



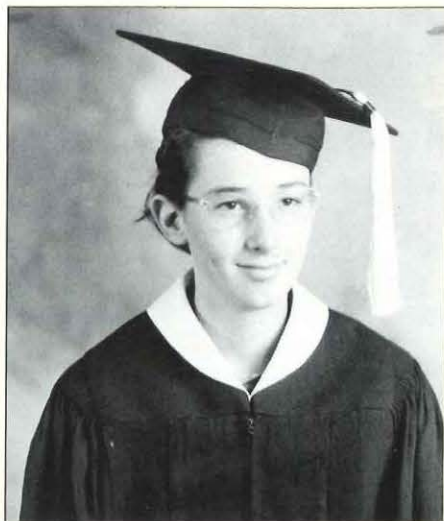
focus on *forestry*

at Oregon State University

Fall 1993



THE GIFT OF A FOREST



Her life was growing trees. Kaye Richardson at her graduation from Dallas High School, 1944. On the cover, Kaye in 1950.



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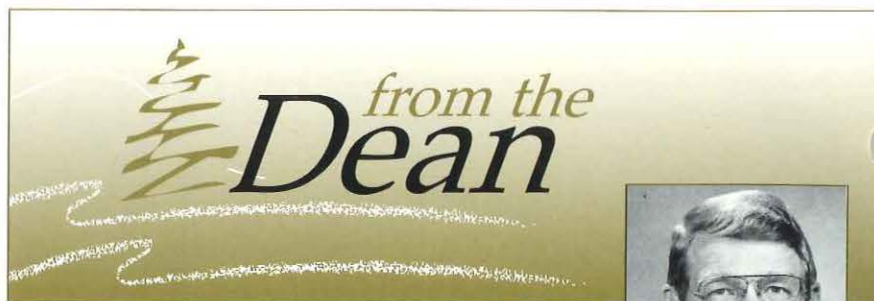
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Fall 1993

Each fall, we make an extra effort to say "thanks" to all of those who have made their own very special commitment—to all who have contributed so much to make our College an exceptional place to work and study. This is one of the greatest pleasures in my job.

During the past four years, I have had the pleasure of saying "thanks" to a great many wonderful people. In this issue, we say thanks to a person I have never met and to whom I will never be able to express my gratitude. Kaye Richardson died in December, 1992, and left her 1,400-acre tree farm to the College of Forestry to use in whatever way we choose to benefit our College. It is a huge gift, the largest single gift ever given to the College of Forestry or to Oregon State University.

Kaye was a very private person and chose to remain anonymous, not telling us of the wonderful provision she had made in her will. While I respect her decision, I would have enjoyed the opportunity to meet her and express our appreciation for all she will make possible at our College. Those who knew her tell me she was quite a lady, with a strong commitment to forestry and to education. With her gift, that commitment will endure in perpetuity.

All gifts to our College, past and present, large and small, play a critical role in helping us to serve our students and the people of Oregon. As state support dwindles, gifts from individuals are increasingly important in keeping our College's leadership role intact. This past fiscal year, we received only about 30 percent of our total budgetary support from state funds. State funds contributed only about 13 percent to research, our largest budget item.

We continue to worry about our students as tuitions go up and families in economically distressed, rural Oregon communities find it increasingly difficult to send their children to OSU. Fortunately, many of you continue to contribute generously to scholarship programs. In two years, our Legacy Scholarship endowment has grown to \$113,000, thanks to many personal gifts and a large contribution from Burlington Resources. This year, we have been able to provide 78 scholarships and fellowships totaling \$170,000 in awards.

On behalf of all of us at the College of Forestry, and especially our students, I extend our grateful appreciation to all of you who have continued to support the College with your gifts. We especially appreciate the confidence these gifts express in our students and all we do at the College at a time when forestry and foresters are under attack from many quarters. I continue to remind our faculty and students of your very tangible expressions of support. And, believe me, that does wonders for our morale.

George Brown

George Brown
Dean, College of Forestry
Oregon State University

SHE LIVED HER COMMITMENT TO GOOD FORESTRY

Kaye Richardson invested her life in her tree farm, but that investment did not end with her death last December. Her foresight in bequeathing her forest land to the College of Forestry has immeasurably enriched forestry scholarship at OSU.

Oregon's citizens—indeed, everyone affected by forests and their management—will continue to reap benefits from Miss Richardson's wise provision for the future.

The bequest of 1,400 acres of second-growth timber land near Falls City, Oregon, is the largest single gift ever received by the University. The gift came as a surprise to the College late last year—Miss Richardson preferred to remain anonymous, according to her lawyer and long-time friend, Sam Speerstra of Salem. "She wasn't out for any publicity," he says. "She always told me, 'You speak for me, Sam.'"

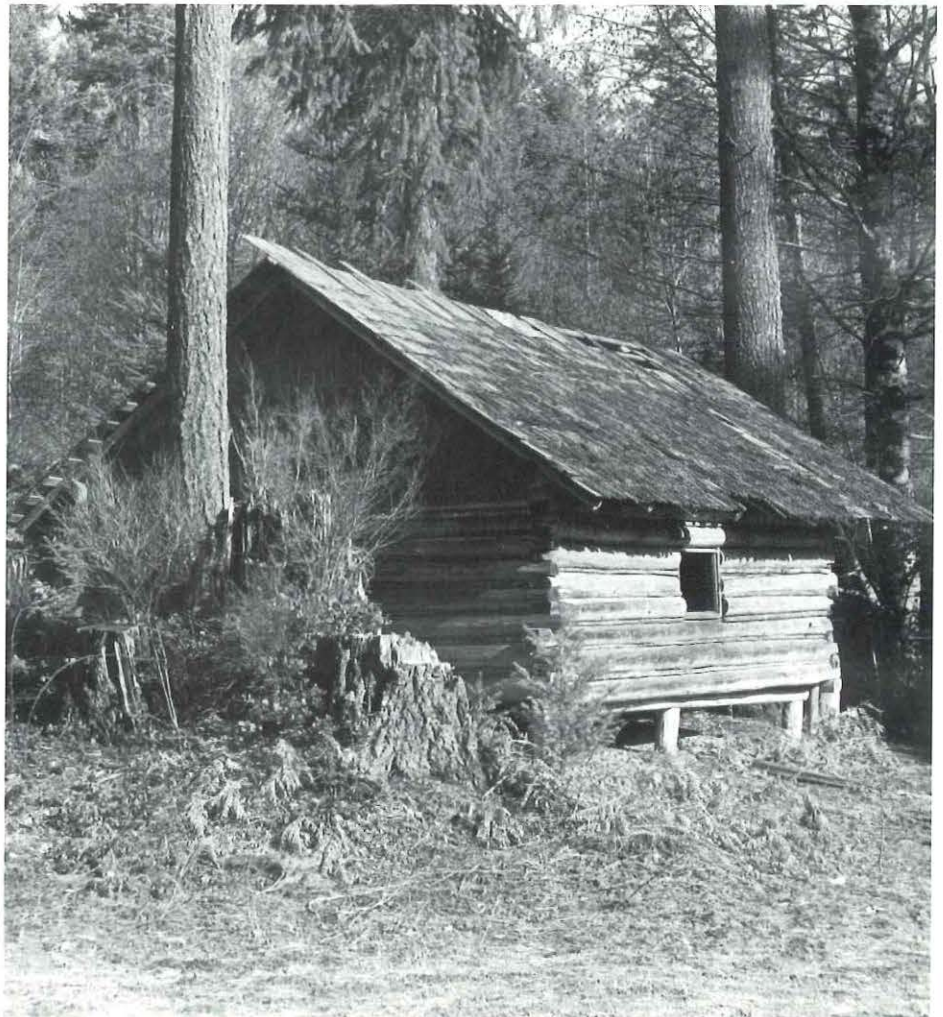
We did not know Miss Richardson, but her insistence on anonymity gives us a significant clue about the kind of person she was. Her friends say she was of a character we have come to know and respect: hardworking and humble, frugal and unpretentious, public-spirited in a private way, modest, hardheaded, passionate about good forestry.

No luxuries. Kaye Richardson spent her early childhood in this cabin on the family tree farm. Her father built the cabin for his family in the late 1920s.

started buying cutover parcels of timber land during the Great Depression. Early lumbermen had logged off the more accessible reaches of the rich Coast Range forest and then aban-

doned the land for delinquent taxes. Richardson bought first one piece, then another, paying very little for land that was then nearly worthless.

In the early 1930s, Ward



IN THESE ATTRIBUTES SHE FOLLOWED IN the footsteps of her father, Ward K. Richardson, a Salem grocer who

Richardson moved his family—wife Vera and daughter Katherine Alice—out of Salem and onto their tree farm. It was then what you might call a stump farm, and they lived, literally, in a log cabin.

That was a time when many settlers, often immigrants and usually very poor, tried to wrest an agrarian living out of land best suited for growing trees. Traces of this valiant effort remain on the Richardson tree farm, and, indeed, all over the hills and hollows of the Coast Range—squares of brushy earth where cabins once stood, surrounded by daffodils that still come up every spring and

said to her—that he kept cutting down the trees and they kept growing back. He thought maybe that was telling him something.”

Richardson came to see that the trees were more than just obstacles to farming. He began to develop a new vision for the forest growing around him.

WHEN KAYE (AS SHE WAS NICKNAMED) was a little girl, she would visit the other home-steaders in their

from the cabin. Still, they earned their living any way they could—and everyone contributed to the family income. Mrs. Richardson made soup for the Falls City school children, charging them a few pennies each. Mr. Richardson cut firewood from stumps and snags (with the help of the teen-aged Sam Speerstra) and sold it in town, and he cut tanbark for



Spacious but spare. The Richardson ranch house thirty years ago (left), and today.

gnarled apple trees that still bear fruit every fall. Wagon roads crisscross the forest, not quite obliterated by the vigorous second growth, and sometimes you can find springhouses falling to ruin next to hand-sawn wooden flumes.

At first Ward Richardson, too, tried his hand at farming. He set about clearing the land so he could raise beef cattle. But the trees wouldn't stay cleared, says Kathy Ronco, the Richardsons' long-time employee and Kaye's close friend. "Kaye told me what her dad always

log cabins, says Brad Ronco, Kathy's husband and also Kaye's employee. "She used to tell us how they were really gruff old guys, but they were always glad to see her," says Ronco. "They always saved a little treat for her when she came to visit."

When Kaye was old enough, she started grade school in nearby Falls City. Sam Speerstra's mother was her second-grade teacher. Like almost everyone else, the Richardsons were poor. The family lived a little more comfortably after Kaye's father built a modest ranch house about a mile

the Muir and McDonald tannery in Dallas. Kaye and her mother grew vegetables for sale. Kaye's job was to tend the garden and, periodically, to clean the flume her father had built to divert a small creek down into the homesite. "That was a job she didn't like very much," recalls Brad Ronco. The family ate from its garden and produced its own meat and milk. Like most others, they got by.

WARD RICHARDSON HAD COME TO realize that trees were what the land wanted to grow, and his vision of

how to grow them evolved along highly progressive lines. "He was set on a natural forest, a sustained-yield forest," says Sam Speerstra. A self-taught forest manager, Richardson started a vigorous program of thinning for improved growth. He intended to log a little each year (although there was very little logging during those early years), keeping the harvest at an even level, and never allowing the rampant, rapid cutting that had denuded the land in the first place. "He was an idealist," says Speerstra, "and anything he didn't think was right, he'd oppose it. He was very much opposed to clearcutting."

Richardson also built a small sawmill near the ranch house, milling logs for market and also for his own use. He cut lumber out of alder trees—not much used for sawlogs in those days—to panel the inside of the ranch house. The mill burned down in the late 1940s.

Kaye, the Richardsons' only child, was raised as a son might have been—it was taken for granted that she would eventually manage the tree farm. She traveled with her father to forestry meetings, she helped him cut and sell Christmas trees (this before the burgeoning of the large, specialized operations of today), and she helped make decisions about thinning, harvesting, planting, and marketing.

Kaye graduated from Dallas High School in 1944. She went to Linfield College and then to the University of Oregon, where she earned a degree in journalism in 1948. She worked her way through school, writing for the college newspaper and working in a cafeteria. Her interest in journalism was encouraged by her uncle, Earl Richardson, editor of the *Dallas Itemizer*, but she chose not to pursue it as a career. "The tree farm was the only thing she really wanted to do," says Kathy Ronco. "So she decided to go back and help the folks."

Kaye's management skills grew along with her responsibilities. By the late 1950s, she and her father were pretty much equal partners. Father and daughter were featured in an Extension circular printed in about 1958, profiling nonindustrial private forest landowners. The circular was titled (with unintended irony) "Men who grow trees." The photo shows Ward and Kaye standing side by side

on their land, gazing off into the distance, with tall, young trees in the background. When Ward Richardson began brokering lumber for several sawmills—an additional line of business—Kaye worked right alongside him.

In the early 1960s, Ward, getting on in years, wrote a book outlining his tree-farm management techniques and philosophy, mainly for the benefit of his daughter but also to lay out his vision of progressive forest management. *Tree Farmer's Handbook* was privately published in 1965. By this time Vera Richardson had died—of a heart attack, in 1963—and Ward and Kaye had moved off the tree farm into a house they'd built closer to the town of Falls City. The forest was beginning to pay off: the Richardsons' hard work was yielding a little more marketable timber each year.

Gradually, Ward settled into semi-retirement and Kaye took over more and more of the business. Like her father, she disliked certain management techniques, among them clearcutting, spraying, and burning. She preferring to log selectively, replant the open spaces, and hand-slash the brush to keep it down. Over the years her approach has produced a forest highly variable in composition and showing only slight evidence of prior logging.

Ward had been thinking about the future of the tree farm, and had begun to realize, says Sam Speerstra, that it was growing into a sizable asset. There were inheritance problems to work out, tax liabilities that loomed. What should he do?

It was Ward's idea that the forest land should eventually go to OSU. Kaye agreed. "Ward thought the proper way to advance the forest industry in Oregon was through Oregon State," says Speerstra. "And it had become apparent that Kaye was not going to get married; there

would be no heirs. So the idea of donating it became very feasible."

Ward Richardson died in 1973. Kaye could have retired and taken it easy, but she wouldn't, says Speerstra. "She could have sold the farm and traveled the world many times over. But she elected to stay. She used to say, 'Sam, I can only eat so many chocolate bars, and I can only drink so many bottles of pop. I'm happy here.'"

SHE CONTINUED TO WORK HARD, SAYS Kathy Ronco, who worked in Kaye's home office. "I'd be here at 7:30 in the morning, and she would have been up since 5:30, talking on the phone. And she'd continue to get calls till 6 or 7 at night." Often Kaye and Kathy would go out on the tree farm to take a look at a thinning operation or inspect a parcel that might be ready for harvest.

Kaye was beginning to notice that she didn't have as much pep as she used to. At first she put it down to her age. After all, she'd turned 65—

A father-daughter partnership. Ward and Kaye Richardson as they were featured in an Extension bulletin titled "Men who Grow Trees."



retirement age for some people—in 1991. But she kept going full steam until July of last year, when she felt really ill, says Kathy Ronco. "My family and I went on vacation, knowing she wasn't feeling well. I called her every night." When the Roncos got back, they took Kaye to the hospital for tests. Everything came back negative.

Still Kaye felt poorly. She went in for testing again. This time the answer came back with merciless clarity: cancer. She underwent surgery, radiation therapy, and a



A practical public-spiritedness. School children on a 1960 field trip to the Richardson tree farm.

blood transfusion, but the cancer had spread from colon to appendix and bones. She died in December, only three months after she'd bought a new skidder for the tree farm.

"She was a fighter," says Kathy Ronco. "She'd say, 'Maybe we're going to get this thing.' Even in her sickness, she felt hopeful about the future."

THE FORESIGHT OF KAYE RICHARDSON and her father have made the future brighter for forestry in Oregon. Her commitment to good forestry could pay off in a myriad of ways—in improved management techniques for growing healthy forests, in breakthroughs in forest biology, in new, more efficient ways of using wood products—in all the things College does to improve the practice of forestry.

But most of all, Miss Richardson's investment will bear fruit in the hearts and minds of the students who come here—the scientists, managers, specialists, and policymakers of tomorrow.

It is on their behalf, with gratitude, that the College receives her gift.

GIFT IS A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, SAYS DEAN

The 1,400-acre Richardson property, appraised at \$15 million, is the largest single gift the College has ever received and the largest ever given to the University, says Dean George Brown.

"This gift is very welcome, and it's going to be extremely important in enriching future College programs," he says. "We look upon this as a vote of confidence, and we are grateful to Kaye Richardson and her father for recognizing the crucial role of our

College in the practice of forestry, not only in Oregon, but in the nation and the world.

"The Richardsons' gift will make it possible for us to offer wonderful things to our students for many years to come."

The land won't officially belong to the College until probate is completed, probably early this fall. No plans have yet been made for the forest land, Brown says.

View from the top. The Richardson gift will enhance forestry teaching and research for many years to come.



FOREST GIFTS: TRADITIONAL AND TIMELY

The giving of forest lands has a venerable history in the College of Forestry. Several early benefactors of the College showed their support through gifts of forest land. These gifts have helped us immensely over the years—to a degree perhaps unforeseen at the time they were given.

We are grateful that our supporters continue to donate forest land today. Sometimes the land is held by the College for research purposes, according to College needs and the wishes of the donor. Sometimes it is sold, so that the donor may receive income from the land during his or her lifetime.

Unforeseen benefits. Edith Blodgett (above) visiting the Blodgett Tract a few years ago with the future Dean, George Brown and Bill Atkinson, Forest Engineering department head, and Research Forest Director.



In either case, the College always puts the gift to good use. The wishes of the donor are *always* respected, and the gifts help strengthen the College in innumerable ways.

THE COLLEGE WOULD NOT ENJOY SUCH a wealth of research opportunities if it were not for the vision and generosity of early donors like Mary J.L. McDonald. McDonald was a wealthy California businesswoman whose husband acquired large acreages of timber land in southern Oregon and northern California around the turn of the century. When he died in 1907, Mary McDonald managed the large estate and did business in wheat, silver, and spruce for aircraft construction.

McDonald had no children of her

own, but she reputedly had a keen desire to help young people learn about natural resources. She began donating land to Oregon State Agricultural College, as OSU was then called, in 1927. The donated parcels were sold and the money used to buy tracts of land north of Corvallis. This land became the McDonald Research Forest.

When she died in 1935, McDonald left the rest of her property to Oregon State. Proceeds from the sale of the land were used to increase the McDonald Forest holdings from 3,000 to 6,000 acres.

The Blodgett family of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been another

generous benefactor, with its gift of the 2,400-acre Blodgett Tract, in Columbia County, in the 1920s. John W. Blodgett, Sr. was an important figure in the Michigan lumber industry in the early part of this century. (Blodgett's daughter-in-law, Edith Blodgett—Mrs. John W., Jr.—is still a major donor to the College.)

Later additions to the Research Forests have been donated by neighboring landowners:

- In 1991, John Sessions, a Forest Engineering professor here, donated a 1.1-acre building lot worth \$28,000 in the Vineyard Mountain development southeast of McDonald Forest.

- In 1992, an anonymous donor gave a 40-acre, non-contiguous tract near the Oak Creek entrance to McDonald Forest.

- Also last year, McLane Fisher of Englewood, Colo., donated 26 acres of land adjoining the eastern boundary of McDonald Forest near Jackson Place.

- Another builder, Jack Morgan, this year gave 17 acres near the Soap Creek Road portion of McDonald Forest.

MANY DONORS OF LAND PREFER THAT their gift be sold. That way the money can be used to earn income for the donor, and the principal will eventually enhance whatever College programs the donor deems important.

Here are a few of the most recent such gifts:

- Ruth Spaniol of Stayton gave the College 800 acres of timber land in 1992. The land was sold for \$4.5 million, and the proceeds used to set up a trust that will provide income to Mrs. Spaniol's three children for as long as they live. After that, the principal will support endowed chairs in renewable resources.

- Jerold and Vera Hicok of Lacombe, Ore., gave a 200-acre timbered parcel near Scio. The land sold for \$502,000, which was used to set up a life-income trust for the Hicoks and their son. Eventually the principal will be used to support the Oregon Forestry

Education Program here at the College.

- Norma Erickson of Salem gave the College 120 acres of timber land near Grande Ronde, Ore., in 1991. Proceeds of the sale, \$672,000, were used to set up a life-income trust for Mrs. Erickson and her son. The principal will eventually revert to the College to support research.

If you'd like to learn more about gifts of forest land, please call Lisa Mattes, College of Forestry director of development, at (503) 737-1493, or write to her at the College of Forestry, Peavy 150C, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-5704.

Honor roll of donors

The College of Forestry thanks its Honor Roll of Donors for their contributions to the College and the University over the past year. While we make every effort to obtain an accurate listing, mistakes do occur. To anyone we have inadvertently left off the list, please accept our apologies. We would appreciate being informed of our oversight.

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SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS: IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR

Gifts from alumni and others boosted the College's scholarship fund considerably this year. Here are some of the donors whose gifts will help the next generation of forestry students.

The four children of the late Harold F. Scritsmier ('29) have made a gift of \$36,000 to endow a new undergraduate scholarship fund in his name. "Dad always felt very committed to the School of Forestry, and we knew this would be something he would like," says Jacque Sue Scritsmier Wochnick, Scritsmier's youngest daughter. Her sisters, Jean-Marie Scritsmier Smith and Jane Lee Scritsmier Brown, and brother, John Francis Scritsmier, are sharing in the gift.

The Scritsmier Scholarship will offer at least \$1,500 a year to a College of Forestry undergraduate student under the umbrella of the Legacy Scholarship Program. A Legacy Scholarship award is understood to be an investment in the recipient's education by those who have gone before. As such, it carries a moral obligation to repay it by contributing toward a scholarship for a future student.

Harold Scritsmier went to work for the Coos Bay Lumber Co. after earning his logging engineering degree in 1929. In about 1935 he moved east of the mountains to build a lumber mill in Heppner, Ore., in partnership with his brother, Lee Scritsmier. The business was started with the help of their father, Frank Scritsmier of Portland. In 1944, Harold met and married Patricia Cason. The newlyweds moved into a log cabin that Harold had built for himself soon after he arrived. They lived there until their eldest child, John, was born in 1945.

In 1951, Harold Scritsmier moved back to Portland (his brother had died earlier). He and his father built a sawmill on the banks of the Willamette near the neighborhood of St. Johns, and also a planing mill and

dry kiln in Northeast Portland. Harold managed the sawmill, raising his family in a huge house in the Overlook neighborhood that had been built by Harold's grandfather, Christian Nathan Scritsmier, in 1905.

After the death of his father in the early 1960s, Harold Scritsmier operated both mills. The sawmill was destroyed in a fire a few years later. After that Scritsmier operated the planing mill until the mid-1970s, when he leased the operation out. He continued to take part in the day-to-day management of the mill until it was sold in about 1985.

At the time of his death in 1989, at 83, Scritsmier was a member of the President's Club and thus a substantial donor to the University in his own right. Thanks to the further generosity of his children, the Scritsmier name will live on in perpetuity at the College of Forestry.



Harold F. Scritsmier

TWO NEW FELLOWSHIPS ARE NOW available to College of Forestry students, thanks to donations from colleagues and friends of Robert F. Tarrant and Lucille "Lu" Berger. The funds now stand at about \$6,300 and about \$8,000, respectively, and contributions are still being received for both.

Tarrant, a retired Forest Service soil scientist and PNW Research Station director who is now on the Forest Science faculty, and Berger, long-time Forest Science office manager who retired in 1992, were honored at the College's spring awards ceremony in June.

Also recognized at the ceremony were the 1993-94 recipients of the fellowships. The \$500 Tarrant Fellowship went to Robert Lewis, a master's student in forest ecology, and the \$1,000 Berger Fellowship went to Donald Sachs, a doctoral student in forest ecology.

Bob Tarrant is well known for his research on and promotion of red alder as a commercial tree species that offers both ecological and economic returns.

His interest in alder stems from a 1948 visit to a reforested burn on which alder had been interplanted among Douglas-fir. The purpose of the interplanting was to test alder's usefulness as a firebreak, but Tarrant noted that the mixed stands of Douglas-fir and alder looked much healthier than the pure stands of Douglas-fir. Since then much of his research has been devoted to quantifying the effects of red alder on forest soils.

Tarrant is a member of the Oregon Hardwoods Committee and was instrumental in starting the Hardwood Silviculture Research Cooperative at the College of Forestry.

Lu Berger worked for the state of Oregon for 30 years, with her longest continuous periods of employment in two College of Forestry departments. She was hired as secretary at the Forest Research Laboratory in 1966, and then moved to the Forest Management Department (as it was then) to become departmental secretary.

In 1976, when the department was split and the Department of Forest Science formed, Berger moved to the new department and worked closely with its head, John Gordon, to get the new unit up and running.

Berger helped the Department

make some significant changes over the years, included a large expansion of its research capability, enhancement of the Forestry Extension program, and participation in the College's large Continuing Education program.

Berger is also remembered warmly for her personal touch with students, her hard work on behalf of faculty, and her infectious sense of humor.

The Tarrant Fellowship will go to a College of Forestry graduate student studying red alder. Any Forest Science student is eligible for the Berger Fellowship.

Alumni or others who would like to contribute to the Tarrant or Berger Fellowship Funds may get in touch with the Forest Science Department at the College of Forestry, FSL 026, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. (503) 737-2244.

KONCOR FOREST PRODUCTS CO., AN Alaska native-owned company in Anchorage, is underwriting a generous scholarship program open to its shareholders, who are members of four Alaskan native village corporations.

The scholarship will offer up to \$10,000 a year for up to four years to shareholders in Natives of Kodiak, Ouzinkie Native Corporation, Yak-Tat Kwaan, Inc., and Chenega Corporation, all of southeastern and south-central Alaska, and their dependents.

These corporations and others were established in 1971 with the passage of the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act by Congress. Koncor shareholders number about 1,400.

The scholarship fund, says Koncor's Marilyn Maxwell, is intended to encourage native people to go out and get an education and then

bring it back to help the people of their villages. "This is a long-term investment in taking care of the land for future generations," she says. "It's an opportunity for Koncor to give back to the community."

The scholarship will cover tuition, living expenses, and books for one or more Koncor shareholders studying for a degree at OSU in forestry or some other natural-resource field.

Students may also be eligible for reduction of their tuition under the Western

Undergraduate Education (WUE) program, making the Koncor scholarship stretch even further.

The Koncor board of directors selected the College of Forestry from among several forestry schools to administer the scholarship. "We sent a letter to all the accredited forestry programs in the West," says Maxwell. "The warm response we got back, expressing your willingness to work for us, was one of the main reasons we chose OSU. We also have lots of shareholders living in Oregon and Washington."

BACK IN 1932, A YOUNG FORESTRY graduate student named Harry Fowells received some much-appreciated help from the Mary J.L. McDonald Fellowship Fund. The fellowship helped steer Fowells into a long and rewarding career in forestry research.

Now Fowells and his wife, Mildred (OSU '32), are returning the favor by starting a fellowship fund. Their \$25,000 contribution will establish an endowment to help support Forest Science students in the fields of tree physiology and genetics.

"The McDonald Fellowship really helped me," says Fowells, "and I wanted to help someone else."

Fowells earned a bachelor's degree in 1932 and a master's in 1933, both from the School of Forestry. He was hired by the Forest Service experiment station at Berkeley, and started working on a doctorate in plant physiology at the University of California, juggling school, work, and family.

In 1953—lacking only his dissertation—he was transferred to Washington, D.C. He became chief of the branch of silviculture in the Division of Timber Management Research. Eventually he finished his doctorate at the University of Maryland in 1958. While in Washington, he established a laboratory in Beltsville, Md., devoted to tree physiology research.

In 1966 he was recruited for an international cooperative research program in agriculture and forestry in the USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS). The job took him overseas frequently, monitoring hundreds of research programs in countries throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. He retired in 1971 and now lives in Oak Harbor, Wash., with his wife.

An honor from friends and colleagues. Bob Tarrant (left) with student Robert Lewis. Below, Lu Berger with student Donald Sachs.



THE COLLEGE HAS A NEW \$100,000 scholarship fund, thanks to a gift from Burlington Resources of Seattle. The gift was inspired by conversations between the company's Don North and OSU and College officials, including Dean George Brown and President John Byrne. "This was where we understood the need was," says North. "We have always said to institutions, Where can you best use the money? We try to have them tell us what the need is."

Burlington Resources was formed a few years ago as a holding company for several subsidiaries spun off from Burlington Northern Railroad. Now that most of the companies have been sold, says North, Burlington Resources, as planned, will lose its reason for being and will go out of existence. Thus, North says, this scholarship donation may be the last charitable gift the company makes.

The new fund is directed at attracting new, top-quality undergraduate students, says Perry Brown, the College's associate dean for

instruction. The awards will vary from year to year. "This year," says Brown, "we offered five new applicants scholarships of \$1,500 each, and all five will be attending the College this fall. This fund will be a tremendous help in the College's quest to attract the best and brightest students in a time of rapidly increasing costs."

WESSELA JOINS ROSTER OF CONTINUING GIVERS

CONRAD WESSELA, A 1933 GRADUATE of the College of Forestry, has given another \$20,000 to support the work of geneticist and Forest Science professor Steven Strauss.

This is Wessela's third act of generosity toward the College: last year he made a \$125,000 bequest to the College in his will, and earlier this year he gave a \$20,000 outright gift.

Wessela's gifts put him into a growing class of continuing supporters of the College—donors whose ongoing generosity amounts to a

hearty vote of confidence in the College's future. This group includes:

- The Starkers of Corvallis.

Contributions from Starker family members and businesses have helped support such valuable programs as the annual Starker Lectures, student field trips, and (again) the tree genetics research of Steve Strauss.

- L.L. ("Stub") and Faye Stewart of Eugene, brothers whose ongoing support of the College and the University have given us Stewart Auditorium, the LaSells Stewart Center, pledged support for Forest Engineering and genetics programs, and many other benefits.

- Edith Blodgett of Grand Rapids, Mich., who in 1991 pledged \$10,000 a year for five years toward an endowed chair in forest policy. She is the daughter-in-law of John W. Blodgett, Sr., who was prominent in the Lake States lumber industry in the early part of this century. The 2,400-acre Blodgett Tract of the Research Forests was donated by the family in the 1920s.

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ENGINEERING + WOOD = A REWARDING CAREER

From his science-strong schooling and outdoorsy upbringing in upstate New York, Jim Wilson developed two interests early: engineering, and anything involving trees.

That interest and a vision for the future led to a career in wood composites—engineered products using wood combined with other materials. It led also to an important role in the leading-edge research now being

research elevate wood into a complicated material with interesting engineering properties based on the characteristics of its components. Composites technology provides a means of taking advantage of the superior properties of components of wood, and re-forming these components into an even more superior composite product.

Such technology has led to the development and improvement of all

of solid-wood raw material. "The other day I went over to see a house being built," Wilson says. "The only solid wood used was two-by-six framing lumber. All the other materials were composites—the roof and wall sheathing, the underlayment, the joists, and the headers."

In 1971, the year he finished his doctorate, Wilson was honored for his research by the Forest Products Research Society with the

association's Wood Award for the outstanding research paper. His research was a study of some of the basic mechanics of wood structure and how wood's strength affects its overall performance.

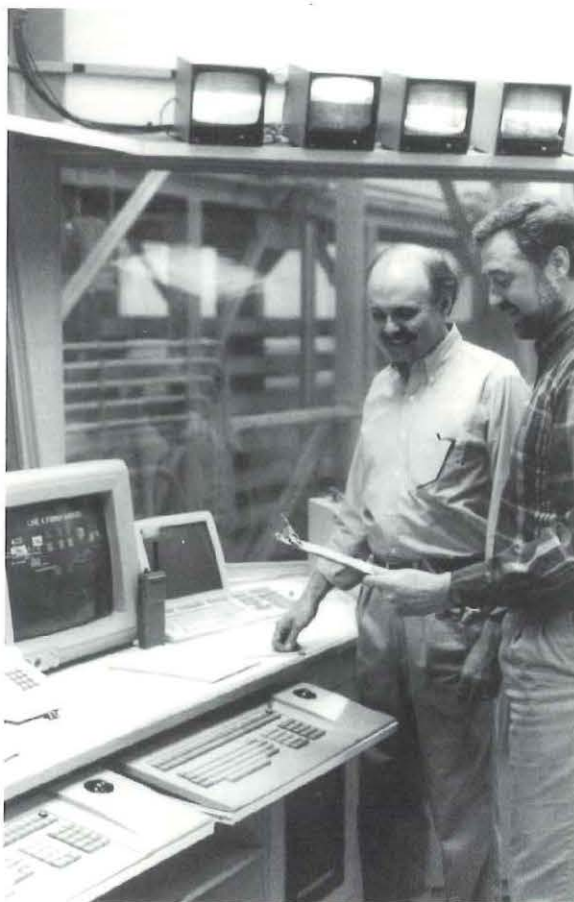
The methods he developed, particularly his modeling techniques to predict the strength of wood, have proven applicable to other materials, such as the modern, complex composites like graphite epoxy, used in building airplanes and space stations.

RAISED IN BUFFALO, N.Y., WILSON GOT his bachelor's at SUNY in 1964 in wood industry management, and did graduate work at North Carolina State from 1964 to 1966 in forest products with a mechanical engineering minor. After completing his doctorate at SUNY in 1970, he went to work as a senior development

engineer for St. Regis Paper Co. at the firm's research headquarters in West Nyack, N.Y. It was his job in the laboratory to develop products or process improvements, and then take them out and apply them to the manufacturing operations.

Wilson's work at St. Regis was rewarding, but after a few years he found he missed the vibrancy of the

Fruitful contacts with industry. Jim Wilson (left) joins Willamette Industry's Dave Smith on a tour of the company's Duraflake plant at Millersberg, Ore.



conducted in composite materials, research that's partly driven by the current scarcity of pure-wood raw materials.

Wilson's work has been in the avant garde from the very start, ever since he began studying for his doctorate in wood products engineering at the State University of New York at Syracuse. That was in the early 1970s, when scientists examining the essential cellular properties of such materials as steel, plastics, and wood didn't even have a name for their field.

"The program I was in and the professors I worked with were at the forefront of what is now called materials science," Wilson says. "They stressed very strongly the importance of taking course work and conducting research in those areas that would be considered materials science (for example, engineering mechanics, continuum mechanics, strength of materials, physical chemistry, polymer chemistry, and quantum physics), along with composite materials. Wood, with all its complex structure, is essentially nature's own composite."

The ideas in materials-science

kinds of wood-composite building materials—fiberboard, particle board, oriented-strand board, laminated-veneer lumber, and laminated timbers—as well as materials that incorporate nonwood components.

These products have enlarged the array of choices available to consumers of wood products, and they've helped stretch the dwindling supply

university setting and the opportunity to teach. "So I looked around for a university where I could do those things and still keep my industrial contacts and involvement," he says. "Oregon State University College of Forestry offered a rare combination—I could do applied and basic research, I could still interact with industry, and, most importantly, I could teach." He joined the Forest Products faculty in 1974.

HIS RESEARCH PROGRAM HERE IS divided among exploring the material properties of wood composites, conceiving ways to improve the performance of composite wood products, and devising methods of evaluating the properties of these products nondestructively, using such techniques as gamma rays and sound waves.

In his teaching, Wilson takes advantage of the typically small Forest Products classes to form mentoring relationships with his students. He insists on a professional-quality job in the classroom. "I assign a lot of homework," he says, "because with the type of course I teach—wood and wood-fiber physics and its application to problems in the laboratory and the industry—the only way you can understand the course material and get proficient at it is to practice. I try to convey the importance of a strong work ethic, a sense of professional pride in a job well done. I try to show them by example that if they do well, if they're excited about their profession, they'll be personally and professionally rewarded." His philosophy is demonstrated, he says, in the successful job placement of his students.

Wilson also stays active in service to his profession. He is a member of the Society of Wood Science and Technology, in which he has held just about every office including that of president, in 1990-91. Currently he's the chairman of the nominating committee. He also serves as manager of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Research Initiative Competitive Grants panel.

ESSENTIAL TO BOTH TEACHING AND research, Wilson feels, is the close relationship the Forest Products Department enjoys with the wood-products industry. The connection between them goes back to the

postwar years, when the Forest Research Lab was first formed. "The lab did a very effective job in helping certain industries get started in the state," Wilson says. "Industries that had never existed were born and became very large, such as the particle board industry. Over the years the faculty has changed, but many of us still cultivate those contacts."

Industry's tangible support comes in the form of donations of money or equipment for research. The three-year-old, \$450,000 Wheeler Wood Composites Laboratory is a good example. Built and equipped with the generous support of Sam Wheeler, a 1950 alumnus and major donor to the lab, and other corporate and private donors—including Wilson and his wife, Marie—the lab has state-of-the-art capabilities for fabricating and testing a myriad of composite materials.

Valuable support also comes in intangible forms—opportunities for students to tour manufacturing plants, for example. "When we're teaching about manufacturing processes, or process control, we can go out to a plant and have those people who are working with the technology on a daily basis explain it

to the students. This complements what we teach in class, and it's a tremendous asset for our education process."

In addition, industry contacts provide direct feedback, keeping the department in touch with real-world problems and issues. For example, two critical concerns facing the industry today—efficient utilization of an ever-scarcer raw material, and environmental constraints on manufacturing processes—are emphasized in the Forest Products classroom. Wilson and his colleagues stress the expanding role of composite products in recovering as much raw material as possible while adding as much value to it as possible. "The other thing we're emphasizing," he says, "is the environmental side. Being socially responsible from an environmental point of view—we feel the industry strives as a whole to be that way. We feel that if we work with these students now, expressing these values, discussing how to understand environmental issues technically and from a policy point of view—issues like emissions, solid waste disposal, recycling—then students will be in a better position to develop their leadership skills in these areas when they start working in the industry."

A visit from a congressman. Representative Mike Kopetski explains a point to students and faculty at the student SAF chapter meeting in June. Kopetski discussed his expectations about the future of Northwest forestry following President Clinton's Forest Conference in Portland in April.



REACHING THE PUBLIC

Starting this fall, more people in Oregon will hear about forestry, thanks to four new public-information projects being developed at the College.

The projects are co-sponsored through an interagency agreement between OSU and the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), a state agency created by the 1991 Legislature to improve public understanding of forest stewardship.

The four OFRI-OSU projects are:

- An expansion of the Oregon Forestry Education Program (OFEP), headquartered at the College of Forestry. OFEP educates teachers and other youth educators about forest resources and trains them in ways to include forestry education in their classrooms. The \$650,000, three-year project will help OFEP reach teachers in the Portland metropolitan area and in Eugene, Salem, and Medford/Ashland.

- Three educational spots on forest management and related issues, to be broadcast on commercial television stations in Oregon. The spots will address, among other things, areas of perceived public misunderstanding about forest management—showcasing the complexity of a managed, second-growth forest, for example, and discussing how management activities can conform to natural

forest processes. The \$32,700 project should be finished this September.

- Short, educational low-power radio messages addressing various aspects of forest management, to be broadcast along highways that pass through managed forests. About 60 separate messages will be sent by 10-watt transmitters to motorists along Highway 26 west of Portland, Highway 101 near Coos Bay, and Interstate 5 south of Eugene. The project cost is \$150,000; the first spots should be on the air by October 1993.

- Advanced training for Extension Master Woodland Managers. Oregon has about 125 Master Woodland Managers, woodland owners who receive a practical forestry education through Extension training. The OSU-OFRI agreement will sponsor an advanced training workshop for MWMs and other workshops designed to inform landowners about various aspects of woodland ownership. Cost of the project is \$50,000.

OFRI's funding comes from Oregon's forest products harvest tax, not from the state general fund. The Institute's goals are to educate the public about forests, to show how forests can be managed for society's benefit, and to help people understand how science-based forestry and wood-products manufacturing can promote a healthy environment. ■

DRAFT FOREST PLAN IS NOW IN PLACE

The first working draft of a long-range, comprehensive Plan for McDonald-Dunn Research Forest has been released.

The new Plan is the result of nearly a year of intensive research and discussion by an interdisciplinary team of OSU faculty members. People from the Corvallis community have also played an active role in the Plan's creation.

The team defined the mission of the Research Forest as: "Develop McDonald-Dunn Research Forest as a biologically diverse and sustainable teaching, demonstration, and re-

search forest with a management focus."

The 11,500-acre McDonald-Dunn Forest is the College's main research and teaching forest. More than 60 research projects are in place, and more than 40 classes of forestry students receive part of their instruction on the Forest each year.

The Research Forest Plan is summarized in a brochure available from the Research Forest office, Peavy 218, on the OSU campus. The brochure may be obtained by calling (503) 737-4452. The entire Plan is also available for limited check-out. ■

STUDENT LEADERS HONORED

Amyriad of awards, honors, scholarships, and fellowships were announced at the College's annual awards barbecue in May.

Student leaders were honored for their contributions to College life in a variety of ways. The Paul M. Dunn Senior Award, named in honor of a former Dean of the College, went to Chad Kirlin, senior in Forest Products.

The Bowerman Leadership Award, for the senior who best exemplifies the "Fernhopper Spirit," was shared by Robin Quimby, post-baccalaureate student in Forest Management, and Wade Semeliss, senior in Forest Engineering. Robin Quimby was also chosen by her fellow students to receive the Kelly Axe Award, given to honor a student whose behind-the-scenes help often goes unrecognized.

Jeff Minter, senior in Forest Management, was honored with the title Bull of the Woods for his performance at the Conclave logging sports competition in March and April. Michelle Durvin, junior in Forest Recreation Resources, Robin Quimby, and Linn-Benton Community College student Angie West were named Co-Belles of the Woods for their Conclave achievements.

Some of the 1993-94 scholarships and fellowships were also awarded at the ceremony. The College will award about \$183,000 in scholarships and fellowships for this school year to more than 80 undergraduate and graduate students.

Two Forest Science students were also honored, not at the ceremony but a few days later, with the Forest Science Graduate Student Achievement Award. Melora Geyer, master's student in silviculture, and Kathleen Kavanagh, doctoral student in tree physiology, were recognized for their scholarship and service to the department. ■

forestry Currents

Kudos for faculty

John Sessions, professor of Forest Engineering, received the 1993 Aufderheide Award for excellence in teaching. The award is based on nominations from students, with the winner chosen by a student committee. The Aufderheide Award was presented to Sessions at the annual College awards ceremony at the end of May. Sessions is also 1992-93 president of the OSU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, the largest scholastic honor society in the United States.



John Sessions

Eldon Olsen, associate professor of Forest Engineering, has been named to the OSU Quality Council, a panel convened by President John Byrne to explore the use of Total Quality Management (TQM) concepts to improve education. TQM, a customer-oriented, team-based management philosophy, has gained many adherents in business over the past few years, says Olsen, and its principles are being applied at OSU in the Colleges of Business and Engineering and elsewhere. The panel's job is to



Eldon Olsen

target other units on campus for the introduction of TQM and to think of ways to encourage people to use it.

Paul Adams, professor of Forest Engineering, was named Educator of the Year by the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District in December. Adams was recognized for helping develop and teach a soils module for Corvallis sixth-graders who visit McDonald-Dunn Research Forest each year during Forest Field Days. Adams also co-authored the second edition of *Wildland Watershed Management*, published by John Wiley & Sons last year.

Christopher J. Biermann, associate professor of Forest Products, is the author of *Essentials of Pulping and Papermaking*, published this year by Academic Press of San Diego, Calif.

Mary Lynn Roush, assistant professor of Forest Science, was selected by students to receive the 1993 Outstanding Forest Science Faculty Award. The award recognizes her active involvement in teaching and graduate student advising.

J. Douglas Brodie, professor of Forest Resources, is the new chair-elect of the Marys Peak Chapter of the Society of American Foresters.



Paul Adams



Chris Biermann

As one result of President Bill Clinton's Forest Conference, held last April in Portland, several College



Mary Lynn Roush

faculty were asked to help design a comprehensive strategy that Congress and the Clinton Administration can use to break the current gridlock over forest management in the Pacific Northwest.

Tapped to participate were **Steven Daniels**, **Brian Greber**, **K. Norman Johnson**, **William J. Ripple**, **George Stankey**, **Edward E. Starkey**, and **John**

Tappeiner, all faculty in the Forest Resources department, and **Ann Werner**, a research social scientist with the Consortium for the Social Values of Natural Resources, headquartered at the College.



Doug Brodie

Bill Ferrell, professor emeritus of Forest Science, has been elected to the grade of Fellow in the Society of American Foresters. Such an honor comes to few members, usually after a lifetime of achievement. Only 5 percent of the SAF's membership may be elected in any one year.

SAF report is far-reaching, controversial

A national task force report recently presented to the Society of American Foresters (SAF) calls for society to embrace ecosystem-level forest management as the forestry of the future.

The controversial report is causing some soul-searching within the SAF, which is now considering its response, says **Logan Norris**, chairman of the 10-member task force that produced the report after two years of study. "I believe that how the SAF deals with the issues in this report," Norris says, "will determine (its) effectiveness as a voice for forestry in the United States into the next century."

The report advocates cooperative, landscape-level management of forested areas of 100,000 to 1 million acres, balancing timber production with protection for soils, wildlife, watersheds, and biological diversity.

Coordinating these goals across ownerships will be the biggest challenge, Norris says. "Clearly, that has to be done. But at the same time, we must have an equitable protection of private property rights, possibly including compensation for economic losses."

The idea of "ecosystem management," he says, encompasses many different types of forest management. It means achieving many goals on broad scales of land—not necessarily achieving every goal on every acre.

The report arrived at 11 major conclusions and made 26 recommendations.

Copies of the report may be requested from the SAF national office, 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, Md. 20014. (301) 897-8720.



Logan Norris

Bowden

From page 20

industrial tree farm methods—clearcutting, replanting, and rapid cultivation of even-aged young growth.

When it's done right, say its adherents, this kind of management keeps timber land both healthy and profitable—strengthening the owner's incentive to manage it responsibly over the long haul.

Thanks largely to Dave Bowden's leadership (along with that of Lee Robinson, another OSU Forestry alumnus and Bowden's predecessor as the company's timber land manager), Longview Fibre has gained an industry-wide reputation for good land management. "Dave is viewed as a very solid and responsible land manager and a person very interested in responsible forestry," says Ward Armstrong, executive secretary of the Oregon Forest Industries Council (OFIC), of which Bowden is currently secretary.

Bowden was a key member of the OFIC committee that drafted the new, more stringent forest practice rules passed by the Oregon legislature in 1991. He sees no conflict between responsible stewardship of the land and the profitability that makes it possible for companies and communities to thrive.

RAISED ON A COLORADO WHEAT AND cattle ranch, Bowden felt drawn to private industry after working for Pope and Talbot in Oakridge, Ore., on a logging engineering crew during the summer of '56. His graduation year, 1957, was a time of economic slowdown. Still, he managed to land a job at an eastern Oregon company. Two years later he went to work for Crown Zellerbach in Molalla.

After only a year there he got a call from Dean W.F. McCulloch at the School of Forestry: an outfit called Longview Fibre was looking for an engineer to help log their timber lands near the Oregon coast. Was he interested?

Bowden had never heard of the company. Longview Fibre had started in 1926 as a small, closely held firm pioneering an innovative process for making paper out of Douglas-fir mill waste. The company began acquiring forest lands in the 1940s and '50s, but didn't start

harvesting its timber until close to 1960, the year Bowden was hired.

Logging was proceeding at a moderate pace, until the Columbus Day Storm of October 1962. The storm, says Bowden, "put us in the log export business." Today the company exports about 35 percent of its logs, mostly to Japan, selling the rest to stateside mills.

Bowden was transferred to the company's Silverton tree farm in 1969 as manager, but he was back at the coast a year later: the tree farm manager had died unexpectedly, and Bowden stepped into his shoes.

In 1980 he was transferred to Longview as assistant timber manager, becoming manager when Lee Robinson retired. Since then he's been promoted to senior vice president of the company for timber.

BOWDEN IS PROUD OF HIS COMPANY'S efficiency in utilizing its raw materials. The sort yard at Clatskanie, Ore., installed in 1977, showcases how the company puts every stick to good use.

Logs are cut, mostly with mechanical feller-bunchers, at the company's Nehalem tree farm, which stretches southward from the Clatskanie yard. The tree-length logs—some as long as 160 feet—are hauled over 40 miles of company road to the yard. There they're limbed, scaled, marked, and bucked according to many different specifications, depending on market conditions and current orders. There are several grades of export logs, poles and pilings, log-cabin logs, and sawlogs for domestic mills, as well as other products. Cull logs go through the barker and chipper, chips go to the Longview pulp mill, and all that's left over is a bit of bark—which is burned to generate electricity at the Longview mill.

The hills around the sort yard are covered with young timber—third-growth trees on Longview Fibre lands. A sign along the road reads, "Planted in 1983." The ten-year-old trees are twenty feet tall, robust, stocky, feathery green with new growth. Bowden looks at them and smiles. "Boy, that's pretty, isn't it? This is tree-growing country, for sure."

LONGVIEW FIBRE'S TIMBER CHIEF PUTS INDUSTRY'S BEST FOOT FORWARD

There is a place, Dave Bowden believes, for intensive forest management—the responsible kind, the kind that will keep the land growing trees forever. He and his company, Longview Fibre, are quiet but effective advocates for this view.

"Our process," says Bowden (Forest Engineering '57), "has been to grow trees by managing the lands very intensively. We buy cutover

incidentally, one of more than a dozen OSU Forestry graduates now working for the firm's timber department). That makes him responsible for Longview Fibre's 530,000 acres of timber land, mostly second growth, much of it rehabilitated from stumpland. Timber is managed on about a 65-year rotation and sold chiefly as logs, both here and overseas.

Longview Fibre also makes pulp and kraft paper at its huge Longview, Wash., complex, boxes and bags at 13 plants in 10 Western states, and, in its latest venture, dimension lumber at a new sawmill near Leavenworth, Wash.

Sales of the company's products have been brisk enough to keep it healthy in the midst of uncertain times. That and the company's

prudent fiscal management have made it a favorite of Wall Street analysts. Though hit hard by the '82 recession, Longview Fibre climbed out rapidly, with profits increasing at an uneven but respectable pace between 1984 and today.

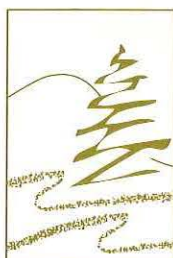
Longview Fibre, in short, is a model of a modern forest-products company successfully using what might be called "traditional" (as opposed to "alternative")

Continued on page 19

A model of a modern forest manager. Dave Bowden at Longview Fibre's Clatskanie yard.

lands and get them in shape, rehab them, reforest them. We manage all our lands on a sustained-yield basis, so we don't cut any more than we're growing."

Bowden, 58, a soft-spoken, courteous man with a quick smile, is the company's senior vice president for timber (and,



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