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Work and the Human Condition

Annotated Bibliography

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Logging in the Pacific Northwest was once a booming industry. Logging provided many jobs and changed the lives of many people and communities. Behind every industry there are people and in this case they are loggers.

The following bibliography, while not inclusive, covers some useful sources for a forthcoming study: "The life and living conditions of a logger."

Andrews, Ralph. Heroes of the Western Woods. New York: E.P. Dutton & Company, 1960.

To work twelve hour days these loggers would get thirty dollars a month. In addition they were guaranteed a roof over their head and hot meals. This book describes the types of edible pleasures these workers enjoyed. They sure worked hard but, surely they played hard as well. The author tells true stories and personal accounts of the danger, challenges, frustrations, and adversity that the loggers faced while on the job.

Bergen, Myrtle. Tough Timber. Vancouver: Elgin Publications, 1979.

This book explains how unions began in British Columbia. The author describes the life and the work life of the early logger from the beginning to the current time. The writing also features two strikes in B.C. It details the strike of 1934 and 1946. It also introduces the International Woodworkers of America union and the Wood Workers union. It also depicts the conflicts between the two unions that ultimately lead to the banning of all Wood Workers union members in B.C. from joining the International Woodworkers of America. The author also talks about the black listing, the reduction of wages, and other backlash that the workers endured before the union.

Brunson, Howard. I remember Logging. Vashon: Fir Tree Press, 1998.

Howard gave his personal experience in his book. He recounted all the camps up down the Washington and Oregon coast. He described his experiences moving from camp to camp and company to company. He describes the living conditions in the camps with good detail. He mentions that they lived in a tent that housed eight men each. They were equipped with two high

bunk beds and with a wood stove for heat. They were charged a dollar a day for room and board. He also says the food was “good” and they ate in a tent that seated 100 people at time. Howard also has some photographs of most of the things he describes.

Churchill, Sam. “Lumber Camp On Rails Near “End of Line”.” The Seattle Times 24 May. 1964: 11.

This is a photograph of Camp 14 forty five miles north of Hoquiam Washington. The camp was a mobile camp that was running on the railroad track. There was once 250 loggers who lived in these box cars. The picture shows the interior of the car mounted bunkhouse. The car was just one of the twenty six car bunkhouses arrangement in the train.

Cummings, George. “Logging for the Beginner - Camps” Tall Timber Short Lines Mar.- Apr. 1986: 12-13.

The article describes the camps in “phases”. It attempts to break down the transformation of the logging camps in Mason County Washington in 1915 from before World War I up until the 1940’s. One example it gave from the “primitive” time was when the article stated that, “the logger got a louse infested bunk with fresh straw if he was lucky, worked from dawn to dusk six days a week for pennies per day.” The article also gives a blue print type of layout of how this camp in Mason County was laid out.

Cummings, George. “Logging for the Beginner - Camps” Tall Timber Short Lines Jul.- Sept. 1986: 11-12.

The organization of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumberman was formed in December of 1917 by the government to assess the living conditions of the logger. The organization looked at all the camps across Washington including Mason County, Montesano, Bordeaux, etc. The conclusion was that the sanitary conditions were not acceptable. The article gives the type of buildings the organization recommends. There are also very detailed drawing of the buildings and its dimensions.

Cummings, George. “Logging for the Beginner - Camps” Tall Timber Short Lines Oct.- Dec. 1986: 14.

This is a photograph of the “camp life”. In this photograph you can observe the bunkhouse with about forty men standing alongside it. You can also observe the camp cars and speeders used for transportation. You can also see some of the tools they used lying around such as the cables.

Evans, Gail, and Gerald Williams. Over Here, Over Here: The Army's Spruce Production Division During "The War To End All Wars". Port Angeles: Olympic National Park, 1984.

Spruce was widely used in World War I. This publication shows the creation of the group the "Loyal Legion of Loggers and the Lumbermen", also known as 4-L. This group was created by the US army to help speed up the production of spruce. The group was also put into place to serve as a neutral group between the unions and the lumber companies so there will be no delay in production of spruce for the war. The publication also describes the type of camps the 4Ls lived in. The 4Ls camps were also often located right next to the other camps.

Felt, Margaret Elley. The Story Of A Logger Frank D. Hobi, He Did It The Hard Way. Bend: Maverick Publications, 1984.

This is the story of Frank Hobi. Frank was the son of John Frank Hobi who was an Emigrant from Switzerland. Frank's father after much trouble settled and acquired some property in Naselle, Washington. Eventually, Frank's father also opened a lumber company called Hobi Timber Company. Frank would later take over after the death of his father. Frank was a logger since he was only 13 years old. Frank tells us of his life experiences as a logger. There were also multiple pictures of different logging camps in this book. The first picture was at Camp 7 that belonged to the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company just west of Mt. Rainier. This camp housed about two hundred people. This was one of the younger camps. One of the older camps illustrated was from 1915 owned by the Willapa logging and Timber Company. It showed very old looking small A frame bunkhouses with wet clothes hanging outside to dry with about 50 people and about three buildings. Frank Hobi was in this photograph. Frank Hobbi was shown in another photograph in another camp called the Salmon Creek Camp. This was a larger camp with similar A frame type buildings.

Hays, Finley. Loggers World, The first Ten Years. Chehalis: Loggers World Inc, 1987.

This photograph is an Aerial shot of Camp Grisdale in the Olympic Mountains in Washington. The Camp is just as large as a town. It has everything from shops, recreation halls, garages, offices, cook houses and warehouses. The shops and camp are separated from each other by a huge open field.

Hyman, Harold. Soldiers and Spruce. Los Angeles: University of California, 1963.

This book gives the History of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and the Lumbermen", also known as the 4L. It gives a good description of the type of battles that were present between labor unions and business owners. It also depicts the role the 4L played during these disputes. The book also explains the friction between the Wobblies and the 4L. The Wobblies saw the 4L as anti-strike unit. The 4L would continue to produce even if the lumber workforce was striking

therefore, diminishing the goal of the strike. There was also a feeling of uneasiness of this “army” in the woods fully armed but yet, with lumber tools as well.

James, Dave. GRISDALE Last of the Logging Camps A Photo Story of Simpson camps from 1890 into 1986. Fairfield: Ye Galleon Press, 1986.

This is a very useful and detailed picture story of the life of a logger in logging camp. These pictures are specifically from the Simpson camps. It depicts photos of camps from as early as 1890. Just by observing this book one could easily see the transformation of the bunkhouses and tools. One can also see the transformation just by looking at the people doing the work. The workers clothing styles has changed. The different safety tools also show up that were not present in the earlier days of logging such as the hard hat. This is book is one of those cases where I could say that “a picture is worth a thousand words”. In this case it would be a collection of pictures.

Kinnsey, Darius, and Ralph Andrews. “This Was Logging!”. Seattle: Superior Publishing Company, 1954.

This book describes how these loggers lived. It gave very precise descriptions of exactly what the camps looked like. It described their connections with the Native Americans. The best part of this book is the pictures. The pictures really take snapshots of these workers in their camp environments, while on the job, and of their general surroundings. It also brings out that these were people who had lives and not just slaves to ax.

Lemons, James. Deadfall. Missoula: Mountain Publishing Company, 2001.

The life of a logger really started to deteriorate after the 1986 strike settlement. They were starting to see their wages slashed and hours cut. One worker by the name of Bill was making nearly seventeen dollars an hour which was a lot for his time. After the strike he makes only 12.50 an hour for the same job. This book gives a good description of the life of a logger from generation to generation.

Lind, Carol. Big Timber, Big Men. Seattle: Hancock House Publishers, 1978.

The Wobblies were demanding many changes to life of logger. They wanted to reduce the work day from 10 hours to eight. They wanted shower facilities for the logger. They wanted loggers to be able to join a union. They wanted a drying room for the loggers to hang their wet cloths. This book also explains the Centralia and Everett massacres and the Seattle general strike.

Lumber Industry of the Pacific Northwest. Camp Sanitation Survey. Portland: Headquarters Spruce Production Survey, 1918.

This publication is terrific source for researching exactly how the logger lived in the bunk houses. This publication gave everything from the blueprints of the bunkhouses to the train cars that took them to the sites. It gives pictures of finished buildings as they are in new conditions. It also gives some recommendations to these buildings such as the amounts of fresh air adequate housing, adequate nourishment, adequate personal cleanliness, etc. It is really just full of dimensions and drawings of the different styles of bunkhouses as well.

Martin, Mary. Logging Long Ago. Atglen: Schiffer Publishing Ltd., 2006.

The pictures illustrated in this book were dated as far back as 1905. These were pictures of logging camps and Mills in Washington and Oregon as well as camps from all over the country. Although the camps were spread across the country the living and working conditions were the same. A passage from the book states, “These simple, mobile camps provided for the most basic needs—a place to return nightly and consume massive calories needed to fuel another day’s labor (Pg.20).” The pictures of the camps depicted mostly men with basic square shaped homes. They were also littered with logging tools as well as horses outside. There was also a picture with the basic kitchen and the people who worked in it.

Morgan, H. E. “Cowlitz Still Lumbering Center After 104 Years of Operations.” Longview Daily News, Cowlitz-Columbia Centennial Edition Sec2 19 Aug. 1953: 4.

This photograph is of Brock’s camp in Eufaula Longview, Washington in 1897. It is a complete shot of the whole camp. It was not that large. It captured the exterior of the bunkhouses and the oxen used to haul the wood. It also showed the teams of horses used to bring supplies into the camp. This picture is from a very early time where there was not much sophistication.

Pierce County Labor Centennial Committee. To Live In Dignity. Tacoma: Reid Printing Company, 1989.

This publication explains the working conditions of the loggers as well as other workers in Washington. Although not exclusive, the writing primarily focuses on labor in Pierce County. A passage from the beginning of the book starts off like this, “What does labor want ?....We want more school houses and less jails....more books and less arsenals; more learning and less vice; more leisure and less greed; more justice and less revenge; in fact, more of the opportunities to cultivate our better natures.” This publication also uses a many pictures to compliment its well written text.

Stier, Roy. Down the Hill. Wilson: Book Partners, inc., 1995.

Roy the author of this book explains his life experiences as a logger. Roy was a graduate for the University of Washington on Forestry and was a logging engineer for St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company. He shares his experiences as a logger as well as photos of from the

camps. One of the photographs is of the schools he attended while he lives in the camp. Roy was sixth grade when he attended that school.

Todes, Charlotte. Labor and lumber. New York: International Publishers Co., Inc, 1937.

The conditions of the camp according this book were just terrible. The book quoted one of the members of the camp who described the camps as follows: “We used to have sheets and pillow slips in the “short log” country but they are gone. Blankets are never changed now and double deck bunks are everywhere with 62 men to a bunkhouse. Inside they were two stoves with all the wet clothes hung on the lines. No shower bath and we had to bath in the creek. Unsanitary, uncovered toilets close to the cookhouse breed plenty of flies (Pg. 73).” The book goes on to describe many other problems the worker had to endure such as declining wages and hours either remaining the same or longer, strikes, and other issues such as the Everett and Centralia massacre.

Williams, Richard. The Loggers. Alexandria: Time Life Books, 1976.

This book is one of those which intends to depict its story through pictures and text. The pictures though come across more clearly and provide a good visual of the setting being talked about. The book describes the life of a logger in the camp. It describes a horrible life. One passage from book states, “The bunk houses were crowded, dark, and redolent with a mixture of odors: drying woolen shirts and socks, wood burning in the cast iron stove, sweat and snuff and kerosene, the sodden contents of the cedar-chip-filled spittoon and more often than not, exhalations of whiskey. (Pg. 128)” The book goes on to further explain the miseries of the camp life.

_____. “The Old Timers recall the Days of Big Sticks and High Bridges.” The Tacoma News Tribune and Sunday Ledger 12 Jun. 1966: 37.

This is a photograph that was published in the Tacoma News Tribune and Sunday Ledger. It shows how the logging camps evolved from 1922 to 1966 around Lake Cushman in Washington. The camps in the picture are from Phoenix camp #1. The picture shows how the houses went from stationary houses to houses that moved on the railroad tracks.

