 35 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Cass County

May 30 – Sealed Bid

Aspen	\$19.28	\$23.58
Red Oak	\$21.24	\$21.65
Maple	\$11.28	\$12.52
Birch	\$13.02	\$13.09

11 of 13 tracts offered on the auction were purchased.

Itasca County

May 30 – Oral Auction

Aspen	\$25.87	NA
Red Pine	\$51.84	NA
Paper Birch	\$12.40	NA
Balsam	\$18.03	NA
Black Spruce	\$23.36	NA

44 of the 46 tracts offered on the auction were purchased.

DNR – Blackduck & Deer River Areas

June 4 – Oral Auction

Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$33.02	\$27.95
Tamarack		
(WC)	\$ 5.10	NA
Mixed Spruce		
(WMP)	\$22.32	\$34.39

8 of 15 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Tower Area

June 4 – Oral Auction

Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$24.48	\$19.67
Mixed Spruce		
(WMP)	\$19.31	\$16.12
Pine Species		
(WMP)	\$37.49	\$34.45
Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$17.85	\$29.54

15 of 27 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Bemidji Area

June 5 – Oral Auction

Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$31.64	\$25.83
Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$26.21	\$33.85
Mixed Hardwoods		
(WMP)	\$16.54	NA
White Spruce		
(WMP)	NA	\$13.59

19 of 22 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Cloquet Area

June 6 – Oral Auction

Aspen Species		
(WC)	\$19.79	\$39.28
Maple Species		
(WMP)	\$11.11	\$21.35
Trembling Aspen		
(WC)	\$17.85	\$33.20
Paper Birch		

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(WMP) \$13.78 \$25.08
 Mixed Spruce
 (WMP) \$17.52 \$28.44
12 of 15 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Carlton County

June 6 – Oral Auction
 Aspen \$31.04 NA
 Norway Pine P/B \$32.39 NA
 Northern Hardwoods \$ 8.80 NA

13 of 14 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR – Hibbing Area

June 7 – Oral Auction
 Trembling Aspen (WC) \$30.72 \$25.85
 Northern Hardwoods (WC) \$ 8.75 \$ 7.95

Black Spruce (WC) \$19.70 NA
 Balsam Fir (WC) \$11.71 \$11.76

Mixed Spruce (WC) \$17.73 \$21.85

29 of the 38 tracts offered on the sale were purchased.

DNR – Aitkin Area

June 7 – Sealed Bid
 Aspen Species (WC) \$22.08 NA

Aspen Species (WMP) \$26.38 NA
 Trembling Aspen (WC) \$26.44 NA
 Norway Pine (WMP) \$55.47 NA
 Northern Hardwoods (WC) \$16.07 NA

13 of the 19 tracts offered during the auction were purchased.

DNR – Aitkin Area

June 10 – Oral Auction
 Aspen Species (WC) \$28.96 \$27.41
 Trembling Aspen (WC) \$23.74 \$17.85

Norway Pine (WMP) \$34.19 \$26.36
 Northern Hardwoods (WC) \$11.50 \$20.08

33 of the 41 tracts offered during the auction were purchased.

DNR – Tower & Littlefork Areas

June 11 – Sealed Bid
 Aspen Species (WC) \$35.39 \$32.67

Trembling Aspen (WC) \$40.45 \$31.83
 Black Spruce (WC) \$22.72 \$14.57

Balsam Fir (WC) \$11.71 \$11.73

14 of the 16 tracts offered during

the auction were purchased.

DNR – Littlefork Area

June 12 – Oral Auction
 Aspen Species (WC) \$25.75 \$35.50
 Black Spruce (WC) \$26.47 \$15.69

Tamarack (WC) \$ 5.10 \$ 5.00
 Trembling Aspen (WC) \$29.63 \$25.88

25 of the 26 tracts offered during the auction were purchased.

DNR – Two Harbors Area

June 12 – Sealed Bid
 Aspen Species (WC) \$28.96 \$27.41
 Trembling Aspen (WC) \$23.74 \$17.85

Norway Pine (WMP) \$34.19 \$26.36
 Northern Hardwoods (WC) \$11.50 \$20.08

33 of the 41 tracts offered during the auction were purchased.

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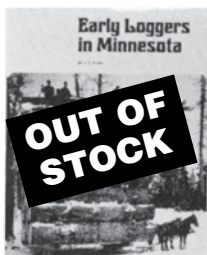
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by J. C. Ryan

VOL. I



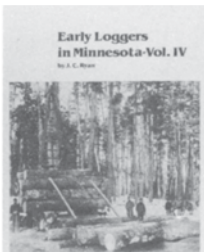
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ADVERTISERS INDEX

AgStar	4
Cass Forest Products.....	24
Central Power Distributors.....	9
Don Evans Insurance Agency, Inc.	33
Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.....	13
Great Lakes Trailers	15
Hedstrom Lumber Co.....	13
Industrial Fluid Technologies, LLC	25
Itasca Greenhouse	27
Lumbermen's Underwriting Alliance	11
Northern Engine & Supply	12
Northern Timberline Equipment.....	17
Nortrax.....	5, 35
Otis-Magie Insurance Agency	32
Petro Choice	23
Pomp's Tire	5
Rice Blacksmith Saw & Machine.....	21
Rihm Kenworth.....	27
Road Machinery & Supplies.....	36
Schaefer Enterprises.....	23
Stewart-Taylor Printing.....	13
Titan Machinery	7
Wausau Sales Corp.....	6
Ziegler.....	19

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