

Scotty gave up his kilts at the Castle Douglas in England, journeyed to America in 1882 and went to work for the Pacific Northwest woods when he was 16. Forty years ago, he went to work as the head log scaler for the Stoddard Lumber Company but after 22 years he decided he could do better for himself just sawing logs so he bought a power saw and started cutting timber with his pal, Arch Rowberry, who is still working for the Stoddard Lumber Company. The two teamed it up, cutting 10 to 12 thousand board feet of timber a day and making "dommed good wages" as Scotty put it.

"I had a good pair of store teeth once," he chuckled, "but when I got to sawing they chocked off my wind. A regr-r-retable expense, but anyhow, ovly a beaver needs teeth to cut timber."

Like many loggers who spend their life in the woods, Scotty used snuff (snoose as it was called by the lumberjacks) for many years. It keeps the mosquitoes away he says. But the main ingredients for his long, active, worthwhile career are these: "Marry a good wife; raise a fine family; eat good wholesome food; have a wee nip now and then if ye like; dinna worry, and if anything makes ye sick, lay off of it."

It was during the Bootjack operation the Stoddards changed from horse logging to tractor logging and truck hauling. Some 30 head of horses were used prior to the change. During the last year of operation on the Bootjack set, the timbers and lumber were cut for the present mill sight at Island Park, Idaho. Part of the logs for this last cut was hauled from Icehouse Creek. Construction of the mill began in 1939 with the mill in operation in 1940.

In 1939, Arch Rowberry came to work for the Stoddard Lumber Company. Arch (Red) cut timber and sometimes helped load them on the trucks to be hauled to the mill. Along with this, Red did other odd jobs around the mill and planer which were very much appreciated by all.

In 1940, T.W. Stoddard, at the age of 75, retired from active participation in the logging and milling operation. The four sons, Dan, Bill, Roy, and Calvin, formed a partnership with Dan acting as manager for the company. In this year the mill was built on Mill Creek. It was during this time that the fifth generation got their training. During the war years the Stoddards operated in two shifts, day and night. Logging for the mill was done by truck. Hauling took place from Henry's Lake on the Montana side to the mill and from Spencer to the mill.