

# PAUL M. DUNN

Biographical Sketch and Story of the Adair Tract  
Benton County, Oregon

Oral History Interviews by  
Royal G. Jackson and Jennifer Lee



Soap Creek Valley History Project  
OSU Research Forests  
Monograph #2







**Paul M. Dunn, 1962**

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Bob Zybach, Series Editor**

**OSU RESEARCH FORESTS  
Oregon State University  
1990**

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Oral history research and transcription for the project have been performed with the assistance and cooperation of the OSU Horner Museum. The Paul M. Dunn interview was researched and transcribed under the supervision of Jennifer Lee, the Museum's Oral Historian.

Transcription to computer files was done by Bonnie Humphrey-Anderson of the Horner Museum staff. Lisa Buschman, OSU Research Forests secretary, assisted in the final editing, formatting, and indexing.

Neva Kissinger Dunn provided the copy of the biography of Paul M. Dunn that appears as the index to this monograph.

Cover Photo: This photograph of an early OSC School of Forestry work crew is from Royal Jackson's personal photograph collection. It was first used for the cover of his 1980 book, McDonald-Dunn Forests: Human Use and Occupation.



**"CONSERVATOR"**—Paul Dunn, assistant district forester at Ellington, with Mrs. Dunn and their children, Bob, seated, and James. 1930—Redden photo.

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## THE SOAP CREEK VALLEY HISTORY PROJECT

The Soap Creek Valley History Project was undertaken by the Oregon State University's Research Forests in 1989 for the purpose of better understanding the history, ecology, and culture of an area that has been directly impacted by OSU land management practices for over sixty years. An important part of the project has been the locating of recorded interviews with individuals who have had an influence upon the valley's history. Additional recordings have also been made with significant individuals who were not previously consulted, as well as "follow-up" interviews with a few people who have continued to contribute to our understanding of the Soap Creek area.

The publication of these interviews as a series of cross-referenced monographs has been undertaken in an effort to make them available to resource managers, researchers and educators. It will also provide accurate and accessible references for a planned written history of the area.

One of the primary accomplishments of the project has been the creation of a computerized concordance file. This was made possible through the assistance and expertise of Bonnie Humphrey-Anderson, of the Horner Museum staff, and Lisa Buschman, secretary for the OSU Research Forests. This file allows for both the efficient and systematic indexing of the monographs in this series, as well as providing a method for cross-referencing other research materials being used in the construction of a scholarly history of the Soap Creek Valley. Wherever possible, that history is being assembled from the written and spoken words of the people who made it and lived it. The use of the concordance file allows information from the journal entries of botanist David Douglas, the transcribed words of Kalapuyan William Hartless, the spoken memories of pioneer "Grandma" Carter, and the recordings of OSU forest manager Marv Rowley -- a history spanning over a century and a half -- to be systematically searched and organized. The index to this monograph constitutes the first applied use of the file.

Citations to the following monograph should mention both the museum and OSU Research Forests.

## INTRODUCTION TO PAUL M. DUNN INTERVIEWS

The interviews with Paul M. Dunn took place in Peavy Hall on the OSU campus on November 2, 1978 and September 18, 1979, with funding provided by the OSU College of Forestry and Horner Museum. The interviews were part of Horner Museum's Oral History Project: "Oregon State University and its Effect on the Larger Community."

To members of the forestry community, Paul M. Dunn needs little introduction. His inclusion in a history of the Soap Creek Valley is primarily due to his efforts in securing the Adair Tract for OSU's forestry and agriculture. It is for those efforts that the tract was subsequently named the "Paul M. Dunn Research Forest" after it came under OSU ownership. For those unfamiliar with the geography of the Soap Creek Valley, it is sufficient to know that it drains much of OSU's McDonald Forest on the south, much of the Paul M. Dunn Forest on the north, and contains hundreds of OSU College of Agriculture acres within its flood-plain. For those unfamiliar with Paul M. Dunn, or those who simply don't realize the remarkable number of contributions he has made to the Corvallis community, to Oregon State University, and to the field of forestry in general, they are referred to the appendix to this monograph.

After a long and productive career, Paul M. Dunn died in 1988. His widow, Neva Kissinger Dunn, has graciously allowed the biography of her husband -- written for a permanent display at the World Forestry Center in Portland by Thayer Willis -- to be included with this history. Her enthusiastic support of this project is indicative of the type of help and the contributions she brought to her husband's life, both private and professional. In reviewing the biography for publication, Mrs. Dunn observed that she believed "it covers everything very well." It is hoped that the reviewers of the following oral history will come to a similar conclusion.

Bob Zybach  
Corvallis, Oregon  
September 1, 1990



## PART I - BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

**Interview conducted by Royal Jackson and Jennifer Lee at Peavy Hall on the Oregon State University Campus, November 2, 1978.**

*Let's start by having you tell us where you were born and what you remember from your early childhood.*

I was born in Lennox, South Dakota in 1898 and lived for about 13 years in that area. My father was in the grain-buying business for grain companies. In 1913 we moved to Le Mars, Iowa, north of Sioux City, where I graduated from high school in 1917. When war was declared most of the young fellows in the area were members of the Iowa National Guard, and the Guard was called out. In August 1917, our unit was merged into the Federal Service and we were moved to Camp Cody in Deming, New Mexico, about 30 miles north of the Mexican border, where a large divisional group was being organized. I was there for a year. In fact, my brother and I were both members of the Company, but he left in June of 1918 with a replacement unit for the expeditionary forces in Europe. I left in August and went East to Camp Dix in New Jersey, and then overseas with the first battalion of our regiment. It was in August that the influenza epidemic occurred.

*What year was that?*

1918. The influenza epidemic broke out and it's interesting that our battalion moved out at 6:00 a.m. from Camp Dix to Hoboken to board a convoy for Europe and the health authorities closed the camp down at 7 o'clock. Our group of about 1,000 men, was the only one that left at that time. We boarded a ship at Hoboken. After about twelve days we landed in Liverpool, England, and then we were transported to the southern part of England. We were there for a week in a rest area, then moved on to France. Being separated from the Division, we really didn't have any base organization. We were moved around from one area to another, but in October a portion of our group was added to a training program for the next "push." It was called an infantry weapons school, and we were there at school headquarters in Chatillion-sur-Seine for the month of November. During that time the Armistice was

declared, but we were kept on until the finish of the weapons school program. Then we were disorganized into small units and located in the embarkation area through which all of the troops went on their way back to the States. I returned in July 1919.

*Did you see some active service? Did your group actually fight?*

No, we were headed to the battle front when they selected a certain number of non-commissioned officers for the advanced weapons school. I and others were selected. We were lucky.

*You were a non-commissioned officer?*

Yes, I was a corporal. I was promoted to sergeant in early 1919. We returned to Iowa and were discharged at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and then I went home. For years I had thought about going to the university with no particular decision made as to what career I would follow.

*Had your parents encouraged you to go to a university?*

Yes, however we hadn't talked much about it, but that was my major objective.

*Your father was a grain dealer, you say?*

Earlier; but later he owned a hardware store. When we moved to Iowa he sold the business and embarked upon a sales program. He was a salesman for a company dealing with farm equipment.

*You weren't interested in following that line of business?*

No. Attending the university was my main interest. Most of the fellows that were associated with me in the army were former students at high school in Le Mars, Iowa, and we talked about going to the university when we got home, and four or five of us did. Iowa State College at Ames was the focal point of most of our thoughts. I sent my credits for entrance to the college as soon as I got home. It must have been in August for I entered Iowa State College early in September.

*That was what year?*

It was 1919. I was asked to name a major, and not knowing what field to register in, I chose electrical engineering, in order to register. After the first quarter's program in electrical engineering, I decided I wasn't too keen about it. In the meantime, I had become acquainted with some of the other university students who were in forestry. I was intrigued by the possibilities which were not well known at that time, so I

enrolled in forestry and graduated in 1923. I was given a scholarship for graduate work, and carried on the forestry program for a year and a half.

*Where were you given a scholarship to?*

Iowa State College, in the forestry department.

*At that point in your education did you have any area of specialization, or was it just general?*

At that period there were not many areas of specialization in the departments and schools of forestry. However, my major was forest management, with an emphasis on industrial forestry. But, in mid-1925, I ran out of money, so I had to stop my studies. I was hired by a publication firm for a period. In January, 1926 I was offered a position with the Missouri Forestry Department, and I accepted it. Mrs. Dunn and I were married January 21, 1926, and we started my career in forestry in February of 1926.

*What was your wife's name before she was married?*

Neva Kissinger. She was from Le Mars, Iowa, also. We embarked on my career in forestry together. The State Forester of Missouri, Mr. Frederick Dunlap, and I were the only two members of the organization and I was stationed in Ellington, Missouri in the Ozarks on a program of fire prevention education. We lived there for five and a half years, and our two sons were born in Ellington.

*What were their names?*

Robert Paul and James Wesley. James is here at Oregon State University.

*Can you tell us something about what you did in those five years?*

I covered a good share of the Ozark region which is in central southern Missouri, contacting landowners, school people, and private individuals, telling the story of the advantages of preventing fires. For years, and I am told the practice still continues on a moderate scale, and once or twice a year the local people burn the woods. They set fire to burn the brush and other debris, basically to permit better grazing for livestock, and also to forestall the risk of somebody else starting a fire and having it spread to the property of other people. That had been the practice for years and years -- "woodsburning," they called it. My major instrument in the program was motion

pictures. I traveled around the area with equipment, showing films at meetings, mostly at schools, and some considerable progress was made. Also I was associated with the State Parks Service, and we established several fire towers, those steel lookout towers that stood up on high points in several areas.

*Which state was this?*

Missouri. Part of the program was to rehabilitate the wildlife. The state fish and game department had a program of introducing the deer, the white-tailed deer. The source stock was from Michigan. Also wild turkeys, and they were released in refuges in the state parks. The program presently is very successful. At the outset there were no deer that remained from the native stock and no native turkeys, primarily because of hunting and poaching. The present supply of both the game birds and game animals is very good. In May 1931 we left Missouri because the Governor vetoed the budget and I was without a job.

*This was in the middle of the Depression, wasn't it?*

That's right. Losing my job was a bit of a shock, but with the help of the Head of the Forestry Department at Iowa State University, a job was offered to me at Utah State University at Logan, Utah, and I accepted it. We moved to Utah and started on this new job September 1, 1931.

*What was your job title or position?*

I was an assistant professor in the Forestry Department - teaching half time and extension forester half time with the University. That carried on until 1935 when several new programs were established in the Federal Service: the CCC program started in 1933, the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934, and the Soil Conservation Service in 1938 - all Federal programs. The demand for technical people was rather good.

*What did you teach at the University?*

I taught six or seven different subjects - seeding and planting, regional forestry, logging and milling, and I had charge of the forest nursery. It was a Clark-McNary Nursery -- a Federally funded nursery. Seedlings were grown for distribution to farmers for windbreaks and shelter belts. That program was my responsibility.

*How did your family feel about moving to Utah from Missouri?*

We had no compunctions about leaving Missouri because we couldn't stay there; being the Depression - you have to have a job. We looked forward to it, and it was a challenge. I had been West before, but my family had not. From what we learned of Utah and the University at Logan, it appeared to be an interesting move. We enjoyed it there very much, for eleven years.

*Mr. Dunn, are you Mormon?*

No. We were raised in South Dakota and Iowa, and had had no contact with Mormons at that time. We learned a lot about the Mormons, and were accepted and treated in first-class fashion. At that time perhaps 95% of the University staff people were Mormons. There were only a handful of Gentiles.

*How large was the Forestry curriculum at Utah State? Were there a lot of students enrolled?*

No. The Department was first organized in 1928. It started from scratch primarily from the encouragement of the Forest Service and others in order to supply trained forestry people, in forest and wildlife management and range management for employment in the Inter Mountain region. The primary states were Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, and Arizona. It caught on, starting out with just a handful of students, but through the years, while I was there, the CCC program was initiated, and there was a good demand for technically trained people in forest and range resources. So it grew. Until 1935 there were only three of us on the forestry staff.

*You came in 1932?*

1931. The impetus of these federal programs provided a lot of interest, and the students came from all over. From California back to New Jersey, and the enrollment grew. As I said, there were only three of us on the staff, a range specialist and me in forestry, and the Head of the Department, Professor T.G. Taylor. In 1935 the Head of the Department was offered a position with the Soil Conservation Service, and I was appointed Head of the Department. We carried on and the enrollment grew from just a handful in the early 1930's to about 400 students by 1940.

*What do you attribute that to? The increase in enrollment?*



Primarily the Federal programs, the CCC started it. Are you acquainted with the Civilian Conservation Corps?

*Yes, they created a need for technically trained people?*

Yes. And then following that, the Taylor Grazing Act, which currently is the Bureau of Land Management, and then the Soil Conservation Service. So, the Forest Service and the BLM and the Soil Conservation Service formed the backbone of the demand for technical people. All three of those organizations, of course, have increased their numbers considerably. Also, there was a curriculum in Wildlife Management. In fact, the title of the Department when I went there was Forestry, Range and Wildlife Management. So those three categories of forest and rangeland resources contributed to the need for technicians and the School grew considerably over the years. In 1938 the Department was made into a School, and I was the first Dean.

*What was the official title of the School?*

The School of Forestry, Range and Wildlife Management. Also, at that time there was an interest in state forestry. I and others initiated a program that resulted in the establishment of the Utah State Department of Forestry.

*One didn't exist prior to that in Utah?*

No. It was organized and recognized in 1938, and I was the first State Forester which was at that time called "State Forester - Fire Warden." So I had those duties.

*Along with the duties of Dean?*

Yes, and there was no extra pay for those duties. It was an interesting phase in the overall program. I continued on in that category until 1942 when I was offered a position here at Oregon State. I was somewhat reluctant to leave that area where the support had been very good. The cooperation with the other university people from the President on down, people in the state and other government programs was great. However, we decided to leave and join the staff here.

*By this time World War II had broken out. Did that cause a drop in enrollment in the Schools of Forestry in general?*

Yes. This resulted in a heavy decline in enrollment because at that time all the students were male, and the exodus was not quite a hundred percent, but nearly so.

The enrollment had been 300 or 400, and when I arrived there were only about 60 students.

*Do you mean at Oregon State or in the School of Forestry?*

In Forestry.

*What was the position you were offered here?*

Dean of Forestry.

*Had Dean McCulloch preceded you?*

No, he succeeded me. I succeeded Dean George Peavy. Dean Peavy had been here since 1910, and in 1934 he became President of OSU, but he still carried on as Dean of the School. He retired in 1940 and was made Emeritus, and Professor Earl G. Mason was made Acting Dean.

*He was a professor in Forest Management at that time?*

Yes, he had been on the staff since about 1923, and was named Acting Dean. The Board appointed me as Dean in 1942.

*Can you tell us some of your impressions of Oregon when you came in 1942?*

I was acquainted with Oregon, even while I was in Utah, through meetings and other excursions into the Northwest and California. I knew the state and its resources. I was acquainted with a good many of the government and state officials in Oregon and the Northwest. I had visited the University earlier and became acquainted with many of the staff. In 1941 the State had embarked on a research program in forest products, which added to the program of the forestry school and the program of the State.

*What were the major programs in the School of Forestry when you assumed the Deanship in 1942?*

There were three phases of the curriculum: Forest Management, Forest Engineering, and Forest Products. Forest Engineering was established in 1913, as I recall, and Forest Products in 1918 or 1919. Carried on as majors in the overall curriculum, they have continued that way since.

*How about Forest Management, was it in the original Forestry curriculum?*

Yes, certain forestry courses were taught in the University prior to 1904 by Professor Lake who was in the Botany Department. Then the Department of Forestry, or rather

a curriculum in Forestry, was initiated with enrollment following that endeavor. However, Dean Peavy wasn't appointed until 1910. At that time the first class, the first four year group of students, was graduated.

*Do you remember who those students were?*

Yes, I knew three of them well. T. J. Starker was one, and also Sinclair Wilson and Harold Gill. Jack Pernot, the fourth, was killed in 1914 when he was working for the Forest Service.

*Before 1904 or 1905 Professor Lake was the only instructor?*

Yes.

*When did someone else start teaching in the School of Forestry? Do you remember that?*

In 1905 and later.

*So, Peavy came then in 1910?*

Yes. He had been with the Forest Service in California before that.

*What was he like? I've heard so much about him. What was your impression of Peavy?*

I had known him for several years. He was a dynamic sort of person. Energetic, outgoing .. very enthusiastic about our forest resources and the development of them, and was well known and well liked. Being an outgoing person, he was interested in a good many different types of forestry and forestry programs. He was, you could call him, a "power-house."

*Did you say he was the Father of Forestry at Oregon State? Was he the one that really got it off the ground?*

Oh, yes, and being with it for thirty years, he had a lot of time to interject into the program his ideas along with the ideas of others. He collaborated and cooperated with others extremely well.

*He was President when you came in 1942?*

No, he had retired from the Presidency in 1940. Dr. F.A. Gilfillan was Acting President at the time I arrived and he was the person who contacted me about the position.

*How many professors were in the School of Forestry when you came?*

Seven.

*Roughly what enrollment, do you recall?*

I think the enrollment in 1942 was about sixty, because the Class of '42 saw about the last of the major group of men who eventually went into military service. However, when I came, in the Class of '43, there was a handful of Naval Reservists who were completing their Navy Program. They carried on until June 1943 and then left for the service.

*Did the enrollment in the School of Forestry drop during those war years pretty radically?*

Oh, yes. From several hundred to a low point of about 40.

*These were all men; there were no women in the School?*

That's right, at that time.

*By this time certain pieces of McDonald Forest had been acquired and these were serving as a laboratory as early as the 1940's for some classes?*

That's right. McDonald Forest and other properties related to the School program got their start in the early '20's. The initial effort was the Peavy Arboretum which was established in 1923. That was the result of efforts of the alumni and staff, and other interests, with money made available through contributions. That land was purchased -- 180 acres. Then the McDonald Bequest program was initiated in 1927, which was the result of Dr. Peavy's contact with Mrs. Mary McDonald who was interested in providing a facility for the use of the forestry students.

*I would like to get into that in detail in the next interview, so maybe we could go on past that now, and get your reaction to the war years at Oregon State. What was Oregon State like during the war years, 1941-45?*

We carried on in undergraduate instruction in forestry. Also, there were two or three graduate students at that time. We developed the Forest Products Research Program that was initiated in 1941 by State legislation. The Dean of the School was the Director of the Forest Research Laboratory.

*Is that the present Forest Research Laboratory?*

The core of it.

*The legislature saw a need to create this?*

Yes, for several reasons. Basically, to develop the use of wood materials and to conduct research efforts for the war program. It pointed first at better or complete

utilization of forest materials, not only woods waste, but sawmill waste and other products. There were several programs of research carried on in those areas, not only in the field but in logging and harvesting areas, and also in the chemical laboratories. There was research in getting cork from Douglas fir bark and oils from some of the wood, charcoal briquets and that sort of thing. One of the projects was an attempt to utilize the wood wastes to make wood alcohol -- methyl alcohol.

Teaching needs had been reduced due to the decline in war time enrollment and this provided a place to use some of the faculty as well as the graduate students.

*Was the School of Forestry housed in the building across from the Memorial Union when you came?*

Yes, that building was built in 1917.

*What was the building called at that time?*

The Forestry Building.

*It was built for the School of Forestry?*

That's right. For the entire use of the School.

*So the Forest Products Laboratory as well as all the departments of the School of Forestry were housed in that building?*

In a sense. However, when the Forest Products Research Program developed and grew, we had to have other buildings. There was a small unit constructed where the power plant is now. A few years later we built the building where the printing office is, and that was the Forest Products Laboratory unit as well as the Chemical Engineering research unit. Now, I think, it is all the Printing Building. There might be some other uses. Then subsequently the program was enlarged as interest and income grew, and the present facility down at the end of 30th and Philomath Road [Western Avenue in 1990] was established.

*Were there any major outcomes of these research programs during the war years that were notable for their application for war time needs? You mentioned something about wood alcohol.*

That was just in the productive stage when the war came to an end, but it would have been very useful in supplementing the material alcohol needed for the war effort.

Considerable research provided containers and boxes and utilization of certain



materials for the war packaging programs. I can't think of any other specific results. It really was in the formative period, getting started in 1941, and as you know, research in any area takes many years to come up with anything productive or worthwhile; so it was in the embryo stage and has developed considerably since then. Funds were provided through a Severance Tax that was initiated in 1946 and 1947 whereby a tax was levied on logs harvested and a certain portion of that was assigned to forest research; also a portion to fire protection.

*Was there a name for this program? Was there a name for that tax?*

Generally called a Severance Tax. A log harvesting Severance Tax. The money was used for products research, for forest management research, and for fire protection under the State Board of Forestry. I should mention that in the beginning the Forest Management Research and fire protection programs were assigned to the State Board of Forestry, and the Forest Products Research was assigned to Oregon State University through the School of Forestry.

*That was a hat that you wore as School Dean, also Director of that program?*

That's right. Later there was some encouragement for all of that research - forest management and products research - to be under the supervision of the University. In about the late 1950's the Forest Management Program with a sizable staff over at Salem was transferred to the University and that has resulted in the present Forest Research Laboratory program.

*Your years then as Dean were from 1942 to what year?*

To 1955. And then Dean McCulloch was made Dean.

*In those years right after the war you must have seen a lot of change at OSU as well as in the School of Forestry.*

Oh, yes, fantastic changes, not only in enrollment but in programs and in students, and in buildings, and other aspects of the University.

*What specifically in the School of Forestry? What enrollment changes occurred?*

Enrollment grew to four or five hundred during the peak years; in fact, the first peak was when the veterans returned in 1946, 1947, and 1948. They received funding through the G.I. Bill. Many of them had been former students in Forestry, and had returned to complete their degree programs. They were an excellent group of men

and there have been many more since. The classes for those three years were mostly veterans. That was the major reason for the increase in enrollment.

*What did you do in 1955, after you ceased being Dean?*

I was offered a position with St. Regis Paper Company in New York City, as Technical Forester, which later was changed to Director of Forestry, then in 1962, I was made a Vice President in charge of Forestry and Forest Lands.

*Did you have any regrets about leaving Oregon State?*

I don't believe I ever regretted leaving, but it was difficult. We were well established here after twelve years.

*Let's see, you had gone from Iowa to Missouri to Utah to Oregon, and now to New York City, is that the right chronology?*

Yes.

*How did your wife feel about that?*

She was enthusiastic because it seemed to be a good phase in my career. She was always interested in my career as we moved through the years to several locations and this was another challenge. Neither one of us knew very much about New York City. I had been through there a few times in my work at Utah State and Oregon State, but we were willing to accept the challenge and we came to enjoy it.

*Were your two sons grown by this time? How old were they?*

Yes, by this time they had both graduated from College. Bob graduated with the Class of 1950 when he was 23, and Jim graduated in 1951 when he was 22.

*Here at OSU?*

Yes, at Oregon State.

*Also in Forestry?*

No, both in Business. Bob finished in the technical minor program, with a Forestry minor. He thought about working with timber interests, but he was offered a scholarship at Columbia University and went on and got his master's degree in Finance there. After his graduation he was offered a position with the U.S. Steel Company in Pittsburgh and accepted it. He is still with the Company. Now, he is the Manager of Sales in the New England area for U.S. Steel.

*Did they move with you to New York?*

No, Bob left Corvallis in 1950 for graduate study at Columbia, and finished in 1951 and joined U.S. Steel in July 1951, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

*What about Jim?*

He finished here in Business in 1951. He received a scholarship to New York University and received a master's degree in Merchandising in 1952. Then he entered the Naval Reserve Program and was commissioned in 1953, and spent the next three years with the Navy, based at Pearl Harbor. He was married June 14, 1953. At that time, and they lived in Pearl Harbor. So both sons finished the University and graduate work, and were employed by the time we left here.

*And Jim is currently with the OSU Foundation?*

That's right.

*Director of OSU Foundation?*

Director of Development for the University, and Executive Secretary of the Foundation.

*How were your years in New York; were those good times for you and your family?*

Yes, but it took us awhile to get oriented and acquainted with living in New York, but we came to enjoy it. My associates in the St. Regis Paper Company were great people, and I was extremely busy. Living in New York wasn't as pleasant as living in Corvallis for Mrs. Dunn, because I traveled over sixty percent of my time, and she was left alone. But she adjusted to the situation very well. She went with me to many of the meetings that I attended during my career, and also we saw quite a bit of the night life in New York; shows, particularly.

*Did you live right in New York City?*

Not at first. First we lived in Greenwich, Connecticut, then we moved to New Jersey, but the last three years we lived right in New York City; we had an apartment at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, which was very close to my office. The program with St. Regis was very interesting, and it was one that in a sense, I was able to start from scratch. There had been a forestry professor who was a consultant to the Company for several years, and he had initiated a small program, that we called technical forestry -- providing information to the field personnel and being the liaison with the executives in the New York office. But that had been on a small scale basis. I was

able to expand that and to make contacts with other companies, timber trade associations and institutions, forest schools, and others. So the program grew considerably, especially in the area of forested land acquisitions. The company became interested in expanding not only the manufacturing plants, but also forest lands, the latter particularly, because if the overall corporate program is going to be more productive, you must have the forest base in order to provide materials for the mills. At that time the company was a pulp and paper company only, with mills making paper products. Since that time or primarily during the period that I was there and since, it has expanded considerably and now is one of the several large integrated forest products companies. As it has not only pulp and paper mills; it has box mills, container plants, saw mills, plywood plants and numerous other associated facilities. Paper bags, for example, and other numerable varieties of paper products, and it is one of the larger corporations of its kind.

*How long were you with this Company?*

Thirteen years.

*Let's see, you went in 1955?*

Yes, and retired in 1968.

*You retired from St. Regis in 1968?*

Yes, and returned to Corvallis to live. However, I still have a consulting arrangement with St. Regis and have responsibilities for certain programs.

*What have you done in the last ten years since you returned to Corvallis?*

Various things. I accumulated quite a number of contacts during the period I was with St. Regis. I was a member of the American Forestry Association for many years, and became a director and later president for three years. Also, I was a member of the Forest History Society, and was a director and president for two years. I was associated with the American Pulpwood Association, an industry group, and with the Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association and was president for one year. Many of those organizations I have kept in touch with and I am still actively associated with several of them. One of the programs that had been started, just before I joined St. Regis, I continued and I am still in charge of, is the St. Regis Forestry Educational Program, wherein a forestry fellowship and forestry scholarships

are offered annually to graduates and undergraduates of forestry schools. Following my return to Corvallis, I became active again in the Western Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon [now the World Forestry Center]. This was a program that I had been close to while I was Dean. I am on the Center's Board of Trustees. These are some of my several interests.

*What changes do you see in Oregon State or the School of Forestry since you came back from New York City, and from the time when you first started here in 1942? What stands out in your mind?*

The teaching curriculum for undergraduates and graduates had been expanded and grown during the time I was away. Also, the research program has expanded and the staff is much larger. I would say we had a staff of twenty or thirty when I left, and now it has grown to sixty or seventy or more. Now there is a fourth department - the Department of Resource Recreation Management. The addition of that program to the School has expanded, not only in the number of students, but in the interests and the associated activities. Those are the major changes. The School of Forestry has always been interested in the State program, since, from the outset, the dean was an ex officio member of the State Board of Forestry. So the relationship between the School and the State Program has been successful, and has grown.

*Let's back up a little. You left here in 1955, resigned your deanship, and then who succeeded you?*

Dean Walter McCulloch.

*How long was he dean?*

I think, because of health, he stepped down in 1965.

*What are the reasons you came back to Corvallis instead of, say, Utah, or Iowa, or somewhere else?*

It was our first choice for a place to retire. During our travels, particularly during my years with St. Regis, we had a chance to visit all fifty states and all the provinces in Canada. We thought we might retire to the Southeast, California, and elsewhere, but we found nothing we liked better than Corvallis. We enjoyed living here from 1942 to 1955. Although Corvallis has grown considerably it is still a very nice place to live. We also had many friends here. Although we still maintain



contacts in Logan, we decided to come here. Weather was a factor, too, not only the people but the weather, as we didn't mind the rain.

*You had a long and productive career. As you look on it now in retrospect, what are the high points? What stands out in your mind as really being fulfilling to you?*

I've been very fortunate. Opportunities have come along and we have adjusted to the changes. It so happened that I was involved in several productive periods of forestry throughout the United States. First in Missouri with the start of the forestry program that was abandoned because of a cut off of funds. Later, in the mid 1930's, it was reconstructed into a very fine state program with forestry instruction at the University of Missouri. Then we were involved from the outset of the Forestry School program in Utah and now it is well recognized as the College of Forest Resources with a very fine program. Here, at OSU, we were able to pick up after a lapse in the program, with the change of deans and the war period, and I was able to help guide the program during its continuing productive years and turn everything over in each instance to somebody else. Those are the high points as I remember them. I was able to be a part of a growing program during those years and now I can sit back and take much satisfaction and some pride in what has happened, particularly in the School here. The School expanded its forest land program. I had a part in that which has proven to be very productive.

*Do you have any grandchildren?*

Yes, we have six.

*What do you want for them? Have you any aspirations for them? What do you see for them?*

A good life for each and every one of them, and that will come. It is coming. Our two sons have done very well and are in positions to carry on. Mrs. Dunn and I are pleased to be able to help them and their families to provide that good life.

*Last time I didn't ask where and how you met your wife. Did you meet her in Iowa?*

Yes, we are both from the same town, Le Mars, Iowa. I was introduced to Neva Kissinger by a mutual friend when I returned home for a short visit following completion of my program of Forestry at Iowa State University. We had several dates, later became engaged, and subsequently we were married in 1926.

*You were at Utah State University before you came here. What had you known about the School of Forestry at OSC before you came?*

During my period of eleven years on the staff of Utah State, I became acquainted with the programs of the other forestry schools, particularly those in the Northwest. I had heard about the program at OSU, and on one occasion I visited the campus.

*What was that occasion?*

I believe that was following a Forestry meeting in Portland, and I took the opportunity to spend a couple of days in Corvallis visiting the University and the School of Forestry, and getting acquainted with some of the professors.

*How was it that you would get together with people from the School?*

Most of the foresters are members of the Professional Society of the American Forestry Association. The meeting in Portland was an annual meeting of this society in the mid-1930's.

*I read that when the Board of Higher Education was looking for a new dean in 1942, they wanted someone that had strong leadership and could develop a strong relationship with the forestry industry. What qualifications did you have that fulfilled this?*

I'm not sure other than the fact that I had been Dean at the Utah State University School of Forestry, and evidently they must have felt that I qualified. I was one of the people they were considering. Following the retirement of Dr. Peavy, who was President of the University and also had held the position of Dean, the institution was seeking a new Dean of Forestry.

*When you came here in 1942, what were some of the problems that you had to deal with?*

The School enrollment was at a very low ebb as a result of World War II, and the number of staff members had been decreased as a result of the decrease in enrollment. The spring before, several of the staff members had been granted leave of absence, so one of the problems was to carry on with a reduced faculty and a limited number of students. I wouldn't call it a problem, but I found it necessary to get acquainted with the School's program, the staff members, and with people out in the State that normally were associated with the School - the industry people and other citizens. Also the Dean of the School of Forestry at Oregon State is

automatically a member of the State Board of Forestry, and so I needed to attend those meetings.

*How did you go about introducing yourself and getting acquainted with the industry and the public?*

That was done rather systematically. President Strand joined the faculty of Oregon State within a month of the time that I did, so we were both new. He and I discussed the idea of getting acquainted with the people out in the state - the industry leaders and leaders in business in Portland and in other cities. So we carried out a program of visiting several communities and meeting with individuals both in the forest industry and other business activities over a period of several months.

*So the president of the School was also interested in the direction of forestry?*

Yes. He was also interested in the direction of other phases of the University, so he had that interest as well as getting acquainted with the forestry programs.

*What would you do when you would go out to a community or to an industry?*

We would arrange for a luncheon or a dinner meeting and several people were invited. During the course of the meeting, whether it was a luncheon or a dinner, there would be conversation in respect to the University's program, and specifically the School of Forestry program. It was a mutually advantageous type of meeting in which those people got acquainted with us, and we got acquainted with them.

*What was the purpose other than publicizing who you and the School of Forestry were?*

The topics generally discussed were related to the curriculum programs of the School of Forestry. Other phases of the University and the possibilities for research. At that time the School, or rather the State of Oregon, through the School, was carrying on a program in Forest Products Research. There was a small staff that was active, so a good bit of the discussion related to the types of research that might be beneficial to the State of Oregon.

*What was the response from the industries and the public foresters?*

The responses were good. The people with whom we discussed these programs were interested in the topics of discussion and indicated their support.

*Were there other professors that also went along on these trips or just you and Dr. Strand?*

No. The purpose was primarily to get the two of us, the President and me, acquainted with several areas of the state and the citizens and industrial leaders in those areas, and to make our interest known to them and to elicit their comments - their reactions. It was just a getting acquainted program.

*Was this done by the two deans who succeeded you?*

I am sure that it was, to varied degrees. Because in the regular performance of the duties of any university staff member with any responsibility it would be wise to go out in the communities and get acquainted and keep acquainted with what is going on and to chat with the people and to explain what the programs are at the University. As I said, it's a normal function of an administrator of any program, both in forestry and any other field. This type of activity was one I carried out at Utah State, and it is the usual method to get acquainted and keep interested people acquainted with the program of any university administrator. Some administrators do more of it than others. I'm certain that Dr. Strand had carried on this type of program elsewhere. It's just good public relations.

*In 1942 you came to OSC and from what I understand, you came into a touchy situation here at the School. How did you resolve some of the conflicts between professors and departments?*

Frankly, I think the less said about it the better. Time took care of a lot of differences of points of view in regard to administrative policies. My efforts were pointed towards formulating a program at Oregon State that would be supported not only by the staff, but by the forest industry and the citizens of the state. That took some time and was a basis of the efforts in getting acquainted with the people so that they could see what I looked like and what I had in mind, and what developments might be made for the best interests of the School and the State of Oregon.

*Did you have some idea or direction of where you were leading the School? What were your plans for the School when you were Dean?*

My plans were typical plans that any administrator might formulate thinking toward the progressive development of a good program and attempting to look into the future and see in what way we might continue furthering a progressive program in Forestry.

The first efforts were mostly along the line of anticipating the end of the war which was some years hence, and of course, the return of the former students and the new students who would be entering. It was fully realized that with the end of the war the whole University program would get a fresh start and be carried on not only in the way that it had been, but also in an expanded way.

*Explain to me what you mean by that. Expanded in what ways?*

Any school administrator anticipates that the program as outlined will grow, and that the student body will increase, and so ways must be taken to work toward that end, and formulate a schedule of various phases of the program that will cope with that anticipated expansion.

*How did you go about recruiting students after the war?*

Actually there was no need to recruit them, because when the war ended there was an influx of former students whose studies hadn't been interrupted by the war.

Returning to OSU was what they had in mind when they left. They would serve during the war and then return to OSU. That took care of any need to recruit, and of course, there were other students who hadn't been on the campus who wanted to enroll. So there was no need for any recruitment program.

*Would you say then the School of Forestry was in a state of suspension during those war years until the war ended and the influx of students came in?*

Yes, that's a good way to put it, because the university activities were not dormant, but in a state of suspension. As I stated, the activities of the staff and others were pointed toward getting ready for the return of the former students and the new students.

*After the war, you hired many professors. What traits were you looking for when you hired a new professor?*

I realized that during this period of lessened activity in the School's program and the previous decrease in the number of people on the staff, it was necessary to rebuild. With the knowledge of the abilities of the staff at hand, there was a need to supplement with people who would round out the group. There was a need to hire staff people who could adapt themselves to fulfill the teaching requirements. I think the staff was doubled within a two-year period after the war.



*Were most of these professors active during the war?*

Yes, some of the new staff members had served in the war. Others had not. I can't be specific without checking the rolls. Some were recruited from other institutions.

*Other than increased enrollment of students after the war, what other effects did the war have on the field of forestry, and more specifically, the School of Forestry?*

A major effect of the war, during the war period, was the diversion of interest in the School program, particularly in the field of Forest Products Research. The research interest was pointed towards developing different types of wood products and different uses of wood that might aid the war effort. Following the war, quite a bit of specialized interest was continued. And the research program here at Oregon State has expanded to a considerable degree.

*Can you give me any example of research that you can remember?*

One phase of the research program was pointed toward what we would call fuller utilization of the wood materials that are in the forest. Previously there was limited use of a considerable amount of slash in the timber area and also the residues at the saw mills. Efforts were made to utilize the slabs, sawdust, and other formerly unused portions of the trees. One of the research projects was pointed towards the use of charcoal from the wood saw mill by-products. Attempts were made to formulate the charcoal and then make it into briquettes which would be in a usable form for industry. That was reasonably successful. Another type of research was pointed toward the development of metho-alcohol from wood - the distillation of wood. That alcohol could be used in industry and be a substitute for other types of alcohol. This is somewhat similar to what is now going on in the energy program. A plant was built in Springfield and operated for a time pointing toward the making of alcohol from the distillation of wood. When the war ended, that project was dropped because there was no need for that substitute fuel anymore.

*The School was involved in that research?*

Yes, the Forest Products Laboratory was a going part of the School's program. The time and efforts of the staff were pointed toward teaching activities and research activities. Some staff members were full time instructors and some were full time researchers, and some had divided time.

*Had that changed since you took over from Mason and Peavy? Was there a change in emphasis?*

Yes. However, when I came it was at the time the Forest Products Research Program was being initiated, so there were greater efforts made in the area of research due to the availability of some of the staff. That situation did not occur prior to 1941.

*Do you think the emphasis is any different today?*

Basically no, except the results are associated with the availability of funds. Over the years there has been an increase, let's say demand, for more research and increased appropriations. As a result, the research program has increased considerably over what it was during the early forties. Part of the increased income I referred to was due to the passage of the Severance Tax, a timber harvest tax - that started out, I believe, at \$0.05 per thousand feet, and has increased since. That money was directed to forest research, both forest products and forest management research; also a portion went to fire control. That money was sizable because during the war and subsequently there was quite a bit of activity in the forest industry, and the volume of logs harvested climbed over a period of years, and the emphasis on forest research increased due to the income from the timber harvest tax. That created considerable change, but did not divert any effort from the regular teaching of students. It was associated with it. The two programs worked in close cooperation, and proved to be satisfactory. The overall program is considerably greater now than it was at that time because of the increase in enrollment and in the staff at the school.

*What did you have in mind when you started negotiations for the Adair Tract?*

During previous years, I had continued with the acquisition policy that was developed by Dean Peavy. There was money available so that was a normal part of the school program in rounding out the total acreage that was at that time the McDonald Forest. My objective, in regard to obtaining the Adair Tract for the benefit of the School of Forestry, was basically one of adding to the total acreage which would provide additional demonstration areas for the use of the students of the School. I could foresee the possibilities with the full development of the Adair Tract, to expand the program that earlier was planned for the School - forest demonstration and

instructional areas. It was evident that if the school could obtain that area there would be potential benefits because of the timber area - timber volumes on the tract.

*Who else was supportive of your decision to try to get this tract?*

This program, of course, was discussed with the other staff members in the School, and it was eventually discussed with President Strand and also the people in agriculture, because it was essential that the program be supported by both schools since there was agricultural land involved.

*What personalities were involved, for example, in agriculture?*

The Dean of the School of Agriculture was Dean William Schoenfelt, who was also the head of the Dairy Department. And, of course, Dr. Strand was involved.

*How was this tract brought to your attention in the first place that you might have this opportunity to add it to the other land?*

Following the end of the war, it was shortly known that Camp Adair would be declared surplus by the Federal Government and abandoned as it was. The next step would be the disposal of the property, about 90,000 acres. It was not certain what the procedure would be. There was some thought that the previous owners would be privileged to buy it back or it would be put up for auction. But, over a period of years, many of the previous owners had moved away. So it was soon evident that they would not be an active group. In time, it was learned that educational institutions might have a position of high priority in making a request for the property. When the overall program, as set forth by the War Assets Department, was known, I took steps to put in a request for it. If public institutions could provide a sound program for the use of the land, it was evident that they would be considered seriously. That was my plan. I eventually got the qualified support of the University people in agriculture and President Strand. Then I elicited the support of Senator Guy Corden, who was a U.S. Senator from Oregon at that time. He was most helpful.

*You mentioned last time that President Strand had questioned your judgment in acquiring the Adair Tract. Why was that?*

One thing that he questioned was whether we needed it. And second that there would be an expense, a budgetary expense, and he was wondering where the money was

going to come from to administer the property. Those were his very sensible, legitimate queries as to why we needed the area.

*So how did you convince him that you did need it?*

Dean Peavy, in his program of land acquisition had indicated that about six thousand acres would be sufficient for the long-term needs of the School. During the middle forties, we had reached that acreage, and actually the Adair Tract would be in excess of this previously stated acreage. Dr. Strand's questions were proper. With information as to the amount of timber on the Adair Tract, and the expanded program not only in teaching, but in forestry demonstrations and research, that would be possible, as a result of getting the added acreage, and particularly with the program of selling some of the timber, we were able to convince him on that point.

*Was Peavy involved in this decision at all?*

No. He knew of it but he was not involved. He certainly supported the idea.

*I know that T. J. Starker had been involved in acquiring some of the McDonald Forest lands.*

*What part did he play in acquiring the Adair Tract?*

He was an interested bystander, you might say. He was in favor of it, but he was not involved. In fact, he would have liked to have acquired the tract himself, but it was not possible because in the disposition of the property there was no possibility for outright sale of any of the land to an outside party. In the order of disposal, there were the educational institutions and veterans, World War veterans. In the main, I believe, the entire Tract was disposed of by those two avenues. I know of a good many veterans who acquired quite a bit of the Adair Tract. There were no other educational institutions involved other than Oregon State. Of course, that took only about four or five thousand acres total. The bulk of the other land had been agricultural land and was sold or rather disposed of for that purpose; the veterans who acquired portions of Adair used their property for agricultural purposes.

*What kind of management of the forests was there when you were Dean from 1942 to 1955?*

At the outset, there was very little. The management program was at a minimum, because it was used as a laboratory for instructional purposes. The professors would outline their classroom programs in keeping with their class needs, so the management program was really a stewardship type of program for the purposes as

outlined. It was decided that it would be beneficial for some of the areas to be harvested. In the early period there was a logging operation on the forest. Subsequently, it was the judgement of the Forestry staff, that certain areas could be thinned and certain trees be removed.

*Who made those decisions?*

The Forestry staff.

*So no one individual decided?*

No, not at that time. We didn't have a Forest Manager, which we do now. But it was by agreement - staff decision - primarily the Logging Engineering group in consultation with the Forest Management group as to a sensible utilization of the forest area.

*When and who was the first manager appointed then?*

Let's look back in my record book. Professor Harry Nettleton was the first man who was appointed and designated as having responsibility as manager of the whole area.

*How was he as the manager of the forest?*

He was satisfactory.

*Did he meet the goals that you had set?*

Yes. He carried out a good program. He was a Forestry graduate from the School here with considerable experience in forest industry. I think he served a period with the Indian Service. He was capable. He was a staff member, one of the instructors.

*How would you have regarded a woman in the School of Forestry in your day?*

Over a period of years, that point never came up because there were no prospective female students. In some of the other forestry schools there was an occasional woman student, and I recall one that graduated in the 1930's. However, during the war period there were two women enrolled in forestry at Oregon State, and one of them graduated.

*How were they regarded by the professors and other students?*

As normal students.

*Well, I understand that Dean McCulloch discouraged females from entering the School, and I understand also that Dean Peavy would not accept the fact that women . . .*

Well, there's no question of what the general attitude of most of the forestry administrators was. We favored men students in keeping with the requirements of the job. It would not be easy for any woman to associate herself with the obligations of the job, and particularly the work relationships. So the general attitude of a lot of us was that we were apprehensive of the effect of women students.

*Why do you think it is different today?*

Over a period of years it has been recognized that in certain areas, women can cope with the various aspects of the working relationships with the men in forestry. Some professors and some people in industry were reluctant to accept the change. It wasn't an easy situation. As to why it's different now, I think the general attitude has changed, and many of the women in the forestry field are performing their work assignments very satisfactorily. Times have changed.

*How do you feel the environmental and conservation movements has effected the field of forestry and the School?*

It has changed the whole program decidedly. I think there have been benefits from the introduction of the philosophy of the environmentalists with the professional program. It is somewhat related to the desires of the general public. That situation was not present, you might say, during previous years. There wasn't the demand, or the need, by the general public, to not only be involved but to use the forest areas as they are using them now. There's a change in attitude on the part of many people, who are a bit extreme in the way they think that the forest property should be managed. So the general attitude toward the management of the forest land is quite different from what it was some years ago.

*Have you seen this change in the School of Forestry, in curriculum, for example?*

Yes. That came along over the years. Up until the war time, there was relatively little attention given to what we first called Forest Recreation, or the instruction related to Forest Recreation. It was considered as a related forest use, so no great emphasis was placed on it. But, later it was realized that that type of forest use was needed, and has been accepted.

*When was this realized?*

About the war time or shortly after, because we added a staff man, about the mid-1940's to give emphasis to forest recreation courses.

*Who was this?*

Professor Warren R. Randall. The emphasis on Forest Recreation was also duplicated at other forestry schools and has been expanded considerably. This is primarily because, subsequent to the war, of the desire of more and more people to get into the forest areas for recreational purposes.

*What do you think of the Department of Resource Recreation Management as being a part of the School of Forestry?*

I think the addition of the Department was natural because of the changing philosophy and the added interest in the use of forest resources.

*You see it as a positive addition?*

Yes. Oh, yes.

*You left for a number of years in 1955 and then came back in 1968. I understand to work for St. Regis Paper Company. Can you generally give me an idea of what major changes you could see in the School of Forestry from the time that you were Dean to the present?*

During that period there was a decided change. An increase in interest in the forests and in the department of the Forest Resources. Economics was a major factor in, not only the forest industry, but in the administration of state and federal lands. The importance of forest resources has changed considerably and the land values, timber values, and other values are much greater than ever before. That recognition resulted in increased interest in forestry and in increased enrollment and in recognition of the need for forest research, in both management and products. The programs, associated with forestry throughout the nation, have developed to a higher level than ever before. That was very evident here at OSU. The administration of the School of Forestry accepted the situation and planned a fine, expanded program. So it's quite different now.

*Where do you think the School of Forestry is headed?*

I think it will continue to grow and continue to cope with its various responsibilities.

*How is this energy crisis affecting the forestry field?*

There's no doubt that the efforts toward the energy crisis will be of benefit to forest resources because there is a considerable potential in wood and wood products to be of value and benefit to everybody associated with the forest industry. That's primarily the situation.

*Why did you choose to come back to Corvallis after living in New York for so long?*

A simple reason, we like it here. We like the Northwest and the Willamette Valley, so we came back here to live.

*Did it have anything to do with being associated with the School of Forestry and being involved in their activities?*

Not basically. Primarily we returned here because it's a good place to live, and we have a good many friends here. The relationship to the School just followed.

*As you look back on your career, what were some of the major accomplishments that you feel you carried out?*

Over the years I've been able to carry on a satisfactory forestry program. First with Utah State University. I was able to move along with that program and get it established in keeping with the needs of the times and to develop a good working program. While there, I was able to assist in getting some legislation which created a State Board of Forestry in Utah, and I served on that Board for several years. While here at OSU, I was able to carry on, expand, and further develop a potentially sound program associated with the Forestry School and also the expansion of the land area, both of which are in good shape at the present time. I was able to see what was originally a small program in forest research expand during the period I was here, and subsequently it has grown to a much larger degree. At least I was a party to those accomplishments. A lot of people were involved in all of those things at Utah State and at Oregon State. What has happened was not a result of the activities of any one person, particularly me.

*Certainly you were a leader, though.*

Well I had a responsibility of leadership and with the help of others I was able to carry it out.

*Why do you think that people like you are a success and others aren't? What qualities do you possess that the rest do not?*



That isn't an easy question. Opportunity is a major factor. Certain things happen, and if a person happens to be around at the right time and is able to take advantage of the opportunity, there's a reasonable chance of success. You have to have the opportunity, and then some ability to recognize the potential of certain situations and then carry on from there with the help of others.

*Has religion helped you in your life through hard times and years?*

No doubt about it, yes. I've been a church member since my early teens.

*What church was that?*

I was baptized a Baptist, but we're Presbyterians now.

*Are you still active in the policy decisions of the School of Forestry?*

No.

*What are your goals for the future?*

I don't know if I have any particular goal. I have lived a satisfactory life, that's all.

I haven't any goal to accomplish other than to continue my life with my wife, Neva.

*What have you done since you retired?*

I am a consultant with St. Regis Paper Company with some responsibilities. I'm active in several forestry related organizations - Keep Oregon Green, the Western Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon (now the World Forestry Center), and the Society of American Foresters. I am a director of the American Forestry Association, a trustee of the OSU Foundation and the Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation in Corvallis. I attend as many forest industry meetings in the region as possible.

*You sound very busy.*

I do have one activity with the School of Forestry. I am chairman of the South Santiam Education and Research Advisory Committee that handles grant money for the benefit of the forestry students and faculty.

*I'm not familiar with that.*

The program was actually initiated at Oregon State in 1955. The funds are from timber land interests of the Hill family - railroad people of St. Paul, Minnesota. The funds are in the Northwest Area Foundation now. I had a part in the preliminary aspects of getting it started. Mr. David Mason (who lives in Portland, Oregon) and I

discussed how there might be added benefits for the School and the Santiam communities. The Hill family owns a sizable tract of timber in the South Santiam area, and they started receiving income from that timber land in the late 1940's. Mr. Mason, who was a prominent forestry consultant and an advisor to the Hill family, suggested that maybe the time was right for them to accept a program that would funnel some of their income into forestry-related programs. So we put a program together. About that time I left for New York City, but he followed through on it, and the Hill family accepted it. It is a program whereby high school seniors of four communities in the South Santiam area - Lebanon, Sweet Home, Scio, and Central Linn - are given grants for college education and the OSU Forestry School receives grants for education and research.

*How many do you give?*

You can't answer it quite that easily. Achievement awards are given to deserving high school seniors. They receive a plaque. Also, each year, fifteen seniors are given scholarships to continue their education. Over five hundred high school students have been given scholarships. Then another aspect was the offering of a conservation course to teachers and other citizens in the South Santiam area. Then grants were made for forestry scholarships and fellowships to OSU. At the present time two hundred twenty-nine undergraduate scholarships and one hundred sixty-four graduate fellowships have been given. There have been additional funds for a visiting professor program, and additional funds for the improvement of the forestry faculty and for travel grants. Overall, the number of people that have benefitted from this program, one way or another, totals about four thousand. The original grant was for a five-year period and it has been renewed five times. The total amount of money that has been given to the program is nearly a million dollars. The funding has been renewed for another five year period to carry it through to 1985. So, that is the South Santiam Education and Research Advisory Committee's program. The committee includes the Dean of the Forestry School, the Dean of Research at the University, and four alumni of the School of Forestry. The money is funneled through the Oregon State University Foundation. The executive secretary of the Foundation is also a member of the committee.

*Is that your son, Jim Dunn?*

Yes. The program has been in effect now for twenty-five years; a very sizeable and a very good program. I am pleased to have had a part in it.

*I think you're too modest. As you look back on eighty-one years of your life, what particular individual or event had an effect on your life in changing its course?*

I give credit to several individuals, who with advice and encouragement were vital to my career. To my forestry professor, Ed McDonald, head of the Forestry Department at Iowa State College. He was a big help to me. Another forestry professor at Iowa State College who was helpful to me was Dr. D.S. Jeffers, who, subsequently, was the Dean of Forestry at the University of Idaho. Frederick Dunlap, the Missouri State Forester from 1926 to 1931, was a great leader. I worked with him as Assistant State Forester during those same years.

My associates at Utah State University, T.G. Taylor, head of the Forestry Department, and President Elmer G. Peterson, were very helpful. Dr. A.L. Strand, President of Oregon State University, was very cooperative with the OSU Forestry Program as it developed over the years. The new program, during and after the war period, was put together largely with the help of Dr. Walter McCulloch, who later became the Dean of the School of Forestry. Dean George Peavy collaborated with me while my program was getting under way. However, he was not an active participant in the program.

In my forest industry experience with the St. Regis Paper Company, two men were very helpful: Mr. Roy Ferguson, who was president when I joined the company, and Mr. William R. Adams, who was president following Mr. Ferguson.

And most of all my wife, Neva, was a tremendous help. She collaborated and cooperated throughout all of my forestry career, from the time we were married in January, 1926, and from my first job starting in February, 1926.

That is the story of my career.

## **PART II - THE SCHOOL FORESTS (1927-1956)**

**Interview conducted by Royal Jackson and Jennifer Lee at Peavy Hall on the Oregon State University Campus, November 2, 1978.**

*Perhaps you can start by talking about the period from 1942 to 1955 when you came to Oregon State University as Dean, particularly anything you can remember about the McDonald Forest and the Paul M. Dunn Forest, and the acquisition of the Adair Tract?*

During the period of 1942 to 1955, when I was Dean of the School of Forestry at Oregon State University, one area of activity was the continuation of the forest land acquisitions for the benefit of the School of Forestry in its teaching and research programs. When I arrived the program, started by Dean Peavy, had been in effect since 1927. As a result of grants from Mrs. Mary J.L. McDonald, the wife of a lumberman from California, Dean Peavy had been given authorization to investigate certain pieces of land that might be for sale. Then he would report to Mrs.

McDonald, and she would approve and give him authority to buy the land.

*What can you tell us about Mrs. McDonald? Why was she interested in giving something to Oregon State University?*

Well, as I remember, her husband was a lumberman. They lived in Berkeley, California. Some of the land her husband had acquired was in Northern California and Southern Oregon. His original plan was to provide land or money for the University of California. After his death, she didn't receive, let's say, adequate attention from that area, so she became interested in Oregon State University and got acquainted with Dean Peavy. He, with his affable enthusiasm, sold her on the idea that OSU would be a good area for her support and suggested that the primary objective of her help would be to provide a forest area for teaching and research in timber management for the School of Forestry. Mrs. McDonald liked the idea. After her husband's death, she carried on and made several substantial grants, both while she was living and subsequently in her will. During the period of 1927 through 1939, which was the end of the period of Dean Peavy's activities as Dean, a total of 4,800 acres was acquired, all in the McDonald Forest area and very accessible to the School

of Forestry. If you are acquainted with the OSU Library, you may recall that there is a McDonald room that is dedicated to Mrs. McDonald. She made bequests to other areas in addition to the Forestry School.

*How many acres did she give to the School?*

Forty-eight hundred. She provided the money.

*She didn't actually own any land there, but provided the money for the land?*

Her estate owned some land in Lake County in Southern Oregon, and also in Jackson County. These parcels of land were deeded to the Forestry School, later sold, and the money was used to buy land in the McDonald Forest area.

*Was one of those the Spaulding Tract?*

No, the Spaulding Tract is 160 acres on this side of Mary's Peak which was given to the Forestry School by the Spaulding Lumber Company. There is another tract, the Blodgett Tract of 2,400 acres, in Columbia County, which was given by the Blodgett Lumber Company to the Forestry School.

*Who made the decision on what lands would be bought with the money that she gave to the School?*

Dean Peavy. He selected the tracts on the foothills of the Coast Range. It is seven miles from one end of the McDonald Forest and twelve miles from the other end to the Forestry Building on campus. You may know where it is. It's this area on the map. These tracts of land eventually became the McDonald Forest. I was acquainted with it before I came to OSU. I continued with the program as money was still available. I was able to add 1,980 acres to the McDonald Forest by purchase and trade of some timber for some other parcels of land. There is now a total of 6,780 acres in the McDonald Forest.

*Was the President of the University throughout these various periods from Dean Peavy to your period; was he pretty supportive of this idea of acquiring more land?*

Yes. While I was Dean, Dr. Strand was the President of OSU the entire time and also after I left. Dr. Strand and I came here the same year, in fact, within a month of each other. He was very supportive. In the main, all that I needed to do was to provide him with specific information and he would approve it. The State Board of

Forestry would then give final approval, and so additions were made to the McDonald Forest.

*Did you have to do that discretely to keep people from raising the prices? I mean, was there any feeling, well, let's raise the price because the School of Forestry will buy it?*

No. Keep in mind that Dean Peavy functioned during the period of 1927 through 1939. My period as Dean was from 1942 to 1955. Land values were not high and there was no particular competitive interest. In fact, owners in the main were anxious to sell. I would say their feeling towards Oregon State was one that they found mutually advantageous and they were pleased to sell their land, which frankly wasn't worth very much at that time. We paid normal competitive prices for it.

*Like, for example, five to ten dollars an acre?*

Roughly in that area. Yes, some of it even for two dollars. Some for five dollars. I've never analyzed it. I guess all the data are in the files. I don't think it got to any more than that because when we got to talking about the Adair Tract, the highest value on that tract was five dollars an acre.

*What do you estimate it's worth today?*

Several million.

*Most of the people that sold land during this earlier period of consolidating the forest, were they homesteaders; or what kind of individuals were they; and why did they sell it?*

I became acquainted with many of the former owners. Several were homesteaders and others were timber people who had cut over the land and considered it as being worthless, in a sense, and they were anxious to sell it. The area that we are talking about had been cut over and logged in the late teens through to World War II. The Spaulding Tract, for example, that we still have, was cut over around 1919. The Blodgett Tract was cut off earlier than that.

*That was in Columbia County?*

Yes, in Columbia County. The owners of these two tracts had utilized the land's values, and they were anxious to give them away because of the tax situation. You will recall that during this period the tax situation was acute. Many timber land owners just walked away and gave their land to the counties.

*Like during the Depression years?*

Yes, during the Depression years, and later. The resurgence of interest in forest land didn't occur until sometime after World War II, when greater land values were recognized. I think we can answer the question that was asked earlier, as to how much money was paid for the 6,200 acres of the Adair Tract. Actually, it was only \$1,836, which was the cost of the appraisal.

*Are there any of those early people that you dealt with, that were certainly memorable, that you bought the land from in your capacity as Dean? Any particular individual you remember?*

We bought some from T.J. Starker. Also, some from Van Ellis of Philomath. I'm not sure if he's around now. Some from Caffall Brothers Timber Company. They're in business in Portland. One of the Caffalls, who is active now, is a graduate of Oregon State. As I said, many of them had some interest in Oregon State, and were interested in supporting the program. We told a pretty good story, because there are very few Forestry Schools that have timber land holdings as productive as this timberland and as close to their campus. Most of their land holdings are some distance from their campus. The University of Washington in Seattle, has the Pack Forest that was given to them, but it is 30-40 miles away. Here, as you know, you can go out in the morning and get back at noon, and still carry out a class program or you can have an all-day program. It's exceptional.

*I'm a little confused about the relationship with the School of Agriculture to the McDonald-Paul Dunn Forests. I understand they administer a portion of that. Is that right?*

Yes. That was a different type of management.

*Before we leave the McDonald Forest part, let me ask you if you know of any interesting events that have occurred in the Forest. I understand Sulphur Springs has an interesting history and there have been a series of sawmills and homesteads at different times. Do you have any recollection of any structures or events or people that have played a part in the history of that area?*

I don't recall any. Sulphur Springs was a meeting place for people in the area because of the particular qualities of the water in the Springs. It is just at the edge of the McDonald Forest along Soap Creek. There are some families living in that area now. There were no saw mills on the Forest as such, because the general pattern of

the placement of saw mills was to put them on level ground, and then cut the timber, and haul it to the saw mills. There might have been a saw mill in the early days in the Oak Creek area at the Southern edge of the Forest. The School of Forestry procured a war surplus sawmill after World War II, and set it up as a demonstration and teaching laboratory in the Oak Creek area, but it was not a commercial enterprise. Sawmills were not a part of the area, but the timber was sold to the saw mills. The McDonald Forest area was pretty much all cut over before the School acquisition program came into the picture, timber values having been written off.

*What about the tower that the Department of Atmospheric Sciences constructed on the high point in McDonald Forest? Did that occur during your period as Dean, or was that later?*

It was while I was Dean, but I frankly do not recall the details. It seemed to be a desirable thing to do, so permission was granted to build it.

*Any other sites that come to your mind? Any Indian sites that you heard about, for example? Any evidence of any excavations?*

Not that I know of.

*Any old wagon roads that go through McDonald Forest?*

I don't think so. I think the wagon roads to the Coast were in the area through Philomath and over to Toledo or to Alsea. The McDonald Forest area, of course, has contributed other benefits besides the ones to the School. The State Board of Forestry established a sizable tree nursery in the Arboretum area. During the late 1930's there was a CCC Camp in the area, also.

*At the Arboretum?*

Yes, at the Arboretum, and the crew constructed a good bit of the road system that is there now, and they did some tree planting. Those two projects, and the headquarters of one of the state fire protection districts were located at the Arboretum.

*I've heard the CCC Camp referred to as a Spike Camp. Is that a term that is familiar to you?*

Yes, a spike camp is a small facility, an adjunct of a larger unit. I think the Arboretum Camp was a spike of the one, up north I think, but frankly, I'm not sure where the larger unit was.

*How big was the Camp, do you know? How many were there?*



I think maybe 150 men.

*This would be approximately what years?*

I believe it was 1933 to 1938. It had been abandoned before I came in 1942, but I think the program ended in 1938. It was federally funded.

*Is that the group that built the artificial lake, Cronemiller Lake?*

Yes. They also built the road through the area. The Lewisburg Saddle road was a county road, but there is a road from one end of the forest to the other, from the Arboretum south to Oak Creek, and that was built by the CCC's.

*Let me divert a second. Why was Cronemiller significant? Why did they name the Lake after him?*

In addition to being an early Oregon State graduate, Lynn Cronemiller was an assistant state forester. He was the man in charge of the CCC program, and other developments on the McDonald Forest. He is still living in Salem.

*What about Nettleton? Nettleton Road is one of the roads in McDonald Forest. Who was he?*

Harry, also, was an Oregon State graduate and an OSU staff member. While I was Dean, I appointed him as Forest Manager. He had charge of the supervision of the forest area. I expect Dr. McCulloch probably saw to the naming of that road after him. I think there is another, the Patterson Road. Harry Patterson was head of Forest Engineering at OSU. They were given recognition because of their positions. That about covers the McDonald Forest. The acquisition program is dormant at the present time. The School has enough land, in my opinion. Somebody else might not think so, but with present day circumstances and the revenue that is available, much more than was ever anticipated thirty years ago, there is sufficient land to satisfy all needs. In the original thinking, Dean Peavy had in mind 20,000 acres as being a substantial area that would annually provide enough timber income for all the necessary activities. That was on the basis of five to ten dollars a thousand for timber, but now logs are selling at two to three hundred dollars per thousand. In my opinion, the area is large enough; particularly with the addition of the four thousand acres of timberland that are included in the Dunn Forest. That makes about eleven thousand acres in total forest land.

*Before we move into the Adair Tract and the Paul Dunn part, let me ask you one more question. I understand they built a cabin for Peavy at one time, a Dean's cabin somewhere in McDonald Forest?*

Right. There have been three cabins. The first one was built in 1926 by the students, and was on the site of the present big cabin. It burned in 1949, and was rebuilt within a year or two, mostly by students. Most of the money came from the Rebuilding Fund. The State of Oregon doesn't carry insurance on any of its buildings here or elsewhere, but each year the Forestry School placed a certain amount of money in a Rebuilding Fund. If a catastrophe occurred, like a fire, they dipped into that fund. Money from that fund was used for the construction of the Arboretum Building. It was built on the site of the CCC Camp. It burned and was rebuilt from the Rebuilding Fund. The Dean's cabin was built entirely by alumni in the mid-thirties as a friendly gesture not long before Dr. Peavy retired. It was for Dean Peavy to use to meet with some of his former students and reminisce. It was up on a hill not far from the tower. In fact, the tower is just beyond it, but that cabin burned, also.

*The Dean's Cabin?*

Yes, the Dean's Cabin.

*I thought you said it was on the site of the present Forestry Cabin?*

No. There were two school cabins. The first was built in 1926 by the students. It was a large, one-room cabin with a big fireplace. It burned, I think, in 1949. The present club cabin, as it was called, was rebuilt in 1950 on the site of the one that was built in 1926. The Dean's Cabin was built in 1935, and was on the slope of the hill where the tower is, to the south and west of the Arboretum area. One could see the Dean's Cabin from the valley area. It was just beyond a grassy part, on the edge of the forest.

*Now it burned as well?*

It burned in the late '50's, I think. Vandals burned it.

*I was going to ask about that. Was access to the Forest limited during the time you were Dean? Could you control the gates? Could you pretty much control who went in and out, or was that a problem?*

Yes, but control was limited. We were able to control some of it with gates on the roads, but we couldn't control the foot people - hikers or walkers. Quite often the gates were broken open, but all the time from 1942, and I think before, there were locked gates on the roads. Entry was granted only by written permission. Vandalism occurred. The fire that burned the club cabin was just an accident. During the late 1940's there was a dearth of places for college parties. An unwise decision was made to rent the cabin for Saturday night parties. Evidently someone didn't put out the fireplace fire after a party and the cabin burned early Sunday morning. Because of the location there was no hope of stopping it.

*Were there any repercussions? Was the party that caused the fire held responsible in any way?*

No action was taken on the incident. It was considered just an accident.

*So that burned completely to the ground?*

That's right. It was rebuilt by students and with help from state finances. The concrete slab was still there. From the former Dean's Cabin we recovered the plaque that was on the cabin, and now it is over the fireplace in the big club cabin.

*Has there ever been a fire in the McDonald-Paul Dunn Forest?*

Yes, there was one that came over into the Oak Creek area, in the mid 1940's. It came over the hill from a logging slash fire and burned a part of the forest. Other than that I think the record is zero.

*What about relations with neighbors bordering the McDonald Forest? Has there been trespass problems or other problems with those people?*

No, or very few. Communications have been rather good. Maybe, in the last few years since the deer crop has built up, there may have been some poaching, but that is a State Game Commission problem.

*When did the program of allowing hunters into the Forest start, or has that always been that way?*

The McDonald Forest area has been a state game refuge for years. Until the late 1940's, there had been no appreciable number of deer in the whole valley area. Credit can be given to the Game Commission in the curtailment of hunting, and the deer population has built up. Now there are three or four types of hunting there; bow

and arrow hunting, and antler deer and doe deer seasons. A sizable number of deer have been taken out of that area in the last ten or fifteen years. I think a record is kept because it's supervised by the Forestry School and by the Fish and Game Department on campus and the Fish and Game Department of the State. It's under good control.

*Maybe we can go ahead now and talk about the acquisition of the Adair Tract and your role in that.*

All right. If you recall in 1941 after Pearl Harbor, the government became active in the establishment of armed services training areas and camps, throughout the United States. The decision was made to have one in the Adair area. It was under construction when I came in 1942. The government came in, and purchased about 90,000 acres in the area that is 10 to 15 miles north of Corvallis, extending on both sides of 99W for some distance. The camp was constructed, and three Army divisions were trained there; approximately a hundred thousand men.

*Was this the U.S. Army?*

Yes, all Army.

*Why was this site selected to begin with? Why was it attractive to the government, do you know?*

The selection was like many others, partly political. I believe most every state had one or more camps. Distribution of the wealth, so called, of business and revenue for the communities. These decisions were made with a fair amount of planning. Many were questioned as to location. Adair was justified due to topographical, soil, and climatic conditions. In 1945, following the War, it was evident that many of the camps would be abandoned. They would no longer be needed as a part of the U.S. Defense Program, so for economic reasons they were disposed of. I think it was 1946 when I first heard that Camp Adair was slated for disposal. I contacted the agency that was in charge of the war assets and got information that the program would be proceeding, subject to certain rules that would need to be followed. The land had been acquired primarily from private citizens and with some from timber companies.

*You mean the original purchase by the government?*

Yes. The area was in Benton County and Polk County. Earlier it was thought that it would revert to former owners. However, nearly eight years, at least, had elapsed and many of the former owners had taken their money and moved away, so that changed the pattern of disposal. We learned later that educational institutions would have a rather high priority in being granted the right to buy the land. We were interested particularly in the forest tract. I think it was in early 1947 that I contacted Senator Guy Cordon who was the Oregon U.S. Senator at that time. He was a personal friend of mine, and a good friend of the forest industry. He, of course, expressed interest, and soon we learned that the land might be available at no cost. In any event, we expressed an interest in it. There was a value set on that piece of property of a hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Whatever it was, we, of course, saw some future benefit. There were some views from the faculty and even the president, that the School didn't need it "as it had enough land."

*Was Strand the President at that time?*

Yes. As we moved along, it became evident that educational institutions would have number one priority for definite programs relating to education and research use. Former owners or World War II veterans would have second priority, while some former owners would have third priority. We determined what the procedure would be, and what we needed to do, and what sort of information we would have to provide.

*When you say "we," was that someone in your staff helping you?*

Yes. Let's say that I carried the ball on that, but I needed to assemble certain information. We knew the property. It had been appraised by two of our former graduates who were then with the State Board of Forestry. They gave us information as to the quality of the timber in the area. We could estimate what the value might be. We proceeded on that basis and presented our request to the Federal Land Bank of Spokane, who had the responsibility for disposal. We dealt with them over a period of time. Basically with the help of Senator Cordon, we were granted 6,200 acres, because it, as a block, fitted into the overall disposal program. Some of it was low grade agricultural land, and some was forest land, while the rest of the 90,000 acres was farm land. They were all handled differently. The area north of Camp

Adair and north of the hospital tract was originally good farm land. The block of 6,200 acres included 2,200 acres of agricultural land along Soap Creek, rounding the end of McDonald Forest and up Soap Creek, and had been farmed by the former owners. The two classes of land, agricultural and forest, had to go as one parcel, which created a little opposition from the School of Agriculture, because at first they didn't want anything to do with it.

*Who was the Dean of Agriculture then?*

Dean William Schoenfeld, and Professor Earl Price was his assistant. Professor P. M. Brandt was in dairy husbandry. The farm land had been used for dairy and other agricultural uses. It took quite a bit of negotiating on my part to get them to the point of view that there was value in the tract. They thought it would be a headache, but after some time it was agreed that if it could be acquired, the School of Forestry would take the forest land and the School of Agriculture would take the agricultural land. There were several buildings on the area that had been purchased by the government and were being used and lived in. The upshot was that we finally got approval of the tract and I negotiated a letter of agreement with the School of Agriculture, covering the two parcels and the terms of their use. We gave Agriculture the buildings. They agreed to the arrangement, and now I think they are reasonably happy that they got the property. We received the wire from Senator Cordon in May 1947. It is in the book. After further negotiations, I think it was in 1948, we finally got the deed, because I had to get President Strand and the State Board of Higher Education to approve acceptance of the tract. It took about a year. The agreement stated that for 25 years prior to the final granting of full ownership by the government, an annual report had to be provided to the agency in charge located in San Francisco. That has been complied with for 25 years from 1948 through 1973. Now it is the property of the University by way of the State through the State Board of Higher Education and the two Schools [Forestry and Agriculture].

*Let me clarify one thing at this point. The portion that the School of Agriculture manages; does that belong to the School of Forestry or does it belong to Agriculture?*

Actually both areas belong to the State of Oregon and the University with administrative management in each School. The School of Forestry had little to do

with the area that's handled by the School of Agriculture; except, as we collaborated and have harvested some of the timber from their tract. You realize that there are patches of timber on some of the agricultural areas. We drew a line on a map to indicate the areas.

*[EDITOR'S NOTE: An attempt to locate this map has been unsuccessful. It may have simply represented an informal agreement, or been subsequently destroyed.]*

I think there is a fence there now. The School of Forestry, or I through the School of Forestry, arranged a loan from the School of Forestry budget to the Agricultural School to get them started. This was helpful, you might say, in easing their feelings. That is the story up to this point. There were some critical questions on the part of the administration as to what the dollar value of the property would be. I recall one letter that I have, in which President Strand questioned my judgment in acquiring the land. However, when it was eventually deeded to us, we got the property with 100% discount. It was valued at \$150,000 but there was an appraisal charge of \$1,836. President Strand raised his eyebrows and wondered who was going to pay that fee for the property. I paid it out of the Forestry School budget, and in a sense we got that 6,200 acres of land by the good will of the government for \$1,836. Shortly we started harvesting timber from the area. You may be acquainted with the timber sale. We set up the program in 1951, I think it was, and prepared a timber sale on the Adair Tract which brought a return of \$201,000 for 7,000,000 feet of timber which was only a portion of the total timber. I don't have the detailed figures at hand of how much additional timber has been sold. We traded some timber for two different pieces of land that are now part of the McDonald Forest. One of the earlier appraisals, I think, about five or six years ago, estimated the value of the Adair tract at a million dollars.

*Marv Rowley says that some of the timber has shrapnel remnants from some of the activities from World War II.*

That's true. If you read the wire from Senator Guy Cordon that I received, it so noted as a precaution. [Dunn is reading]: "The approval was made subject to the usual conditions for the following two additional conditions. The State Board of Higher Education is to furnish WAAA with airmail acknowledgment, that it is

accepting transfer of this property with the full knowledge that substantial portions thereof are hazardous because of explosive contamination and the State Board of Higher Education shall be required to give, at its own expense, wide publicity in posting on the property, directing the attention of the public to the dangers inherent of the explosive contamination of the property in a matter satisfactory to the Assets Administration." [End of wire] You see, that area with a hill in the background was a firing area for artillery and I think some other types of war weapons, also. There were a lot of duds in the area, undoubtedly, and a fair amount of the timber was penetrated by bullets. I think they used rifle fire as well as artillery fire. So far as I know there has been no evidence of any injury to anyone.

*No one has ever been hurt from an exploding device?*

No. The timber company that bought this sale knew the story and, of course, they were cognizant of the hazard and took precautions in the sawing of the timber in the mills. The timber was logged by the Willamette Valley Lumber Company based in Dallas, which is now the Willamette Industries. There's no evidence of any injury to anyone from the tract.

*What other activities did the military have besides the artillery range? Were there maneuvers of some type?*

Oh, yes, all kinds. They used the rest of the 90,000 acres for all kinds of maneuvers, bivouacs, overnight camping, and training grounds. They had rifle battalions, machine gun battalions, and artillery, and of course, the quarter master corps and the hospital corps were adjuncts. It was a training area for all of those military units.

*Was anybody ever killed during training exercises in the Forest?*

No. Not that I know of. The odds are, of course, they might not have been reported. The military doesn't go around telling a lot about accidents.

*When was your name officially given to the Adair Tract? That is not what it originally was know as, was it?*

The "Adair Tract" was the term I used. I don't recall the date of the name change, as I was not here. It must have been done after 1956. I guess by Dean McCulloch.

*Is there any last comment you have about either Forest before we quit?*



Only this. I think the early thinking and the planning by Dean Peavy in the late teens and the twenties, in respect to the advisability and desirability of establishing a forest property that could be used by the students in their every day class programs, has proved to be a great benefit to the School and to the University, and the State of Oregon. There has been a lot of research carried out on the McDonald Forest area; for example, the sizable genetics area under Dr. Kim Ching that is located down the road from the Arboretum gates. Also, there are several other research areas, and tree plantings. The two forests provide a really great outdoor laboratory for the School, and are well used.

PAUL M. DUNN  
1898 - 1988

With an inherent interest in education and finely-tuned skills for diplomacy, Paul M. Dunn was an asset wherever he applied his touch. The career he pursued allowed him to weave together positions in forest conservation, forest industry and forest education. He enjoyed every kind of work he did. He was a gentleman who made friends easily and kept them a lifetime.

Though he chose Corvallis, Oregon to be his home for the last twenty years of his life, his career led him in earlier years to many homes in the United States and abroad.

Dunn was born October 15, 1898 to James W. and Belle Howard Dunn in Lennox, South Dakota. He graduated from Lemars, Iowa High School in 1917.

He served in World War I with the U.S. Army on the Mexican border and in France with the 34th Division from August 1917 to July 1919.

He received bachelor's and master's degrees in forestry from Iowa State University in 1923 and 1933 respectively. On January 21, 1926, he married Neva Kissinger.

Dunn was associate state forester in Missouri from 1926 to 1931. During these years in Ellington, Missouri his two sons, Robert Paul and James W. were born. From 1931 to 1938, he was a professor of forestry at Utah State University. In 1938 he became the first dean of the School of Forestry at U.S.U. and the first Utah State Forester, serving as both until 1942. That year he became dean of the School of Forestry at Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) and director of the OSU Forest Products Laboratory. He led the School of Forestry and the Laboratory at OSU with great style until 1955. During this time he also served as a member of the Oregon Board of Forestry.

When Dunn took over as dean of Forestry in 1942 he faced unrest in the school. The former dean, George Wilcox Peavy, had become president of Oregon State College two years earlier but had retained responsibility for the forestry school. Faculty defections and internal conflict soon surfaced. It was only when Dunn was named as dean that order began to be restored. He was widely recognized as a gentleman, and even more importantly he had the substance and style of a statesman. He was able to consider all the differing opinions with respect to each. Then he moved on to make wise decisions and present them in a manner that resolved conflict. Dunn was known for bringing people together. He had great ability to calm difficult situations and make sense out of chaos.

Because of Dunn's highly valued leadership and service to Oregon State College, a 6,200-acre portion of the McDonald-Dunn forest near Corvallis is named for him. The area is still used by the school for forest research.

In 1952, Dunn was granted a year's leave of absence from OSU to assist the government of Chile in establishing a school of forest engineering at the University of Chile in Santiago, Chile.

In 1955 he joined the St. Regis Paper Company in New York City as technical director of forestry. In 1962 he became vice president in charge of timber lands. A believer in education, he took the initiative to set up a St. Regis scholarship program for students from Forestry Schools throughout the United States. This was not a new interest: he had also implemented scholarship programs while he was teaching.

From 1963 to 1981 he was president of Gulf Pine Co., Inc., a subsidiary of St. Regis. He retired from St. Regis in 1968, and he and Mrs. Dunn returned to Corvallis to live.

During his career he found time for several professional forestry organizations. He was president of each of the following: The Society of American Foresters, The Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association, the Forest History Society and the American Forestry Association.

In addition to this he found opportunities to support forest conservation and forest industry research. From December 1956 to June 1957 he was chairman of the Task Force on Forest Products for the President's Bipartisan Commission on Industrial Use of Agricultural Products. From 1955 to 1976, he was a member of the Advisory Committee for the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, U.S.D.A. From 1964 to 1973, he was a member of the McIntire-Stennis Federal Forestry Research Committee.

Dunn received many important honors and awards, including the Iowa State University Alumni Association's Distinguished Achievement Award in 1968, the Western Forestry and Conservation award for Lifetime Service in 1971, and the Society of American Forester's Gifford Pinchot Award for Outstanding Service to Professional Forestry in 1975, and Utah State University's Centennial Award for an Exceptionally Distinguished Career in 1987.

He was a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters and the Forest History Society and was listed in "Who's Who in America," "Who's Who in Education" and "American Men of Science." He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Delta Chi, Alpha Zeta, Xi Sigma Pi and Lambda Chi Alpha.

He also was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the American Legion, the Masonic Lodge and the Corvallis Rotary Club.

In addition to these many forms of recognition he was a trustee of the Oregon State University Foundation, the Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation of Corvallis, the World Forestry Center, and Keep Oregon Green Association.

Dunn is remembered by his forest industry associates for caring deeply for the forests. He attended to conservation issues constantly, contributing his time and efforts wherever they were needed.

His students remember him vividly. They knew him as a source of motivation and inspiration to do well. The words of one of his students say it best: "He was an outstanding forester, educator and administrator but most of all a thoughtful, caring man."

Thayer Willis, Biographer  
World Forestry Center  
Portland, Oregon

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