

AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF

Mark A. Gullickson for the degree of Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in Anthropology, Anthropology, and Apparel, Interior, Housing, and Merchandising presented on May 25, 2000.

Title: Work Pants Worn by Loggers in Western Oregon, 1920 - 1970.

Abstract approved: Redacted for Privacy

With the arrival of European settlers to Western Oregon nearly 150 years ago came new methods of forest management. Early settlers' forest practices consisted of little more than harvesting what seemed an endless supply of timber. Forestry in the 20th century eventually incorporated such management concerns as re-forestation, biodiversity, wildlife sciences, recreation, and cultural resources.

While forest practices in the Pacific Northwest changed dramatically during the 20th century, clothing worn by those most commonly associated with the field, the "logger," remained relatively unchanged. While much information has been published regarding the often over-romanticized life of the logger, information regarding the day to day life and associative material culture remains almost nonexistent. As the 20th century economy in the Pacific Northwest became less dependent on the wood products industry, the culture and way of life for those whose lives centered around this once thriving industry began to disappear.

My interest in this subject developed out of my personal experience working in

the woods throughout the Pacific Northwest for seven years, as a forest fire fighter and park ranger for the Bureau of Land Management, and as an archaeologist for the U.S. Forest Service and Oregon State University Research Forests.

In this study, I gathered collective memories from 18 individuals who logged throughout Western Oregon between 1920 and 1970. Informants were asked a series of questions pertaining to their logging careers and the clothing they wore. Often termed "old-timers," these informants served as the primary resource of information about work clothing worn by loggers in Western Oregon between 1920 and 1970.

Published information describing the history of logging in the Pacific Northwest, photographs provided by informants showing them at work, the examination of catalogues from manufacturers of men's work clothing, and interviews with representatives of work clothing companies served as secondary resources.

Published materials detailing work clothing worn by loggers is relatively non-existent. Consequently, persons with first hand knowledge wearing logging work clothing are in many instances the only sources of information. Photographs furnished by subjects, showing them wearing their work clothing were collected as supportive material.

While interviewing subjects for this project, additional questions beyond the scope of the project were asked. Subjects were asked related questions about other types of clothing they wore during their careers. Other areas of logging history and culture explored during interviews consisted of information about changes they observed in the technology of logging hand tools and machinery, land management

and associative forest practices, and first hand experiences observing fellow workers severely injured or killed while working in the woods.

With the passing of each "old-time" logger, a living connection between the present and the past, and the stories in between, are gone forever. This project helps to present a written record of some of these connections.

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Work Pants Worn by Loggers in Western Oregon, 1920 - 1970

by

Mark A. Gullickson

A THESIS

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I understand that my thesis will become part of the permanent collection of Oregon State University libraries. My signature below authorizes release of my thesis to any reader upon request.

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Mark A. Gullickson, Author

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material culture studies. Roberta Hall patiently guided me through the thesis process and spent considerable time reviewing my efforts.

Thank you to those individuals representing the following companies and organizations for sharing your time, knowledge, and interest in this project: Paula Ulf, Public Relations Officer, Carhartt, Inc.; Jack Abercrombie and Terri Young, C. C. Filson Company; Jerry Probst, Archivist, J. C. Penney Company, Inc.; Claudia Broaddus, Assistant to the President, and Harvey McKinney, The Lee Company; Kay McDonough, Assistant Archivist, Levi Strauss & Company; Doug and Elaine Haga, Pedee Originals; Vickie Cwiok, Archivist, Sears, Roebuck and Company; Megan MoHolt, Archivist, Weyerhaeuser; and Larry Landis and Elizabeth Nielsen, Oregon State University Archives.

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WORK PANTS WORN BY LOGGERS IN WESTERN OREGON, 1920 - 1970

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to identify the types of work pants worn by loggers working in Western Oregon from 1920 to 1970. Specifically, this study seeks to increase knowledge of characteristics of loggers' clothing and consumer choices made by loggers throughout Western Oregon regarding the purchase of work pants. This study proceeded from the need for initial research, associated garment identification, and oral interviews identifying consumer choices in work pants based on work location, socio-cultural influences, job experience, and available income. Beyond these questions this thesis seeks to find and identify extant garments available for study or reference as possible museum exhibits, as well as contribute more data to existing literature pertaining to men's historic costume.

CHAPTER 2: METHODS

In order to investigate the types of logging pants worn by workers in the Western Oregon logging industry from the 1920s to the 1970s, I requested the assistance of 25 museums and historical societies in the defined region. This region includes all of Western Oregon from the Columbia River to the Oregon-California border, and from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountain range. Each historical institution was contacted first by letter, then followed up with a telephone call, requesting leads to likely informants who worked in the logging industry and who would be willing to be interviewed about their clothing preferences.

Responses from six historical agencies yielded leads to 18 informants. This core group of 18 represented a wide range of work experience in the logging industry in the 20th century in Western Oregon. Two-thirds of the informants had worked in several locations within the focus region, moving with employers or available jobs in this resource-based industry (see figure 2).

Older informants, who had been employed in the industry before 1930, were scarce. About half of the informants spent the majority of their years of employment working in the woods in the 1940s and 1950s (see figure 1). These informants had experienced the most dramatic transitions in the technology of the logging industry. The changes that occurred in the post-World War II logging industry resulted in the rapid

Years of Employment by Subject

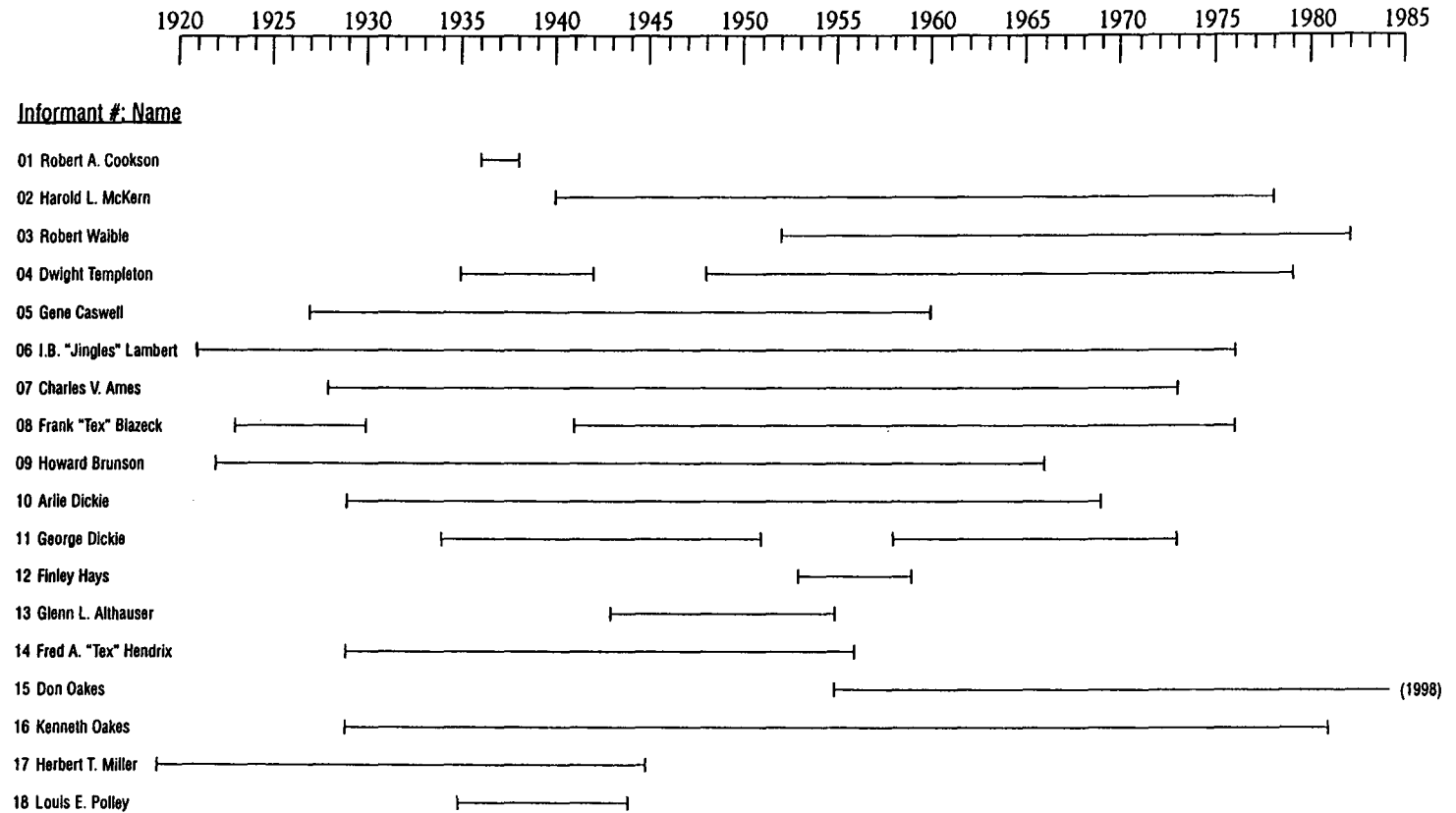


Figure 1. Graph listing subjects numerically by years of employment in Western Oregon between 1920 and 1985.

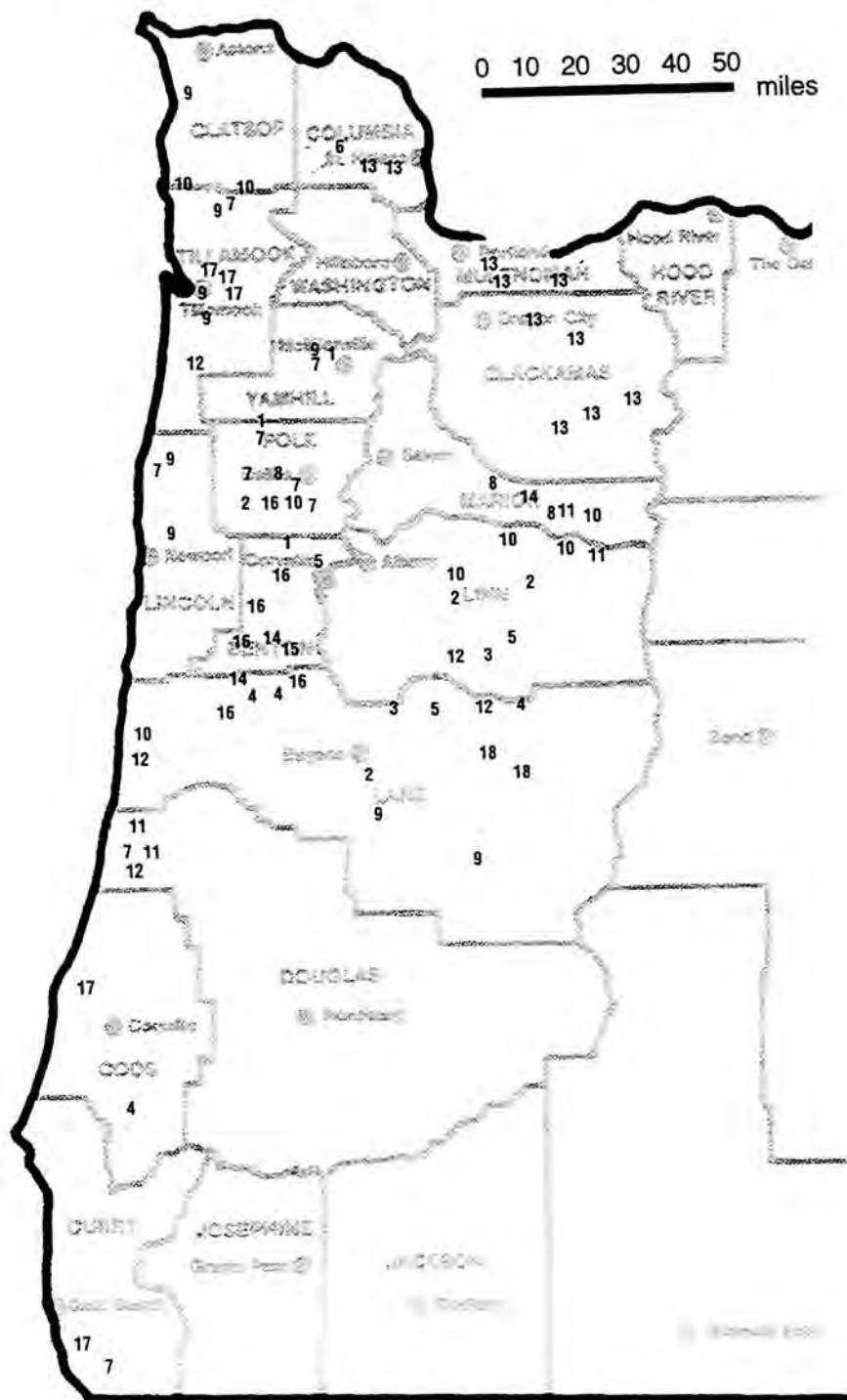


Figure 2. Map of Western Oregon showing distribution numerically of subject's areas of work.

growth and proliferation of efficient tree harvesting, having direct effects on the type of clothing worn on the job.

Three of the informants had published books, recollections, newspaper and magazine articles about their logging experiences in Oregon.

I attempted to conduct personal interviews with all 18, and succeeded in 17 cases. Only one of the 18 interviews had to be conducted by telephone. During the interview, each informant was asked the same set of clothing related questions (see appendix 1). The questions were developed after researching extant oral histories. These extant interviews were largely not indexed, and question lists were non-existent, so the question list that I used was original. I submitted my questions and outline of methods to the Oregon State University, Institutional Review Board for the protection of Human Subjects, which approved it.

Also prior to these interviews, I contacted the following manufacturers of work clothing to review any archival material available about clothing manufacture and regional availability: The Carhartt Company; C.C. Filson; H.D. Lee Company; and Levi-Strauss Company. Corporate records concerning these topics were generally not kept by companies and supporting information was not available. However, these interviews and company brochures and catalogues provided useful information about clothing products in general.

During the interview with each informant, the conversation was tape recorded, with the permission of each participant, and written notes were also made. The length of

the interview varied according to the informant's ability to recall his clothing preferences and his enthusiasm for the subject. Interviews lasted from as little as twenty minutes to as long as three hours.

Supplementary materials were also brought to each interview to facilitate conversation about logging clothing. An actual pair of c.1940s Hirsch-Weis (White Stag) tin pants (see figures 3a, 3b, and 3c) was shown to each informant, as well as photocopies of illustrations from popular work clothing catalogs from the period of investigation, including images from Sears, Roebuck & Co., Montgomery Ward, and J.C. Penney & Co. catalogs. This "clipping file" proved to be a valuable reference tool. I also asked each informant for personal photographs showing his work clothing. These visual references could confirm or refute the recollections of the informants and would provide talking points for each interview.

The ability of informants to recall the brand names and sources of their work clothing varied. Some of the informants paid very little attention to the types and brand names of their work clothes, while others knew precisely the names, sizes, and sources of their work apparel.

The guiding plan of the research was to produce information that would be of interest to historians, anthropologists, and museum professionals who interpret material culture in 20th century Oregon. There has been very little emphasis placed on the study of work clothing in the logging industry, and few historical museums have accurately represented this aspect of material culture. Another benefit of this investigation is that it

has yielded a number of sources of illustrations of artifacts in the literature and sources of extant artifacts, which could potentially be collected by cultural institutions.



Figure 3a. Front view of Hirsch-Weis, “Water Repellents,” “tin” pants.
White Stag Manufacturing Company, Portland, Oregon, c.1940.



Figure 3b. Rear view of Hirsch-Weis, "Water Repellents," "tin" pants.
White Stag Manufacturing Company, Portland, Oregon, c.1940.

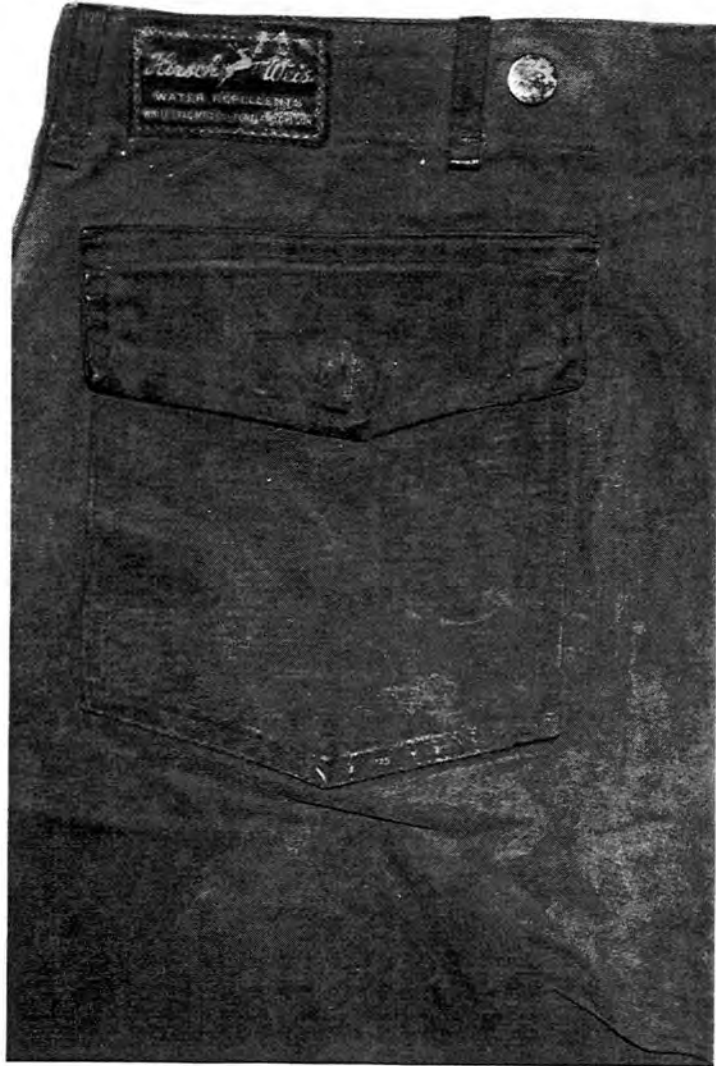


Figure 3c. Close up rear view of Hirsch-Weis, "Water Repellents," "tin" pants showing manufacturer's label, one suspender button, and left rear pocket. White Stag Manufacturing Company, Portland, Oregon, c.1940.

CHAPTER 3: LITERATURE REVIEW

The following discussion serves as an overview of literature related to the study of work pants worn by loggers in the Pacific Northwest from 1920 to 1970. These topics include: the importance of costume history as it relates to the study of material culture; historical research focusing on men's occupational dress; histories of logging in the Pacific Northwest that mention logger's clothing; and information from work clothing manufacturers, such as the Levi-Strauss Co., indicating the availability of specific types of work outerwear manufactured for the timber industry worker.

Clothing and costume can be analyzed as objects of material culture (Severa, 1989; Horswill 1989). Since clothing is considered to be the most personal of artifacts, we can study values and attitudes of a segment of society who wore specific types of garments, a feature which Storm describes as a "portrait of collective identity" (Storm, 1987: 32). Study of clothing styles and preferences can help us interpret the culture that grew up around the occupation of logging, and present an accurate picture of occupation-related clothing worn by timber workers.

Costume historians have published books and articles over the last two decades that discuss men's occupational dress. Researchers have found that utility and convenience are primary functions of clothing in all cultures (Storm, 1987). Williams-Mitchell (1982) concluded that working dress lagged behind fashionable dress, and that working dress was occupation-specific. The study of protective work clothes like aprons and overalls (deMarly, 1986; Williams-Mitchell, 1982) has focused on 19th century European clothing,

or has taken a secondary position to the bulk of historical research done on men's clothing -- specifically, stylistic changes in high fashion or men's business wear (Hemken, 1993) or detailed inquiries into studies of 18th century European pants-fastening systems (Bryant, 1988).

A few studies of the origin and use of men's bib overalls (Battenson, 1974; Ewing, 1984; Hemkin, 1993) conclude that although the bib overall can be found in use as men's occupational clothing between 1856 and 1945, the garment was primarily associated with agricultural workers. Hemkin states that "lumberjacks...were not mentioned in any advertisements or patents, but definitely wore bib overalls" (Hemkin, 1993: 23). Hemkin, however, does not cite any specific references to substantiate that statement. My research indicates that only mechanics who worked on logging equipment wore overalls; men who worked as timber fallers did not.

In researching the topic of men's logging pants, I examined histories of logging in the Pacific Northwest for descriptions of what loggers wore. Most of the studies center on the development of technological innovations in the machinery used in the logging industry to harvest timber, or they concentrate on the almost mythological size of old growth Douglas-fir and Western Red Cedar trees. A number of researchers relate the life stories of men and women who lived in company-owned logging camps, (Brunson, 1998; Holbrook, 1956; Lind, 1978; Prouty, 1982; Robbins, 1993).

The harshness and danger of a logger's life is examined closely by these authors, and many discuss in detail the conditions under which loggers lived and worked. They

describe logging clothing since the job did, and still does, require special protective clothing. Lind states that “loggers wore tin-pants into the woods. Tin-pants were heavy, hard-wearing material which loggers covered with water repellent...as the logger wore tin-pants, the material was further covered with pitch and dirt which made them stiff. When a logger could stand his pants in the corner, it was known he was an experienced logger” (Lind, 1978: 57).

Birkland also describes what loggers wore, and how they cared for their clothing, which is primarily a function of the conditions in which a logger worked. Birkland states: “If rain or snow commenced falling after the men were out in the woods, work continued on till (sic) quitting time. That meant [there were] a lot of wet clothes to dry, and that was when the big stove [in the company-owned logging camp bunkhouse] came in handy. Wires strung around the stove in all directions were soon filled with wool socks, underwear, stag shirts, [and] tin pants that would stand up by themselves -- everything imaginable.” (Birkland, 1960: 143, 144).

Logging historian Joseph Pierre observes that “tin” pants were, “pants made of heavy, tightly-woven, hard material, then treated with paraffin for waterproofing, but more importantly to create a surface that will resist the dangers of jagged or sharp pieces of limbs. It has been said that they [‘tin’ pants] will stand up by themselves” (Pierre, 1979: 36, 37). One author states that, “The trousers, made of pure wool so closely woven as to be almost water proof, were also known as tin pants because incrustations of dirt and sweat enabled them to stand up by themselves, or at least some observers claimed”

(Schwantes, 1994: 21). All other background research conducted by myself does not support this authors claim that wool pants were called “tin” pants. My research has concluded that only those pants woven from cotton were ever termed “tin” pants.

Although these authors describe “tin” pants, none offers any evidence as to the brand or manufacture of the clothing, or why loggers chose one brand over another. Logging historians describe the modifications that loggers made, i.e. staggings, which consists of the removal of the bottom hem line of each pants leg, and paraffin treatment, but do not give us much insight into why these modifications were made, other than the obvious advantages of repelling water.

Information about availability of types and brands of logger’s clothing can be gleaned from information about the history of blue jeans (Cray 1978; Josephy, 1985; Soares and Osborn, 1984). Closely associated with occupations that demanded extremely resilient garments, blue jeans (or dungarees) have been worn since the mid-19th century in America. When Levi Strauss came to this country in 1848, he intended to sell canvas tents to miners who were heading for the Gold Rush in California. Armed with a canvas material that proved to be inadequate for tenting, Strauss quickly changed his marketing plans after getting complaints from miners who couldn’t find pants sturdy enough to withstand the rigors of their occupation (Cray, 1978, Levi-Strauss Company promotional literature). Strauss made up a pair of canvas pants, which miners clambered for. In 1873, the pants were riveted at crucial stress points (Downey et. al, 1986: 79). When Strauss

imported a cheaper, indigo-dyed French canvas called serge de Nimes, the American work clothing industry was born.

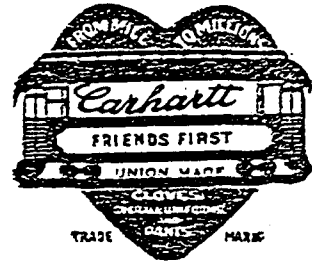
Other companies formed to meet the demand for occupational clothing in late nineteenth and early 20th century America. Although Levi-Strauss products may have dominated the market, Clinton C. Filson began a business in Seattle, Washington in 1897 to produce clothing for miners working in the cold, wet conditions of the Alaskan Klondike (C.C. Filson Company, n.d. Brochure). By 1902, Filson expanded his business to “clothing specifically designed for the timber industry” including water-proofed canvas pants and coats (The Filson Story, n.d.: 2).

The Carhartt Company, located in Dearborn, Michigan, opened in 1889 to manufacture outdoor clothing (see figure 4). Their non-waterproofed cotton duck fabric was especially tightly woven to resist snagging, and the company targeted timber industry workers as a market. There are no company records indicating when Carhartt work clothing became available in the Pacific Northwest, or when the logger’s clothing line was introduced. By 1925, Carhartt advertised lines of work clothing (Company brochure, p. 4). Carhartt suffered a downswing during the 1920s and 1930s, but revived its business in the 1960s. A logger jean is featured in the 1925 catalog, but the company kept no records about the specific line or volume of business (Ulf, 1997).

The H.D. Lee Company in Salina, Kansas, opened its own work clothing manufacturing plant in 1911. The company had existed as a wholesale grocery operation since 1889. It wasn’t until 1924 that Lee introduced a “thirteen-ounce denim [jean]

Carhartt script label -- used from 1889 until 1964. It was usually shown with the heart/train car trademark.

Carhartt
UNION MADE



Large "C" surrounding Carhartt, Inc. logo -- used from 1965 until 1966. This was a transition logo/trademark.



The Carhartt "C" and print trademark -- used from 1967 to present. The "C" is sewn onto all our products.



New advertising and communication trademark -- began using in 1997. The Carhartt "C" is still used on our products.

Carhartt®

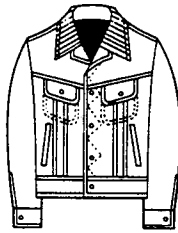
Figure 4. Trade mark/logos, Carhartt, 1889 - present.

...especially crafted for seamen and loggers” (Smith, 1996: 34). By 1926, Lee introduced “merchandising firsts, including...zippers, more comfortable styling, and tailored sizing.” (Smith, 1996:34). Some of the features appealed to Northwest loggers. The Lee Full Cut Logger Jean was still advertised in a 1985 Lee Company catalog, well after the company began targeting the fashion jean market (see figure 5).

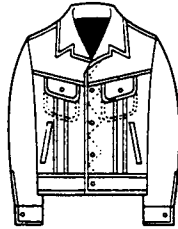
The only Oregon company to produce climate-specific work gear for the logger was the Hirsch-Weis Manufacturing Company of Portland, Oregon. The company began in 1907 as the Willamette Tent and Awning Company, but decided to “personalize the business,” and change the name of the company to Hirsch-Weis Mfg. Co. according to Oregon Historical Society’s oral interview with Harold Hirsch, son of the founder of Hirsch-Weis. The Hirsch-Weis work clothing line developed as a side-line which evolved from the water-proofed canvas tent and awning production. Hirsch says that “it was probably my father, Max Hirsch, who evolved it, a water-repellent, not water-proofed, but water-repellent, canvas suit consisting of olive drab canvas pants and a jacket (see figures 6 and 7) that went with it.” (Hirsch Oral History, p. 7). “They were called tin pants and tin coats because they were so stiff that they were like walking around in tin...What made them so tinny was...paraffin.”

Mail-order companies made work clothing available nationwide after the completion of the transcontinental railroads in the 1870s and ‘80s. The best-known of these companies was Sears-Roebuck and Co. Mail-order companies traditionally carried lines of work clothing, and Sears was no exception. From the period of the 1920s, Sears-

ITEM SIZE SCALE DESCRIPTION STYLE & COLOR



J-314



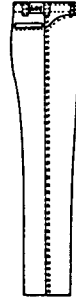
J-313



J-300



J-304



J-275

LEE RIDER JACKETS

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|---|
| <p>BLANKET LINED LEE RIDER JACKET (Illust. J-314)</p> | <p>*1 9</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM—14 oz., 100% Cotton. Side-entry pockets. Blanket lined with corduroy collar. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>*221-2641—Indigo <hr/>Washed Garment 221-2647—Dk. Indigo</p> |
| <p>LEE RIDER JACKET (Illust. J-313)</p> | <p>*1 761</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM—14 oz., 100% Cotton. Side-entry pockets. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>*220-2641—Indigo <hr/>Washed Garments 220-2601—Lee Midnight Riders™ 220-2647—Dk. Indigo 220-2649—Bleached Indigo</p> |
| <p>LEE RIDER JACKET (Illust. J-313)</p> | <p>761</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM, STONWASHED GARMENT — 100% Cotton. Side-entry pockets. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>220-0745—Stonewashed Indigo</p> |
| <p>LEE RIDER JACKET (Illust. J-313)</p> | <p>782</p> | <p>RIDER TWILL—10½ oz., 50% Cotton, 50% Polyester. Side-entry pockets. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>220-1901—Black 220-1902—Dk. Grey 220-1936—Olive 220-1941—Navy</p> |

FULL CUT LEE RIDERS® STRAIGHT LEGS

| | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|---|
| <p>LEE RIDERS® STRAIGHT LEG FULL CUT (Illust. J-300)</p> | <p>*757 758</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM—14 oz., 100% Cotton. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>*200-0041—Indigo <hr/>Washed Garment 200-0047—Dk. Indigo</p> |
|---|---------------------|--|---|

FULL CUT LOGGER JEANS

| | | | |
|---|------------|--|------------------------|
| <p>LOGGER JEANS FULL CUT (Illust. J-304)</p> | <p>771</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM—14 oz., 100% Cotton. Rule and pliers pockets. Button fly. Suspender buttons. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>200-3541—Indigo</p> |
| <p>LOGGER JEANS FULL CUT (Illust. J-304)</p> | <p>771</p> | <p>HEAVYWEIGHT DENIM—14 oz., 100% Cotton. Rule and pliers pockets. Zipper fly. Suspender buttons. Controlled shrinkage.</p> | <p>200-3641—Indigo</p> |

FULL CUT FRISKO JEENS®

| | | | |
|--|------------|---|-----------------------|
| <p>FRISKO JEENS® FULL CUT (Illust. J-275)</p> | <p>770</p> | <p>COTTON TWILL—11½ oz., 100% Cotton. Controlled shrinkage. (Add 75¢ per garment if suspender buttons required.)</p> | <p>200-3201—Black</p> |
|--|------------|---|-----------------------|

Figure 5. H.D. Lee Company catalogue, pg. 10, 1985.




Raintest Work Garments



—treated by the
Hirsch-Weis Raintest
Process

Raintest garments shed water. They are made from strong, closely woven olive drab army duck, treated by the Hirsch-Weis process. This treatment greatly strengthens the life of the fabric, making it tougher, longer wearing, and water repellent to a high degree.



UNION MADE



Coat No. 937
Pants No. 941

Stag Shirts

945—Café style double over back, front and sleeves. Buttoned cuffs, seamless shoulder, and back yoke. Two breast pockets protected by flaps. Regular sizes 15 to 18. **\$45.50**

WITH SPORT COLLAR

946—Same as No. 945, with the exception that it has a large sport collar which may be worn either turned on or turned down. Regular sizes 15 to 18. **\$45.50**

948—Made from 14-oz. heavy weight Sateen-Weis Raintest duck otherwise same as No. 946. Regular sizes 15 to 18. **\$7.00**

948XL—Extra long. Six inches longer than No. 948. Regular sizes 15 to 18. **\$6.00**

Work Coats

No. 937

937—Big and roomy. Double front, back and sleeves. Corduroy collar, 4 pockets with flaps. Upper breast pocket protected by cape. **\$48.00**



No. 935

935—Single, without cape, corduroy collar, 4 patch pockets (two large and two small) with flaps. **\$34.50**

Raintest Pants

930—Raintest, made with top pockets, patch pockets with flaps, a button watch pocket and belt loops. Regular sizes 32 to 42. **\$25.50**

934—Raintest, Raintest with applique reinforced seat and knees. **40.50**

939—Raintest, high reinforced seat, liberally reinforced over knees to above crotch, heavy belt loops, hip pockets with flaps. Regular sizes 30 to 42. **37.50**

941—Raintest, full reinforced double front reaching to waistline, large seat reinforcement, with leg extensions to knees. Regular sizes 32 to 42. **39.00**

947—Raintest, 12-oz. full double front, reinforcements to waistline, large seat reinforcement to below knees. Regular sizes 32 to 42. **49.50**

NET PRICES

Figure 6. Hirsch-Weis "Raintest Work Garments," catalogue #64, pg. 4, 1925.

OUTDOOR
GARMENTS
WORK
CLOTHES
TENTS

Hirsch-Weis "Aquapelle"



UNION
MADE

"TIN PANTS" LINE

MADE from heavy brown duck treated by the Hirsch-Weis process which lengthens the life of the fabric and waterproofs it. For comfort, wear and economy Hirsch-Weis Aquapelle garments are the best clothes sold. Unlike oiled or rubber clothing, they are not hot and "clinging" but allow free air circulation. **Guaranteed waterproof.**



Jackets

922—Three patch pockets with flaps and corduroy collar..... \$39.00
Regular sizes 34, 36, 38,
Extra sizes 10% more

Pants

920—Top pockets, watch pocket, belt loops \$33.00
Regular sizes
30 to 42, in.
Extra sizes 10% more

Figure 7. Hirsch-Weis "Aquapelle," "Tin Pants" Line, catalogue #64, pg. 5, 1925.

Roebuck manufactured their “Hercules” brand of work clothing, which was advertised to have great strength of construction and long wear (Fall, 1923 catalog) (see figures 8, 9, 10, and 11). The “Hercules” brand was replaced by the “Roebuck” line of denim work clothing which was available through the 1970s (see figures 12 and 13).

Sears-Roebuck’s two major competitors, Montgomery Ward & Co., Inc. and J.C. Penney, Inc. also sold lines of denim work clothing (see figure 14 and 15). However, neither of the mail-order houses marketed work clothing lines directly to loggers. Wards did manufacture a water-repellent duck clothing line called “Shedpel,” examples of which can be seen in catalogs from the 1930s to the 1960s (see figure 16 and 17). J.C. Penney introduced the “Big Mac” brand of work clothing in the 1930s, (Probst, 1999). The company has continued to manufacture the line, but there is no indication of any specific water-repellent used in the fabric (see figures 18a, 18b, and 18c).

While there is ample documentation to support the notion that the study of costume history has merit, and that men’s occupational clothing is a legitimate field of inquiry, the research that has been done on the specific topic of men’s logging pants has been limited. Logging historians acknowledge the existence of a water-repellent, paraffin-treated work pant, known as tin-pants, used by loggers, at least seasonally, in the woods. I could find no information about how or why Pacific Northwest loggers chose one brand over another, considering the availability of several different pants. Since there was considerable competition in the marketplace, what motivated loggers to choose one brand over another? What, if any, were the advantages or disadvantages that one kind of work

clothing may have offered? Did loggers in different regions have preferences, and did those preferences change over the time period in question (1920-1970)? How important were these features on the job? These regional or period-specific preferences could be of great interest to museums or interpretive centers engaged in presenting authentic representation of the history of logging or logging occupations.

Hercules Guaranteed Overalls

You Save One-Third By Buying From Us

Famous for Great Strength



On page 318 you will find simple measuring instructions.



Some of the Features Embodied in Our Hercules Brand Overalls and Jackets

Made from Extra Heavy Weight White Back Indigo Blue Denim, a firmly woven, heavy weight cotton material, and one of the best overall fabrics on the market. Cut over EXTRA LARGE, ROOMY PATTERNS to allow for clothing worn underneath, insuring ease and comfort to the wearer. Reinforced at all strain points. Triple stitched throughout with heavy thread so they will not rip. New flexible buttons that will not pull off.

Solid High Back Style Apron Overalls

41N705—Regular Sizes..... \$1.75
41N720—Extra Sizes..... 2.19

SOLID HIGH BACK, as shown by small illustrations, gives added protection to clothing worn underneath. All pocket corners are strongly bar tacked so they will not rip. Triple stitched seams. A full and roomy garment that will give complete satisfaction. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State waist and inseam measures. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 2 pounds; extra sizes, 2 1/4 pounds.



Detachable Suspender Style Apron Overalls

41N707—Regular Sizes..... \$1.75
41N721—Extra Sizes..... 2.19

MANY PREFER THE DETACHABLE SUSPENDER STYLE. Made with elastic inserts, allowing full play at the shoulders. An exceptionally well made, comfortable garment. Strongly sewed throughout. Triple stitched seams. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State waist and inseam measures. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 2 pounds; extra sizes, 2 1/4 pounds.



Coat Style Jacket.

41N709—Regular Sizes..... \$1.75
41N723—Extra Sizes..... 2.19

TRIPLE STITCHED THREE SEAM H E A K. Turn-down band collar with tabs and extra in sleeves with adjustable cuffs which button permit wearer to tighten or loosen the collar and cuffs. A high grade coat style jacket. Very comfortable and serviceable. Four extra large pockets, bar tacked and strongly stitched. All seams are strongly sewed so as to give utmost wear. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State chest measure. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 1 1/2 pounds; extra sizes, 2 pounds.



Double Knee and Front Apron Overalls.

41N710—Regular Sizes..... \$1.98
41N724—Extra Sizes..... 2.39

FOR EXTRA HARD WEAR. Have broad double front extending below knees. Wide detachable suspenders with elastic inserts that allow play at the shoulders. Extra strong pockets bar tacked at corners. Two front pockets, deep and roomy. Reinforced at all strain points. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State waist and inseam measures. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 2 1/2 pounds; extra sizes, 2 3/4 pounds.



Double Front and Double Seat Band Top Overalls.

41N706—Regular Sizes..... \$1.75
41N719—Extra Sizes..... 1.98

WIDE DOUBLE FRONT extending below the knees and the double seat (see small illustrations) give additional life to the garment and enable it to withstand unusually hard service. Two extra deep swinging front pockets, two hip pockets and watch pocket are all strongly bar tacked at corners. Patent buttons that are made to stay on. Triple stitched seams. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State waist and inseam measures. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 2 1/4 pounds; extra sizes, 2 3/4 pounds.



California Style Band Top Overalls.

41N708—Regular Sizes..... \$1.69
41N722—Extra Sizes..... 1.98

POPULAR STYLE OVERALLS, made with strap and buckle in back, which enables wearer to tighten garment at waist and hip. Full triple stitched throughout. All pocket corners are strongly bar tacked and greatest strength embodied where most needed. You'll derive a great deal of comfort and lasting service from this garment. Furnished in regular and extra sizes. State waist and inseam measures. Shipping weight, regular sizes, 1 3/4 pounds; extra sizes, 2 1/4 pounds.



SIZES Overalls furnished in Regular Sizes, from 30 to 44 inches waist and 30 to 36 inches inseam. Extra Sizes, 46 to 56 inches waist and 30 to 36 inches inseam. Jackets furnished in Regular Sizes, from 34 to 46 inches chest and Extra Sizes from 48 to 58 inches chest. When ordering be sure to state waist and inseam measures of overalls and chest measure of jacket.

378. SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

Figure 8. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Fall catalogue, pg. 378, 1923.

I want the Best!

I ALWAYS WEAR
HERCULES
FAMOUS
AMERICA'S
No. 1 OVERALLS

Sears Ironclad Guarantee

We guarantee Hercules Overalls to outwear any overalls sold regardless of name, make or price. We guarantee Hercules Overalls against ripping. We guarantee Hercules Overalls to retain their original Indigo Blue Color longer than any others on the market. We guarantee Hercules Overalls without reservation as the best overalls and the best value in America. If for any reason whatever you are not 100% satisfied, return the overalls at our expense. This is intended to be the strongest overall guarantee ever written. SEARS, ROEBUCK and Co.

The strongest overalls in earth, bar none! For fifty years, Sears, Roebuck and Co. have been official tailors to toilers—in all quarters for tough overalls that stand the gaff, as workers everywhere will tell you. And the top of the Sears line of Sears Ironclad Hercules Overalls is HERCULES. Wherever you find our handling you will find it—because our cotton-wool steel corded in 1 1/2 inches at the waist, you find them wearing HERCULES.

Regular Sizes

\$ **44** EACH GARMENT

AND HERE'S WHY!

- Extra heavy white back indigo blue denim, specially woven over 2 oz. in every yard. More threads in the inch than any other make we have ever known.
- Doubly shrunk—once in water, once in live steam.
- Retain, practically the original color after many washings. Best grade indigo dyes used, plus a method that permits better penetration of the dyes.
- Every size cut over individual patterns.
- All strain points bartacked. Triplestitched seams.
- Best sail drill pockets, guaranteed for life of garment.
- Extra wide double thick suspenders—won't curl.
- Rustproof metal buttons and suspender buckles.
- Two pockets on hip—button down flap pocket and combination safety watch and pencil pocket.
- Double thick hammer strap. Curved rate pocket.
- Bottom half of hip pockets double thick.
- Big, roomy jacket has adjustable bann collar, button down flap on chest pocket, combination safety watch and pencil pocket, two lower pockets with bottom half double thick and roomy inside pocket.

REGULAR SIZES

Overalls, even weight, size 38 to 44 inches, even weight, size 38 to 44 inches. Style name and number on each pocket. Easy instructions on back.
 \$1 D 731—High Back Apron Style Overalls. Shipping weight, 2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.44
 \$1 D 732—Low Back Detachable Suspender Apron Style Overalls. (Suspenders have elastic inserts) Shipping weight, 2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.44
 \$1 D 733—Coat Style Jacket. Shipping weight, 2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.44
 \$1 D 737—Vest Back Apron Style Overalls. Shipping weight, 2 1/2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.44

EXTRA SIZES

Overalls, even weight, size 46 to 50 inches, even weight, size 46 to 50 inches. Style name and number on each pocket. Easy instructions on back.
 \$1 D 751—High Back Apron Style Overalls. Shipping weight, 2 1/2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.54
 \$1 D 752—Low Back Detachable Suspender Apron Style Overalls. (Suspenders have elastic inserts) Shipping weight, 2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.54
 \$1 D 753—Coat Style Jacket. Shipping weight, 2 1/2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.54



- Front and back, white back, indigo blue denim, over 2 oz. to the yard.
- Hip pockets, 15 and 20 inch, inside thick at bottom. All seams, quadruple stitched.
- Bartacked, reinforced at 20 points.
- Hammer loop, stir and rule pockets. Adjustable, 1 1/2 strap and buckle.
- Rustproof buttons.

Regular Hercules Quality \$ **15**

Best hand copy made. This is the only copy made in the world. The Hercules brand name is on every pocket. Shipping weight, 2 1/2 pounds 10 ounces. \$1.54
 \$1 D 730—Hercules Heavy Band Top Overalls \$1.15

SEARS-ROEBUCK · 325

Figure 9. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Golden Jubilee catalogue, pg. 325, 1936/1937.



Light Shrink
EXTRA HEAVY
12 OZ DENIM
Copper Riveted
77c

Western Style Yoke-Back
 Wear-resisting extra heavy, bronze white back indigo blue denim.
 —Sanforized-shrunk: easy to launder; wring your neck size.
 —Copper riveted adjustable back strap and buckle. Buckets anchored with hammer rivets.
 —Triple stitched exposed seams, sewed with orange colored thread.
 —Hand rule or plier pocket.
 —Belt loops securely bartacked.

51 D 709—Sanforized-shrunk 4-oz. Denim. 77c

Not Sanforized-Shrunk
 Same as 51 D 709 except not sanforized-shrunk. 69c

51 D 706—Mill Shrink Four Denim Bandtop. 69c

Sturdy
2.20 Weight
Value Leader
64c

Extra Strong

—Heavy, 2.20 weight Government Standard white back indigo blue denim. Mill shrink.
 —Adjustable back strap and buckle.
 —Six big, roomy pockets, including watch and rule pockets.
 —Bartacks at all strain points for positive reinforcement.
 —Guaranteed, rip-proof triple stitched seams. All stitching done with black thread.
 —Specialized "Seal-down" Search the whole bandtop pockets! We know of no other white denim equal the sturdy quality of this heavy, 2.20 weight model in any of our line.

51 D 734—Govt. Mill Shrink 4-oz. 2.20 Weight Denim. 64c



Our Best 8-Oz. Copper Riveted Bandtop
89c

Sanforized-Shrunk

—Extra heavy, bronze white back indigo blue denim.
 —Extra closely woven with finer yarns—more threads to the inch.
 —Easy to launder. Guaranteed to retain these fit. Order exact size.
 —Most user shows right specifications.
 —Copper riveted at all strain points, including adjustable back strap and buckle. Double strength.
 —Strong hammer hump; handy rule of plier pocket.
 —Strong, triple-stitched seams, sewed with orange-colored thread.
 —Hand pockets have double thickness at bottom.

51 D 710—Sanforized-shrunk 8-oz. Denim. 89c

NATION ALLS

Sanforized-Shrunk **Four Sturdy Fabrics**

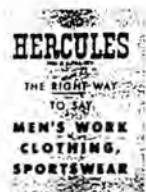
Rip-proof triple stitched seams. **\$2 19**
 All strain points reinforced for wear. Full button front. Side openings to inside trouser pockets.

—Bartacked at all strain points. **\$1 49**
 —Rip-proof triple stitched seams, strongly reinforced against wear. Seven roomy pockets.

51 D 695—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$2 19
 51 D 696—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$2 19
 51 D 697—Heavyweight White Back Indigo Blue Denim. 2.20 Weight. \$2 19
 51 D 698—Heavyweight White Back Indigo Blue Denim. 2.20 Weight. \$2 19
 51 D 699—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49
 51 D 700—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49

51 D 692—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49
 51 D 693—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49
 51 D 694—Medium Heavyweight White Back Indigo Blue Denim. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49
 51 D 691—Medium Heavyweight Blue and White Hickory Stripe. 2.20 Weight. \$1 49

Figure 10. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Golden Jubilee catalogue, pg. 326, 1936/1937.



"HERCULES"
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

**is more than
a name . . .**

HERCULES, you remember, was a hero of ancient Greece—a "superman" to the people of his time. Today, millions of Americans know HERCULES as a name for "super" work clothing and sportswear: overalls, work suits, work pants and shirts, occupational rainwear, summer slacks and slacks suits, many types of coats and jackets for on and off the job.

But HERCULES is more than a name. To men at work and at leisure, HERCULES means economy at time of purchase, economy in long wear, it means protection from the weather, and complete satisfaction in one's appearance; it means the comfort of a perfect fit and generous cutting. To women at home, women who know materials and sewing, HERCULES means less effort in the laundry, less time spent with needle and thread. So look for the label—HERCULES.

*Save it when you want quality.
Remember to do it when you want savings.*



How to measure for Hercules Work Clothing

Measure carefully and you'll have lasting comfort. Hercules' distinctive cut uses scientifically advanced graduated patterns to give you a comfort of fit no matter what your build.

JACKET—Measure chest, then loosely, then armless, usually worn underneath, such as coat or sweater. Neck tape measure will slip under shoulder and shoulder blades at neck. Number in inches or centimeters.

SHIRT—Measure around neck and down center with tape measure at front of neck that can be moved up or down. Number in inches—round up, because *Plains* is a size size.

PANTS—Take waist measurement (around waist) over waistline with all belt loops up, snug. Take inseam measurement from top of crotch to ankle (inside) usually to typical heel shoe. Your measurement is your size. *Plains* pants are 1/2 size larger than usual.

536-538 SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO. 1946

Famous Hercules

A SUPER-OUTFIT

Army-developed Sanforized Mountain Cloth was war-tested—now Hercules-made into superior clothing designed for work.

| | | |
|--------|--------|--------|
| JACKET | SHIRT | PANTS |
| \$6.45 | \$4.45 | \$4.49 |

Mountain Cloth is a super-strong, smooth-textured, 9-oz. fabric, tightly woven of 2-ply mercerized cotton yarn. Zelan-treated for durable water-repellency; Sanforized and washfast, it won't shrink over 1%. Sunfast colors.

What does this mean to me? Wear—wear beyond anything you'd expect from work clothing. 9-oz. weight is lighter than our 11-oz. whipcord (known for toughness), yet much greater in both abrasive (rubbing) and tensile (pulling) strength. Mountain Cloth will keep you warm, dry.

Only six months old—and over 100,000 men have found exclusive Hercules Mountain Cloth Outfits able to do whatever the job, the weather or repeated washings can do.

Order today. For inside work you'll want the shirt and pants; for outside, add the jacket (wear for leisure, too). Easy Terms are convenient—see inside back cover.

Mountain Cloth Jacket is trim, action-free "Battle" style. On plow with slits, waistband, adjustable, one-strap (placed without pockets). Enlist, Length, 24 1/2 in. "How to Measure" at left.
 (12) G 3121M—Coats (dark) tan Jacket, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 3 oz.
 (1) G 3122M—Medium gray blue Jacket, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 3 oz.
 (1) G 3123M—Sun (medium) tan Jacket, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 3 oz. **\$6.45**

Mountain Cloth Shirt has dress style collar, two pockets. Wash, wear, very comfortable in Sanforized, Zelan-treated, lasting water-repellency. Size: Mountain Cloth Shirt, see "How to Measure" at left.
 (12) G 3421M—Coats (dark) tan Shirt, Shipping weight 1 lb. 8 oz.
 (1) G 3422M—Medium gray blue Shirt, Shipping weight 1 lb. 8 oz.
 (1) G 3423M—Sun (medium) tan Shirt, Shipping weight 1 lb. 8 oz. **\$4.45**

Mountain Cloth Work Pants—for outstanding wear. Expertly Hercules-made. Backstitch reinforced. Five cotton-drill pockets (stitched, turned and stitched again for extra strength). 20-in. plain bottom.
 (12) G 3721M—Coats (dark) tan Pants, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 2 oz.
 (1) G 3722M—Medium gray blue Pants, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 2 oz.
 (1) G 3723M—Sun (medium) tan Pants, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 2 oz. **\$4.49**

Mountain Cloth Uniform Cap—has removable top. Great, sturdy made and easy to keep clean. Exclusive Mountain Cloth top is removable and laminating trim. Black imitation leather face and straps, split leather sweatband and adjustable neck-up crown.
 (12) G 4721M—Coats (dark) tan Cap, Shipping weight 2 lbs. 2 oz. 1946
 (1) G 4722M—Sun (medium) tan Cap
 (1) G 4723M—Coats (dark) tan Cap **\$1.69**



Figure 11. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Fall/Winter catalogue, pg. 536, 1946/1947.

ROEBUCKS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

Now . . . Sears puts its famous ROEBUCKS brand on a rugged cotton denim that's reinforced with 17% sturdy 420 nylon. Wears 50% longer than all-cotton denim . . . costs only a fraction more.

Size of Regular-Cut Jeans **\$5.67** Unlined Jacket **\$6.47**

(1 and 2) Jeans. Heavy 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ -oz. vat-dyed blue-black twill denim. Nonironed* . . . maximum fabric shrinkage 1%. Triple thick waistband . . . solid brass snap fastener. Double strength "Keystone" belt loop in center back . . . all belt loops are bar-tacked to jeans. Front pockets and watch pocket anchored with solid copper rivets. Wide double fanning on hip pockets. All seams double stitched with orange polyester core thread. Side, hip and crotch seams reinforced with bootmaker's thread. Machine wash, medium. Shipping weight each 2 pounds.

1 Regular-cut. Front pockets are curved frontier style. Bottoms approximately 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. *State waist size, then inseam size from Chart A.*
51 K 12901F \$5.67

2 Slim-cut. Tight fitting with low rise and about 14-inch bottoms. Scooped front pockets. *State waist size, then inseam size from Chart B.*
51 K 12906F \$5.61

3 Unlined Jacket. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ -ounce blue-black twill denim. Snap fastened* . . . maximum fabric shrinkage 1%. 5-way front closure . . . also snap on cuffs. Two snap-flap chest pockets (one lower front wash pocket). Two vertical pleats on each side of front opening. Yoke front and back—banded waist. Orange stitched trim—bartack reinforced. Average length 32 inches. Machine wash, medium temperature. *State chest size 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 or 46 on order.*
51 K 12962F—Shipping weight 2 lbs. 4 oz. \$6.47

| Chart A (for regular-cut) | | | | Chart B (for slim-cut) | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|----|----------------|------------------------|---------------|----|--------------------|
| Waist inches | Inseam inches | | | Waist inches | Inseam inches | | |
| 30 | 32 | 28 | 30, 32, 34, 36 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31, 32 |
| 34 | 26 | 28 | 30, 32, 34, 36 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 29, 30, 31, 32 |
| 38 | 24 | 30 | 32, 34 | 32 | 33 | 28 | 29, 30, 31, 32 |
| 40 | 22 | 30 | 32 | 34 | 34 | 28 | 29, 30, 31, 32, 34 |
| 44 | 20 | 30 | 32 | 36 | 36 | 28 | 29, 30, 31, 32, 34 |

COTTON and 420 NYLON

For Belts shown with Jeans on these 2 pages, see page 521

Figure 12. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Spring/Summer catalogue, pg. 526, 1970.



Our Best Denim
Bib Overalls and Bandtops
... all Union Made

Lab tested and proven to wear
70% longer than all-cotton

- Rugged 11 1/2-oz. denim reinforced at stress points
- 83% cotton fortified with 17% nylon, Sanforized®

Pre-dyed blue to stay blue... can't wash or wear white. Styled with two cotton button drill front pockets. Two large back pockets with double-thick bottoms (where wear is hardest). No-spill safety flap on left back pocket. Separate pockets to hold rule and pliers. Hammer loop.

Rust-resistant stainless steel hardware. Strain points are reinforced with thread bartacking. Main seams are triple-stitched for rugged handling power. Maximum fabric shrinkage 1%. Machine washable, hot water, with (1) or (2) dark. Choice of regular or extra large. Buy fun and save.

Bandtops

Regular **\$4.67**
Extra Large **\$5.17**

Fall Big Book was \$4.87 each; 2 for \$9.50. Panel back. Coin pocket. Snap fastener of stainless steel at waist. Zipper fly. *State waist size, then inches.*

| Waist, inches | Inseam, inches |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 30 | 30, 32, 34 |
| 32-40 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 34-36 | 28, 30, 32, 34, 36 |
| 36-38 | 28, 30, 32, 34, 36 |
| 42-44 | 30, 32, 34 |

Shipping weight each 1 lb. 11 oz. \$1 x 12170F. Each \$4.67. 2 for \$9.20

EXTRA LARGE SIZES. State waist size 36, 42, 48, 50, 52, 54 or 56 and then inseam (30, 32 or 34 inches). Shipping weight each 2 pounds. \$1 x 12173E. Each \$5.17. 2 for \$10.30

Bib Overalls

Regular **\$6.77**
Extra Large **\$7.27**

High back, adjustable double suspender straps. Zipper bib pocket, two pencil slots and watch compartment. Convenient coin pocket. Zipper fly. *State waist size, then inches.*

| Waist, inches | Inseam, inches |
|---------------|----------------|
| 32 | 28, 30, 32 |
| 34-36-38 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 40-42 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 44-46 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 48-50 | 28, 30, 32 |

Shipping weight each 2 lbs. 4 oz. \$1 x 12423F. Each \$6.77. 2 for \$13.40

EXTRA LARGE SIZES. State waist size 34 or 36 inches, then inseam (28, 30 or 32 inches). Shipping weight each 2 lbs. 11 oz. \$1 x 12423E. Each \$7.27. 2 for \$14.40



Cotton Denim Bib Overalls, Bandtops and Chore Coat... all Union Made

Bib Overalls **\$4.77**
Bandtop **\$3.77**
Chore Coat **\$4.77**

1 thru 3 | Abrasion-resistant finish. Heavyweight 10-ounce fabric or closer woven to give long, hard wear. Deep vat-dyed denim... no there's no need to wash separately. Machine washable, hot, with other darks. Sanforized®... maximum fabric shrinkage 1%.

Check these great built-for-wear features: triple-stitched seams... strain points are thread bartacked. (1) and (2) have back pockets with double-thick bottoms (where wear is heaviest), long-wearing cotton drill front pockets, separate pockets designed to hold rule and pliers, convenient hammer loops.

1 Bib Overalls. High-back. Handy snap bib pocket. Sturdy brass-plate steel hardware. Blue.

Please state waist size, then inseam and then inches. *State waist, in. Inseam, inches*

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 30 | 28, 30, 32 |
| 32-34-36-38 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 40-42 | 28, 30, 32, 34 |
| 44 | 28, 30, 32 |

\$1 x 12340F. Wt. ea. 2 lbs. 4 oz. Each \$4.77. 2 for \$9.40

Hickory Stripe (see small view). Blue, white. Please state waist size, then inseam from Chart under extra large.

\$1 x 12320F. Wt. ea. 2 lbs. 10 oz. Each \$4.79. 2 for \$9.40

2 Bandtop. Comfortable yoke back. Zipper fly. Blue.

Please state waist size, then inseam. *State waist, in. Inseam, inches*

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| 30 | 30, 32 |
| 32-34-36-38 | 30, 32, 34 |
| 40 | 30 |

\$1 x 12130F. Wt. ea. 7 oz. 9 gm. Each \$3.77. 2 for \$7.40

3 Chore Coat. Unlined. Main seams are triple-stitched for additional strength. Four handy outside pockets and one inside pocket. Vat dyed. Blue to stay blue... can't wash or wear white. Length is about 31 1/2 inches.

Please state waist size 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48 or 50 inches. \$1 x 12520F. Wt. ea. 1 lb. 11 oz. Each \$4.77. 2 for \$9.40

Even at this
Low, Low Price
\$2.77
each

These Bandtops are made
of heavyweight 10-ounce
blue cotton denim



Reinforced with double stitching; bartacked strain points. Standard notch (blue) fly. Sanforized®. Maximum fabric shrinkage 1%. Machine wash, separately, hot. 2 front pockets, 2 back pockets plus coin and rule pockets. Yoke back. Snap fastener at waistband. Zipper fly. *State waist size, then inches.*

| Waist, inches | Inseam, inches |
|---------------|----------------|
| 30 | 30, 32 |
| 32-34-36-38 | 30, 32, 34 |
| 40 | 30 |

\$1 x 12110F. Wt. ea. 1 lb. 4 oz. Each \$2.77. 2 for \$5.40

Figure 13. Sears, Roebuck and Company, Spring/Summer catalogue, pg. 528, 1970.

Roomy, Rip Proof Garments

\$1.39 Jacket or Overalls
 Olive Drab Khaki
 Made-up in Stone
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 inches.
 Waist, 30 to 48 inches. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 in.
 Unusually good. All set Jacket of medium weight khaki. Turn-down collar. Four pockets. Strong construction and a reasonable amount of wear. The overalls are made with engineer's style back belt. Extra attached suspenders, six pockets etc. Both jacket and overalls have triple breast straps. These garments combine strength with long wearing qualities.
 42 C 6170—Jacket.
 42 C 6170—Overalls.
 PRICE, Each, \$1.39
 Postage, each, 3c extra

\$2.15 One-Piece Combination Overall Suits
 Khaki. Double or Single's Size
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 inches. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 in. 20-22-24 inches.
 These will sustain the most severe work under the most trying conditions. Made with triple breast straps. Suspenders, four pockets and six eye buttons. Buttons down the front which has the greatest service life in working men's machinery. Green and blue.
 42 C 6171—Olive Drab Khaki.
 42 C 6172—Single Blue Double and Twin Stripes.
 42 C 6173—Single's Extra Blue, Double Stripes Drab.
 PRICE, Each, \$2.15
 Postage, each, 3c extra

\$1.39 Jacket or Overalls
 Indigo Blue
 Walnut Stripe Drab
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 inches. Waist, 30 to 48 inches. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 in.
 Work clothes of great strength, but especially noteworthy in that Canvas Khaki's medium heavy and is still. The jacket is made in three-piece style and has four pockets. Overalls are full cut and heavy. They have 41 buttons (7) and 40 buttons. All garments have triple breast straps. Unbreakable suspensives with attached straps. All sizes are 1 1/2 size extra.
 42 C 6174—Jacket.
 42 C 6175—Overalls.
 PRICE, Each, \$1.39
 Postage, each, 3c extra

\$1.33 Jacket and Overalls
 Grey and Black
 Two Colors Green
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 inches. Waist, 30 to 48 inches. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 in.
 Made from heavy weight cotton, worst cloth. Will give maximum long service. They are not too heavy, however. Full cut overalls made in both three and two breast strap styles. All pockets, back pockets have triple breast straps. All parts of straps are full length.
 42 C 6176—Jacket.
 42 C 6177—Overalls.
 PRICE, Each, \$1.33
 Postage, each, 3c extra

Extra Size Jackets and Overalls
 The following are made from heavy-weight indigo blue double and single breast straps.

\$1.29 Pants Style Overalls
 Same Material as 42 C 6170
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 in. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 in.
 Turn-down collar. Extra suspenders. Extra attached suspenders. Five pockets. Reinforced fly and straps.
 42 C 6178—Khaki only.
 PRICE, \$1.29
 Postage, 3c extra

\$1.23 Pants Style Overalls
 Same Material as 42 C 6170
 EVEN SIZES Chest, 36 to 48 inches. Length, 30 to 32 1/2 inches.
 Full cut pants style overalls. Suspenders and triple breast straps. Five pockets. Reinforced fly and straps.
 42 C 6179—Grey and Black only. PRICE, \$1.23
 Postage, 3c extra

Ward's Work Shoes combine comfort and long wear. Pages 301, 304 and 305

Figure 14. Montgomery Ward & Company catalogue, pg. 283, 1922.



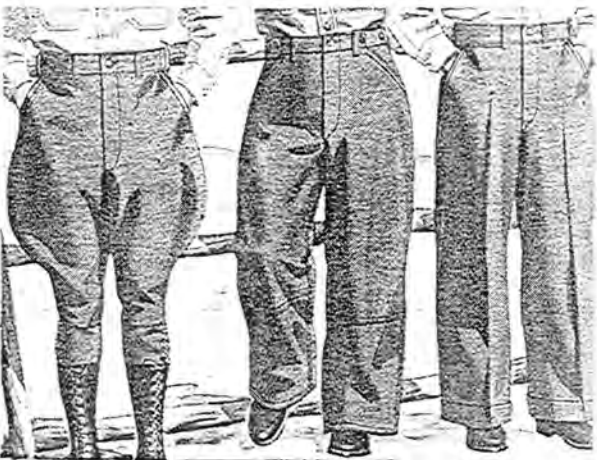
WARDS SUPER-SHEDPEL

FINEST ARMY DUCK

For quality, high level Army Duck, specially woven of American Cotton to meet the most exacting requirements for strength, Fluid Tapes in each seam and lining are tightly trenched for extra strength - making Shedpel Finish Garments more waterproof, longer wearing than any other Duck and its coverings.

SHEDPEL DRY FINISH

The most permanent water-repellent finish on earth. This Shedpel is specially treated to repel water, even in snow. This permanent full protection from the elements. All the water from the famous Shedpel "Dry" finish into the fabric "breathes", permits air to circulate, making the garments more comfortable and keeping you healthful.



Double Thick 8-oz. Shedpel Finish Duck

Carrot Leg Sweater
Finest Army Duck

\$285



- Made with 42 the Finest Shedpel Finish Duck
- Double Thick Finish
- Double Thick Lining
- Double Thick Lining

• Double Thick Lining
• Double Thick Lining
• Double Thick Lining
• Double Thick Lining

42 C 5888 - Heavy Carrot Leg Sweater \$2.85

Water-Repellent Waist Pants
• Plain Bottom Style



- Head the Famous Shedpel Finish at Top of Collar
- Neck Straps with Snap Buttons
- Snap Buttons at Waist
- Snap Buttons at Waist

• Snap Buttons at Waist
• Snap Buttons at Waist

42 C 5890 - Heavy Waist Pants \$2.85

Single-Thick Shedpel

Regular Pants Style in Water-Repellent Duck

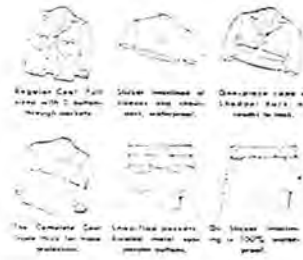
\$189



- Head the Famous Shedpel Finish at Top of Collar
- Neck Straps with Snap Buttons
- Snap Buttons at Waist
- Snap Buttons at Waist

• Snap Buttons at Waist
• Snap Buttons at Waist

42 C 5889 - Heavy Single-Thick Pants \$1.89



Oil Slicker Interlined

8-oz. Shedpel Finish Army Duck

Down-Front Shedpel Step Coat

\$319

• Down-Front Shedpel Step Coat
• Down-Front Shedpel Step Coat
• Down-Front Shedpel Step Coat

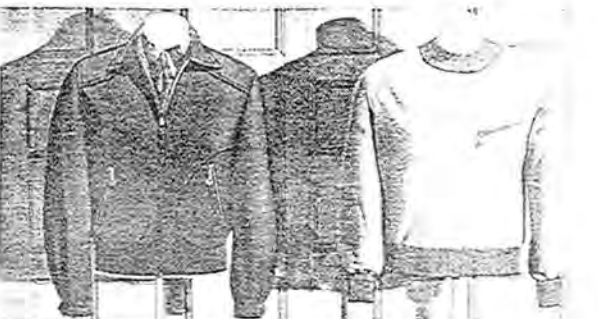
42 C 5891 - Heavy Down-Front Shedpel Step Coat \$3.19

Oil Slicker Interlined Pants

\$319

• Oil Slicker Interlined Pants
• Oil Slicker Interlined Pants
• Oil Slicker Interlined Pants

42 C 5892 - Heavy Oil Slicker Interlined Pants \$3.19



You'll Save at Wards on Newest Western-Made Jackets

Feather-Weight Sports Jacket

\$450



- Feather-Weight Sports Jacket
- Feather-Weight Sports Jacket
- Feather-Weight Sports Jacket

• Feather-Weight Sports Jacket
• Feather-Weight Sports Jacket

42 C 5893 - Heavy Feather-Weight Sports Jacket \$4.50

Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover

\$285



- Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover
- Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover
- Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover

• Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover
• Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover

42 C 5894 - Heavy Seam and Shoulder Reinforced Light-Weight Slipover \$2.85

WORLD WARDS

Figure 15. Montgomery Ward & Company catalogue, pg. 320, 1939/1941.



Heavy-duty Work Clothing and Rainwear

100% WATERPROOF RAINWEAR...RUGGED WORK WEAR...AT MONEY SAVING PRICES

WARDS HEAVY-DUTY AND 100% WATERPROOF WEAR 1.49 TO 18.98
 Coat "B" is 100% Virgin Wool Whipcord—tops in warmth, wear and resistance. "C" and "D" are tough, Army type Duck, known for its strength and resistance to use. Other garments are made from armory nylon fabric with 3 coatings of Buna S Synthetic Rubber for 100% rain protection.

NEOPRENE FOR EXTRA RESISTANCE TO OILS 6.89 AND 9.89
 Here's complete rain protection plus Neoprene's superior resistance to grease, oil and most solvents. Strong Cotton fabric base has both sides double coated with this 100% Waterproof Synthetic Rubber.

A RUBBER COAT. Cape back gives extra protection over most exposed areas. 11 Concealed air-vents under cape, 6 under arms. Slit, buckle fastener. 2 flap pockets. Corduroy edged collar. Vulcanized seams. Abs. 48 in. long. Back. Even Chest. Size: 36 to 48-in. 42 C 2961—Ship. wt. 3 lbs. 4 oz. State size. \$8.98
BLACK RUBBER UTILITY COAT. Style same as "A" but no cape, has rayon sleeves, plain collar. 42 C 2910—Ship. wt. 3 lbs. State size. \$6.99

B RUBBER JACKET. Yellow or Black. Interlocking snap front. Reversed storm points. Corduroy edged collar. Vent holes. Vulcanized seams. Small (36 to 38 in. chest); Med. (40-42); Large (44-46). Ex. Lng. (48 in.). About 30 in. long. 42 C 2853—Wt. 2 lbs. 4 oz. State size, color. \$5.98
BLACK OR YELLOW HOODED RUBBER JACKET. Hood for work or sport. Drawstring in hood. Ship. wt. 2 lbs. 4 oz. State size and color. 42 C 2854—Same, other details as in "E". \$6.29

C NEOPRENE JACKET. 100% waterproof. Storm fly front with rustproof snap fasteners. Corduroy edged collar, wool's cloth. About 30 in. long. Ship. wt. 2 lbs. Size: Some as jacket "E" at left. 42 C 2862—Black. State size. \$6.89
NEOPRENE COAT. Same styling throughout as Coat "A," including the extra capeback for better protection over the most exposed areas. Air-vents under cape for better circulation. Slit and buckle fasteners. About 48 inches long. Back. 42 C 2865—Even Chest: 36 to 48. Ship. wt. 1 lb. 2 oz. State size. \$9.99

D NEOPRENE OVERALLS. Full bib, adjustable shoulder straps, reinforced crotch and storm points. Size: Some as Overall "G." Wt. 2 lbs. 42 C 2863—Black. State size. \$6.89
CURRY JACKET. "I." Overall "M." 42 C 2864—Wt. 4 lbs. State size. \$12.29

VIRGIN WOOL OR SHEPHEL DUCK
B Virgin Wool Whipcord Coat. Suggested 16H-16L fabric gives terrific wear, warmth. Storm back a double thick. Large utility pocket across lower back slit open at both sides, 4 large front pockets (right chest has zipper change pocket). Coat-working snap fasteners on front pockets. Cuffs adjust. Unlined. Dry clean. Abs. 30 in. long. Forest Green or Gray. Even Chest: 36 to 48 in. 42 C 2375—Ship. wt. 3 lbs. State chest, color. \$18.98

RUBBER OVERALLS. Yellow or Black. Adjustable waist and shoulder straps. High bib. Reinforced crotch and storm points. Vulcanized seams. Small (32 to 34 in. waist); Med. (36 to 38); Large (40 to 42); Extra Large (44). Length: 29 only. 42 C 2856—Ship. wt. 2 lbs. State size, color. \$5.98
CURRY. 2 pcs. State size, color. Wt. 4 lbs. 4 oz. 42 C 2857—Jacket "E." Overall "G." above. \$11.49
42 C 2858—Jacket "E." Overall "G." above. \$11.79
BLACK RUBBER APRON (not shown). Full cut. Vulcanized seams. Reinforced wrists. Tie straps. 42 C 2859—Abs. 34½ by 43½ in. Wt. 2 lbs. \$1.98

WOOL WHIPCORD 13.98 AND 12.29
E JACKET. Warm, durable 17-oz. Wool. A favorite in heavy-duty work wear. Double fabric elbows. Zipper front, chest pockets, 2 button flap pockets. Adjustable waist belt, action back. Unlined. Even Chest: 36 to 48 in. Forest Green or Sage Gray. Dry clean. State size, color. 42 C 2375—Ship. wt. 2 lbs. 4 oz. \$13.98

100% NYLON 5.49 AND 7.59
F Minicore Nylon. Durable, weighs less than 1 lb. yet is strong enough for toughest jobs. Cuffs and collar fit easily into most pockets. Resists stains. Allows freedom of movement. Rubberized coating inside, vulcanized seams for 100% Waterproofing. Tan. (B) PANTS. Adjustable waist straps, drawstring at hood neck. Zipper front on chest. Some sizes as 50, keyed "I." 42 C 2807—Wt. 10 oz. State size. \$7.59
(F) PANTS. Adjustable ankle, drawstring closure at waist, 2 snap button bottoms. Some sizes as 50, keyed "E." 42 C 2807—Wt. 8 oz. State size. \$5.49
2-Pc. CURRY. PANTS. "R." PANTS "T." 42 C 2807—Wt. 1 lb. State size. \$12.29

C SWEATED JACKET. Western mode. Heavy, 2-ply Army type Duck. Repels moisture. Shoulder cape (13 in. down front, 22 in. down back) with plastic interlining. Snap fasteners. Reinforced. Olive Drab only. Size: 15 (34 to 36 in. chest); 16 (38-40); 17 (42-44); 18 (46-48). Shipping wt. 4 lbs. 42 C 2832—State size number 15, 16, 17 or 18. \$8.98

YELLOW OR BLACK RUBBER HAT. Extra wide back stiffened brim. Chin strap. Size: 6½, 7, 7½, 7¾. To measure how we fitting nose. 42 C 2853—Ship. wt. 5 oz. State size, color. \$1.49

PANTS. Heavy 17-oz. Wool. Top in warmth and long wear for toughest mid-weather jobs. Waistband, five pockets of heavy Drill. Ripstop Ripper fly, plain bottoms. Reinforced. Forest Green, Sage Gray. Dry clean. Size: See Size, Pg. 397. Wt. 2 lbs. 4 oz. 42 C 1490—State size, color. \$12.29

(F) PANTS. Heavy 17-oz. Wool. Top in warmth and long wear for toughest mid-weather jobs. Waistband, five pockets of heavy Drill. Ripstop Ripper fly, plain bottoms. Reinforced. Forest Green, Sage Gray. Dry clean. Size: See Size, Pg. 397. Wt. 2 lbs. 4 oz. 42 C 1490—State size, color. \$12.29

D SHEPHEL PANTS. 2-ply, 10-oz. water-repellent Army type Duck with plastic interlining. Double layers of Duck from waist to below knees. 2 deep footpad side pockets, 2 large snap-secured hip pockets. Button fly. Olive Drab only. Even Waist: 30 to 42 in. Inseam: 30, 32 or 34 in. 42 C 2833—Ship. wt. 4 lbs. State size. \$8.98

RUBBER PANTS. Olive Drab or Black. Slipover style. Slaps at neck, drawstring in bottom, attached hood. Seams sewn, cemented, taped. Small (36-38 in. chest); Med. (40-42); Large (44-46). About 30 inches long. State size, color. 42 C 2859—Shipping weight 1 lb. 8 oz. \$4.19

RUBBER OVERALLS. Olive Drab or Black. Adjustable shoulder straps and waist. Zipper fly, attached seams. Small (32-34 in. waist); Medium (36-38); Large (40-42); Inseam 28 inches only. 42 C 2860—Wt. 1 lb. 8 oz. State size, color. \$3.98
CURRY PANTS. "I" and Overall "H" above. 42 C 2861—Ship. wt. 3 lbs. State size, color. \$7.85

NEW PLASTIC "BIRDIE" OUTFIT 4.19
 Proprietary "Ewee" 2-pc. outfit, styled like "H" and "T." Lightweight, smooth and flexible. Seams quickly wipe off. 100% waterproof. Resists cracking, tearing. Zipper closure with protective full-bib coverage when zipper is open. Elastic wrist and waist bands. Drawstring hood attached to both chest. Medium (38-40). Large (42-44). 42 C 2805—Ship. wt. 1 lb. 4 oz. State size. \$4.19

398 WARDS

Figure 17. Montgomery Ward & Company catalogue, pg. 398, 1956.

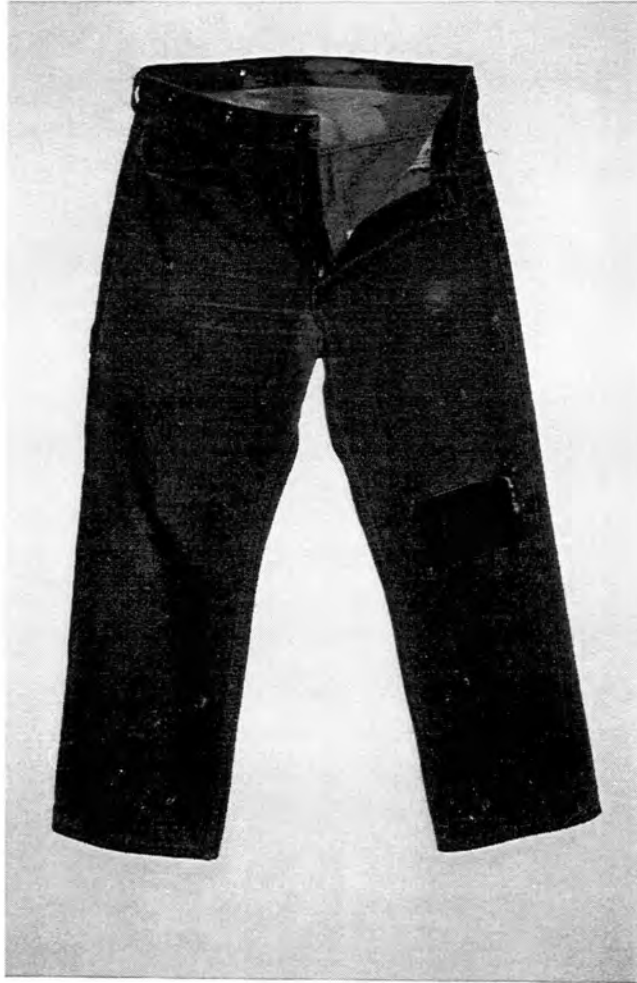


Figure 18a. Front view of J.C. Penney, Inc. "Big Mac" denim work jeans. c.1980.



Figure 18b. Rear view of J.C. Penney, Inc. "Big Mac" denim work jeans. c.1980.



Figure 18c. Close up front view of J.C. Penney, Inc. "Big Mac" denim work jeans.
c.1980.

CHAPTER 4: INTERVIEWS WITH 18 WESTERN OREGON LOGGERS

This chapter summarizes the work histories of informants who worked in the logging industry in Western Oregon.

Informant #1, Robert A. Cookson

Mr. Cookson was born in 1918, in Opheim, Montana. He and his family moved to Oregon in 1935. In 1936, at the age of 18, Mr. Cookson went to work in the woods outside of Holly, Oregon in Linn County. Holly is



Figure 19. Informant Robert A. Cookson, 1996.

approximately five miles southwest of Sweet Home, Oregon. During the spring of 1936, Mr. Cookson

and his father went to work for a small saw mill and logging operation located along Brush Creek, outside of Crawfordsville, Linn County, Oregon. Mr. Cookson's years working in the woods products industry were spent as a logger or a saw mill employee. Mr. Cookson's experience working in the woods afforded him the opportunity to learn the skills associated with all aspects of hand logging; falling and bucking timber; setting chokers and setting rigging. He worked in the woods from the summer of 1936 through the winter of 1938 in the Grande Ronde area of Polk County, Oregon. Mr. Cookson's first

job working in a saw mill was in 1938. He spent his entire career in the wood products industry in the mid-Willamette Valley area.

Even though Mr. Cookson spent a limited number of years actually working as a logger in Western Oregon, Mr. Cookson always associated himself with the loggers way of life. Mr. Cookson died January 14, 1997 at his home in Turner, Oregon.

Robert Cookson had a fascination with and an unparalleled understanding of the logging and lumbering industry in the Pacific Northwest. His personal interest was continually developing through his many acquaintances with former loggers. He also held an extensive personal library of logging and lumbering publications.

In 1950, Mr. Cookson went to work for the State of Oregon Workers' Compensation Board as a safety inspector. During this time, he inspected the mechanical equipment used in logging operations. Throughout his career, Mr. Cookson acquired a thorough understanding and background of logging history, technological innovations and development of logging equipment as well as a knowledge of types of clothing worn by loggers and lumber men in the Pacific Northwest.

Informant #2, Harold L. McKern

Harold McKern was born in 1916. Harold went to work in the woods about 1940. Mr. McKern referred to his job as being a "cutter" [a person whose primary duty is to fall timber]. Mr. McKern and his family lived in the Brownsville, Oregon area for nearly 50 years. He first worked along the McKenzie River, Lane County, Oregon. Mr. McKern spent his entire career, from about 1940 to 1978, as a timber faller.

Mr. McKern first started falling timber with a logger's hand or felling saw. In Mr. McKern's long career as a logger, he experienced first hand the major developments and innovations in felling hand and power tools that are commonly used in logging. Most notably, Mr. McKern saw the introduction of power saws to the Pacific Northwest.



Figure 20. Informant Harold L. McKern, 2000.

Mr. McKern's working career was divided among working in either Lane, Polk, or Linn County.

Harold McKern was always willing to mentor loggers new to the business, and shared his many years of experience. A favorite saying of Mr. McKern's is "If there was a road up to the moon, the Gippos [loggers] would have logged it a long time ago!"

Informant #3, Robert Waibel

Mr. Waibel worked in the woods in Western Oregon from 1952 to 1982. He spent his entire logging career as a timber faller working throughout Linn County, near Brownsville and Sweet Home. To this day, Mr. Waibel's primary hobby continues to be competing in World Timber Carnival Championships, a hobby that has led him throughout North America, and New Zealand. He is proud that he continues to introduce many young

people to the sport of logging competitions. Through this sport, he feels that he has helped people appreciate the skills of those who make their living by working outdoors.

Throughout his career, Mr. Waibel paid close attention to the demands his activities placed on his work clothing. He always kept abreast of new designs in work boots, shirts, and pants.

Informant #4, Dwight Templeton

Dwight Templeton was born in 1916. In 1935 he started his first logging job as a whistle punk and steam donkey fire wood cutter, near Horton, Lane County, Oregon. He spent the first part of his career in the woods in Lane County.



Figure 21. Informant Dwight Templeton, 1996.

Mr. Templeton worked his way up the “chain of command” of logging equipment operations jobs from whistle punk and wood cutter to fireman. A fireman was the person who placed wood in and tended the firebox of steam-powered logging equipment. He first operated a steam donkey in 1941/42 in the Sweet Home, Oregon area. Mr. Templeton continued operating logging equipment until 1979. Mr. Templeton spent a short time in 1948, operating a truck in Powers, Oregon. In 1948, he returned to the Sweet Home area and continued working as a donkey operator. His last logging job was in 1979 in Alaska.

Mr. Templeton, like so many others who worked in the woods product industry during the last half of the 20th century, saw many changes associated with evolving technologies. Mr. Templeton not only has a remarkable understanding of mechanics but he also has the ability to recollect the work clothing he purchased throughout his career in the woods.

Informant #5, Gene Caswell

Gene Caswell worked in the woods of Western Oregon between the years of 1927 and 1960. His first job was cutting firewood in Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon, in the present vicinity of Walnut Boulevard and Kings Avenue.

This area now is covered in asphalt and is home to the Winco Foods grocery store. Mr. Caswell

spent the majority of his working career as a timber faller and buckler. During the early years of his career, Mr. Caswell worked in both Linn and Benton Counties, while his wife taught school in Corvallis. In 1938, Mr. Caswell traveled to Marcola, Lane County, Oregon, and worked as a timber faller. For most of his later career Mr. Caswell worked along the Calapooia River, outside of Holly and Sweet Home, Linn County, Oregon.



Figure 22. Informant Gene Caswell, 1996.

Informant #6, I.B. “Jingles” Lambert

I.B. Lambert was born in 1909, in Stockholm, Sweden. His parents emigrated to the United States in 1910. Mr. Lambert started working in the woods in 1921 for the Powers Lumber Company outside of Coos Bay, Oregon. His first job was cutting firewood for steam powered logging equipment. In 1922, he went to Valsetz, Polk County, Oregon and worked with his father. In 1926 he graduated from Falls City High School.

I.B. Lambert worked in the woods in Western Oregon until the time of his retirement from the Boise Cascade Company in 1976. His logging and lumbering career spanned approximately 55 years. The first part of his career was spent performing duties most often given to those new to the work. He started cutting firewood and whistle punking [operating a steam powered signal whistle which, through a specified predetermined number of blasts, informed the equipment operator which way to maneuver logs in the woods]. The majority of his working career was spent in Polk County, Oregon. He and his wife were among the first families to live in company housing for workers in Valsetz.



Figure 23. Informant I.B. “Jingles” Lambert, seated front row, far left. Fanno Ridge, Polk County, Oregon, 1928 (I.B. Lambert Collection).

Because Mr. Lambert's career in the Valsetz area was so long, he is regarded as an authority on the history of lumbering in this part of the Willamette Valley.

Informant #7, Charles V. Ames

Charlie Ames was born January 23, 1914, in Portland, Oregon. In 1928, at the age of 14, he went to work in the woods. His first job as a whistle punk was a position at which most all young men new to the woods started. This job was taught to him by his father at Black Rock, Polk County, Oregon. Soon after starting as a whistle punk, he graduated to second rigger [the assistant to the 1st rigger, or person responsible for setting



Figure 24. Informant Charles V. Ames, Valsetz, Oregon, c.1928 (Charles V. Ames Collection).

out and affixing necessary steel cables and equipment necessary for moving or "yarding" logs in the woods]. After working as a second rigger, Mr. Ames began high climbing [the person who climbed trees, often in excess of 150 feet in height, cleared the limbs, and positioned cables and blocks and tackle atop the tree, commonly called a spar pole]. This job was regarded as the most dangerous position performed in the woods.

On May 15, 1950. Mr. Ames and William Fallert started the South Coast Lumber Company, in Brookings, Oregon.

Mr. Fallert oversaw mill operations while Mr. Ames headed up logging operations.

Mr. Ames is most proud of the fact that in 1941 he was the first Albany, World Timber Carnival High Champion Climber.



Figure 25. Informant Charles V. Ames observing Mark A. Gullickson bucking a log using a saw and undercutter, Wilsonville, Oregon, 1996.

Mr. Ames' career in the woods ended with his retirement in 1973. Having just celebrated his 86th birthday, Charles Ames truly represents the definition of the "old-time" logger, from an era no longer remembered by many who have first hand knowledge of a fading way of life in the Pacific Northwest. Mr. Ames' life and experiences in the woods have inspired numerous articles, most notably by Pacific Northwest author Stewart Holbrook.

Informant #8, Frank "Tex" Blazek

Mr. Blazek was born in 1908. During the winter of 1921, he and his family came to Oregon, where they settled in Mill City, Linn County. In 1923 at the age of 16, Mr. Blazek started working in the woods as a whistle punk. He worked for the Hammond Lumber Company, located in Detroit, Oregon. While working for the

Hammond Lumber Company, he lived at the company's logging camp, known as Camp 17. This camp was located in the present city of Detroit, Oregon. After starting his career in the woods as a whistle punk, he was promoted to choker-setter, a position that requires men to wrap large wire cables around logs, which are lying on the ground, bringing one end of the cable around the log and locking it into a metal holding device called a choker bell. The other end of the cable, having a loop opening, is placed in a hook shaped cable which is then pulled using a steam powered machine called a steam donkey.

In 1928, Mr. Blazek worked for Christian Brothers Lumber Company, again as a choker setter. For a short time in 1929, he set chokers in Black Rock, Polk County, Oregon. In 1929/31, Mr. Blazek returned to the Santiam Canyon area of Linn and Marion counties and worked for a small logging company called Sullivan Brothers. Mr. Blazek's primary job was to keep a steady supply of firewood cut and at the ready for the powering of three steam donkeys.

Between the years of 1923/24 and 1930, Mr. Blazek continued working in the woods. From 1930 to 1936, he operated a milk delivery business for Bordens Condensory, located in Albany, Oregon. In 1936 to 1941, Mr. Blazek operated a small tavern in Mill City, called "Tex's Tavern." In 1941, Mr. Blazek returned to the logging profession, working for the Gooch Lumber Company, and continued working in many different positions until his retirement from logging in 1976.

The majority of Mr. Blazek's logging career was spent working throughout the Santiam Canyon area within both Linn and Marion Counties. One of Mr. Blazek's fondest memories of logging was observing the operation of the last logging donkey used in the Santiam Canyon by the Gooch Lumber Company. This donkey was a Willamette model 10-13 diesel.

Informant #9, Howard Brunson

Mr. Brunson was born January 1901, in the Chehalem Mountain area of Yamhill County, Oregon. His family operated a small farm which produced prunes and hops. Mr. Brunson first went to work in the woods during the fall of 1922. Mr. Brunson clearly recalls receiving his first logging



Figure 26. Informant Howard Brunson, 1996.

job through an employment office located in downtown Portland, Oregon, in an area known as the "slave market." This method of finding work in the woods of Western Oregon was common at the time. A man would review current job postings located on a bulletin board at the employment office, pay a small fee for the job referral, then proceed to the job. Mr. Brunson was sent to work in the woods 35 miles above the north fork of

the Clackamas River, near Estacada. Mr. Brunson's job was second tree faller, working for camp 12.

In 1923, Mr. Brunson went to work falling timber by hand in central Lincoln County, Oregon, near the city of Yachats. Mr. Brunson recalled at the time it required two days to fall three trees by hand. Between the years of 1923 and 1966, Mr. Brunson spent the majority of his working career throughout the central Oregon coast range, as a timber faller and buckler (one who fell trees and then cut them into manageable lengths for removal from the woods).

Like so many other loggers of Mr. Brunson's generation, Mr. Brunson was keenly aware of the changes to the environment caused by logging. Mr. Brunson has spent his retirement years working to educate younger generations about the importance of sustainable forest land use practices and ecosystem management.

Informant #10, Arlie Dickie

Arlie Dickey was born in 1916, in Shaniko, Oregon. The Dickie family moved to Santiam Canyon area of Marion and Linn Counties about 1922. Mr. Dickie started working in the woods in 1929, in the Detroit area. He was 13 years old. Mr. Dickie's first job was as a choker setter.

Mr. Dickie's extensive logging career took him to many locations throughout Oregon's central coast mountain range. He worked between the years of 1934 and 1937/38 in the areas of Neahkahnie and Foss, located in Tillamook County. Throughout most of the 1940's, Mr. Dickie worked as a timber faller and buckler in

the Mill City area of Marion County, Oregon. During the 1950's, he was a self-employed logger, working at various locations throughout the Santiam Canyon area as well as the central Oregon coast mountain range. Mr. Dickie retired from logging in 1969.



Figure 27. Informants Arlie Dickie, at left, and George Dickie, Mill City, Oregon, 1996.

Informant #11, George Dickie

George Dickie was born in 1920, in Hood River, Oregon. Like his older brother, Arlie Dickie, George spent the majority of his working life as a timber faller and buckler in and around the Santiam Canyon area. In 1934, at age 14, George worked as a whistle punk. In 1935, he worked for Johnson Brothers Logging, in the Santiam Canyon area. Through 1951 Mr. Dickie continued working in the Santiam Canyon area until he was

involved in a work-related accident. Injury left Mr. Dickie unable to return to work until 1958.

In 1958, Mr. Dickie began working for Christian Brothers Lumber Company, out of Springfield, Lane County, Oregon.

Throughout most of the 1960's,

Mr. Dickie worked throughout

Lane County. He spent time in the

Reedsport and Gardner areas

of Douglas County as well.

Mr. Dickie retired from logging in

1973. When asked if he and his older

brother had ever worked together,

Mr. Dickie replied that they decided

that they would not work together for

fear they might be killed simultaneously

in an accident.



Figure 28. Informant George Dickie wearing staged denim pants, Reedsport, Oregon, 1968 (G. Dickie Collection).

Informant #12, Finley Hays

Mr. Hays' life focused around the logging industry in the Pacific Northwest.

A noted authority on the early logging industry in both Washington State and Oregon,

Mr. Hays gained his experience in the woods of Western Oregon between the years of

1953 and 1959 He was employed as a high climber/rigging slinger and as a faller and

bucker. In 1951, Mr. Hays worked in the Florence area of Lane County. In addition

to working in Lane County, Mr. Hays worked in Linn County, near the areas of Sweet Home and Foster, during 1955 and 1956. During the end of Mr. Hays' time spent logging in Oregon, he worked in both the Hebo area of Tillamook County and Reedsport area of Douglas County.

Mr. Hays is a well-known author and publisher of material relating to a number of Pacific Northwest logging and lumbering topics. Having been associated with the logging industry for more than 50 years, he kept abreast of changes in technology and changes in clothing used by loggers and lumbermen alike. Mr. Hays founded and publishes the loggers' trade journal "Loggers World," and continues to write articles and books about Pacific Northwest logging history.

Informant # 13, Glenn L. Althaus

Mr. Althaus was born in 1928 in Topeka, Kansas. He came to Oregon with his family in 1942. Mr. Althaus began working in the woods with his father in 1943 near the small community of Chapman, located half-way between Scappoose and Vernonia, in Columbia County, Oregon. Together they worked falling and bucking timber. In 1944, Mr. Althaus and his father moved to a logging site outside of present day Gresham, Multnomah County, Oregon, where they cut firewood. In 1945, Mr. Althaus and his father continued working together in the woods outside of Scappoose, Oregon.

Before 1945, Mr. Althaus recalled that he and his father used hand saws to fall and buck timber. In December of 1945, Mr. Althaus remembered purchasing

his first power saw, a Maul Model #6. Mr. Althausser also operated logging equipment, such as a caterpillar tractor, which was used to drag logs out of the woods to landing areas where logs were kept until they were taken to a saw mill. The majority of Mr. Althausser's career was spent as an equipment operator until he retired in 1955.

Since Mr. Althausser spent the majority of his career in the woods as an equipment operator, the clothing demands of his logging tasks were slightly different than those who spent their work day out in the woods, working on the ground.

Informant #14, Fred A. "Ted" Hendrix

Mr. Hendrix was born in 1917. He started working in the woods in 1929. At the age of 12, he began cutting timber with family members on acreage where the Hendrix family lived, in Lobster Valley, Benton County, Oregon. Lobster Valley is located in Oregon's Central Coast range. In 1939/40, Mr. Hendrix started his first logging job away from Lobster Valley. He went to work for the Hadley and Harris Company, logging within the Santiam Canyon area of Marion County, Oregon. While working in Marion County, Mr. Hendrix primarily fell and bucked timber using hand saws, and operated various types of logging equipment. In 1945, Mr. Hendrix returned to Lobster Valley, where he continued logging until 1956.

Mr. Hendrix was able to recall specific manufacturers who produced work clothing from the 1930's through the 1950's. Mr. Hendrix is a descendent of one of Benton County's earliest, well known, and respected logging families.

Informant #15, Don Oakes

Mr. Oakes began working in the wood products industry in 1953, in a saw mill in Dawson, Benton County, Oregon. In 1955, he worked as choker setter, rigging puller, and whistle punk. He was working in a southern Benton County area known as Honey Grove.

Mr. Oakes' logging career spanned the years of 1955 to 1998. Mr. Oakes worked in Benton County primarily for the Hull-Oakes Lumber Company, where he oversaw the logging operations of the business.

Throughout the course of Mr. Oakes' career, he kept abreast of the changes, not only in logging equipment, but also changes in the clothing worn by loggers. He has been able to provide a great deal of insight as to which manufacturers' lines of clothing withstood the daily wear and tear of logging, and which manufacturers sold clothing deemed inferior by those in the logging profession.

Informant #16, Kenneth D. Oakes

Mr. Oakes was born in 1911 near Beaver Creek, Benton County, Oregon. In 1929, at the age of 17, he began working in the woods near Noti, Oregon, which is located in Lane County. His first job was as a firewood cutter in which he cut the necessary wood required to fire the boilers of a two-speed Willamette steam donkey. In 1934, after gaining experience with steam powered logging equipment, Mr. Oakes went to work in the woods near Dawson, Oregon, operating equipment used to load logs onto rail cars. After operating loading equipment for approximately three years,

Mr. Oakes began falling and bucking timber. He did these jobs near Lapine, Oregon, in Deschutes County. He returned to the Willamette Valley in 1938, where he continued working as a timber faller and buckler for the Cobbs and Mitchell Lumber Company, outside of Valsetz. In 1945, Mr. Oakes began working for the Hull Lumber Company, which later became the Hull-Oakes Lumber Company. From 1945 until 1981, Mr. Oakes remained with the Hull-Oakes Lumber Company as a timber faller.



Figure 29. Informant Kenneth Oakes, 1996.

With a logging career spanning from 1929 to 1981, Mr. Oakes has witnessed first-hand the vast changes the profession has undergone throughout most of the 20th century. The technological developments he has witnessed, changes in logging

practices, and observations relating to work clothing worn by those in the logging profession have been invaluable.

Informant #17, Herbert Thomas Miller

Mr. Miller was born in 1903, in Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon. Mr. Miller began his career in the woods in 1919, working as a bullcook (a person who assists the main logging camp cook by cutting and carrying firewood, keeping fires lit in bunkhouses where the loggers slept, and doing miscellaneous chores).



Figure 30. Informant Herbert T. Miller holding his pair of "Black Bear" brand "tin" pants, made c.1940, Bay City, Oregon, 1996.

From 1924 through 1934, Mr. Miller worked as a choker setter and as a powder monkey (an individual responsible for using explosives to remove stumps and for building of roads and rail lines in and out of the woods). After a short time trapping in Alaska in 1934, and logging in Brookings, Oregon in 1935/36, Mr. Miller returned to Tillamook County and resumed logging in the Miami River area. He continued working as a logger throughout the woods of Tillamook County until 1945.

Long since retired from the woods, Mr. Miller has spent the later part of his life writing about his early experiences in the out-of-doors. He has published numerous

articles nationally, and has written a book about the years he has spent logging along Oregon's central coast.

Informant #18, Louis E. Polley

Mr. Polley was born in 1919, in Mabel, Lane County, Oregon. In 1935, at the age of 16, Mr. Polley began working in the woods of western Lane County as a rigging slinger. In 1937, he worked for the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company, at Camp #5, on a cutting crew, which was responsible for the falling and bucking of timber. In 1944, Mr. Polley left his logging job to serve in the armed services.

Like many loggers of Mr. Polley's generation, he learned the logging profession by working with his father. Today he continues his interest in logging in the Pacific Northwest through research and writing about the history of the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company.



Figure 31. Informant Louis E. Polley, 1984 (L.E. Polley Collection).

CHAPTER 5: LOGGERS' RECOLLECTIONS ABOUT WORK PANTS WORN

This chapter provides answers to the seven primary areas of inquiry this project sought to explore. Each subject was asked to share remembrances regarding the following questions.

Please describe the types of work clothing you wore while working in the woods.

The loggers interviewed for this project wore two types of work pants: cotton denim "jean" pants, or "tin-pants," which were made from tightly woven cotton duck material treated with paraffin wax. Loggers often removed the bottom portion of the hem area of the pants leg on both types of material. Removal of the hem area, termed "staggering," helped prevent the pants legs from becoming weighted down with mud and from being permanently caught in the underbrush workers encountered out in the woods. Staggering the pants-legs also created a weakened edge of the material, preventing it from being permanently entangled in wire cables used for moving logs in and out of the woods. While working in southern Benton County, informant Don Oaks recalled his experience wearing denim work pants that he "staggered:"

...you cut them off so you can raise your pants leg, bend your knees, otherwise they'd hang up. Hold you up! They wouldn't hang up [in the brush]... If I was to cut these jeans off, well, I could pick my feet up, my feet would come up another two or three inches. If you ever watch a logger, and this is one way of hiring people, you watch 'em come up the steps out here [at the logging company front office steps], you can tell a logger any day. They pick their feet up about three or four inches off the ground. Everybody else walks about this far [about two inches] off the ground when you walk. So, you can tell a logger because he's picken' them feet up (Interview with Oaks, D. 1996).

When informant Fred Hendrix was asked about "stagging" work pants he wore while hand falling and bucking timber in both southern Benton County and the Santiam Canyon area, he said:

Yeah, the reason for stagging em' was several reasons. The main thing was that seam down there, if you hooked it over a limb or something like that it would throw you. But if you stag off the seam around the bottom, why, it would usually [just] tear, rip... and the other [reason] of course was to keep it [the pants leg] up out of the mud. There were some guys that walked around landings who wore 18" [high] shoes. I did for a while but they were too high for my kind of work. But some guys that worked around landings, and they'd stag em' clear up to their mid-calf (Interview with Hendrix, F. 1996).

When Informant I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, who spent the majority of his logging career in Polk County, was asked to recall the work pants he wore, he shared the following experience wearing "tin" pants that were "stagged." He stated, "Well, you cut em' off short enough so that they would bend to fit your legs and shoes up high enough. We used to wear high enough shoes so that we could cut 'em [the pants leg hems] off at the bottom. We wouldn't leave 'em like that [with a sewn hem] because you would catch a limb in there [in the hem] and you'd go down on your face. You had to have 'em so they [the bottom portion of the pants legs] would rip" (Interview with Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Dwight Templeton, who spent most of his logging career operating equipment, remembered the clothing he wore when he started logging in 1935 in Lane County: "I went to work in the summer [of 1935] and I wore blue jeans, chambray shirt, oh probably a white cap in good weather, but in the rainy season we wore 'tin clothes' which were made from heavy duck cloth and treated to make water proof"

(Interview with Templeton, D. 1996). When asked if he recalled any specific brand names of "tin" clothes he wore, Mr. Templeton recalled: "I think the most famous name was probably Hirsch-Weis rain clothes, and they undoubtedly made clothes for mail order companies too, without their name on them, because Penney's, Ward's and Sears all sold rain clothes" (Interview with Templeton, D. 1996). Since Mr. Templeton's career was primarily spent operating equipment, he recalled not staggging his pants because operating machinery was not as dangerous as working in the woods.

Of those interviewed for this project, the decision whether to wear denim or "tin" work pants was based on both personal experience and preference. When asked about the work pants he wore, informant Gene Caswell stated he always wore denim pants, never "tin" pants. Mr. Caswell stated, "No, I never did [wear 'tin' pants]. I couldn't see how anyone could wear those 'tin' pants; they were so stiff. I did so much running around, up hill, down hill, jump on a log and go the full length of it and back again. It was just too hard to get around with the 'tin' pants. I can't recall ever owning any" (Interview with Caswell, G. 1996).

Informant Charles Ames, who started working in the woods at age 14, remembered the work clothing, denim work jeans, and rain pants he wore working in Polk County, "Well, I don't know whether it was colder that time, but everybody that worked in the woods those days wore underwear, a black suit of underwear. They called it just an old black suit of underwear. And, now take their regular clothes, was a hickory shirt and a pair of overalls [jeans], and a pair of black suspenders, usually black... naturally they had cork shoes" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996). When asked

about the pants he wore, Mr. Ames continued, "Yeah! and the overalls, you had to move in them days! You couldn't be havin' anything drag ya! You cut these [pants cuffs], cut your overalls off till they'd be about [at the top of your boots], you'd wear 12-inch shoes, 14-inch cork shoes, or 16-inch according to how tall [you were]" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996).


When asked how much of the pants leg he removed to "stag" his pants, Mr. Ames replied, "[To] the top of the boot. Naturally, when I was [high] climbing I wore 14-inch [boots] because my leg isn't long enough to wear a 16 [inch high boot]. ...And, then for rain they had, we had what they called 'tin pants!' ...And they were made out of some kind of canvas" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996).

When asked to talk further about the first set of rain gear he purchased for logging, Mr. Ames recalled the following: "Those days, I got me a suit of this rain clothes, like this [pointing to a pair of c. 1940 Hirsch-Weis 'tin' pants (see figure 3) the interviewer provided], and a coat. You see the coat went with it. And a hat! But other than that I just wore overalls... jeans, yeah! But no belt. You never seen a logger with a belt!" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996). Asked why it was not common to see a logger wearing a belt, Mr. Ames continued:

Because, the camp pushes (logging camp supervisors) use to tell em' down in Portland to send em', he'd say, uh, send me two choker setters, and if they're wearing belts, send me four! The reason you wore suspenders is to keep your pants up because you's runnin' all the time! You sure as the dickens couldn't run around through the brush with your pants a hanging down. They wouldn't hire ya! If you walked up and asked a man for a job, and went to the job, it might be if you had dress clothes on. O.K. But, if you went out there in the woods and he seen you

with a belt on, he'd know damn well you didn't know nothin' (Interview with Ames, C. 1996).

Informants also wore suspenders because they provided better support than a belt. Shirts, called "hickory-shirts," named for the striped pattern of the material of the shirt, were commonly worn. Loggers also wore other clothing such as wool shirts and jackets, long wool and/or cotton underwear, wool and/or cotton socks. Leather "cork" boots, the soles of which had metal spikes measuring approximately three-sixteenths of an inch or less in length, were universally worn (see figure 32). Leather boots with heavy "lugged" soles were also worn. These boots were more often worn by those operating logging machinery, because it allowed for better footing on hard metal surfaces which could become slippery when wet or frozen. The "cork" soled and "lugged" soled boots were worn with the top measuring 12 to 16 inches in height.



Coos Bay Logger

"Above the Standard"

Hand Made Loggers' Shoes
Genuine Veal Kip

COOS BAY SHOE FACTORY, Inc.

340 Central Avenue
MARSHFIELD, OREGON

Figure 32. Coos Bay Shoe Factory, Inc., cork boot advertisement, 1925.

The wearing of "high-top" boots provided additional lower leg protection from brush and other objects encountered while working in the woods. After the introduction of metal safety hats in the early 1950's, men working in the woods were required to wear these hats for protection.

Other types of clothing certainly may have been worn by those working in the woods, dictated by regional traditions, personal choice, or time period. It is beyond the scope of this project to analyze all variations of clothing worn by those who made their livelihood from working in the woods.

Did the duties of your job(s) affect your choices in the clothing you chose to wear?

The clothing choices made by those interviewed for this project were all affected by duties they performed. Those individuals who spent their working careers out in the woods falling and bucking timber or setting chokers or rigging tended to select clothing, specifically pants, which allowed for the greatest amount of flexibility and mobility, water repellency, protection, and durability. These men spent their entire work day outdoors and needed extremely durable work clothing.

Those involved in the process of falling and bucking had to exit the area directly surrounding the base of a given tree as the tree began to fall, or the area in front of or behind a given log as it was being bucked, at a moment's notice. To not be constantly aware of one's surrounding could easily result in serious injury or death. Given the unpredictability and constant danger involved in the process of falling and bucking timber with hand tools or power tools, informants were careful to

make sure their pants legs were "staggered-off." The importance of wearing work pants which allowed for optimum flexibility and mobility was paramount for those whose tasks required them to move out of danger's way at a moments notice (see figures 33, 34, 35, and 36).

Those informants who spent the majority of their work day operating logging equipment from inside a cab area of heavy machinery like a steam donkey, yarder, loader, or log truck, commented that their clothing needs differed from those working out in the woods. Equipment operators did not face the same work-related dangers as those out in the woods. The informants interviewed for this project who specifically operated equipment did not always stag their pants. Those who operated equipment who wore pants, denim or cotton "tin," staggered-off at the pants leg, did so because they formerly worked on the ground. One informant, I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, recalled that when he started work in the woods as a whistle punk in 1926 he was not able to afford what he thought was "ideal" work clothing until he received his first pay check. Mr. Lambert stated:

Well, the only reason [I wore different clothing] when I was whistle punking, [I] didn't have enough money to go out and buy clothes and stuff; had to take what you had to get started till you get your first paycheck. Then you go buy what ever you could afford. And, you end up getting your "cork" shoes, khaki ['tin'] pants, and coat and everything. So, that when winter come along you were ready for it (Interview with Lambert, I.B. 1996).



Figure 33. A member of informant Charles Ames' logging crew falling a tree with a power saw. The staggged-off denim work pants he wears provide the flexibility and mobility necessary for performing his job. A metal falling wedge is located in his left, rear pocket. Brookings, Oregon, 1950 (Charles V. Ames Collection).



Figure 34. A member of informant Charles Ames' logging crew falling a tree with a power saw. The denim work pants he wears provide the flexibility and mobility necessary for performing his job. A metal falling wedge is located in his rear pocket. Brookings, Oregon, 1950 (Charles V. Ames Collection).



Figure 35. A member of informant Charles Ames' logging crew falling a tree with a power saw. The denim work pants he wears provide the flexibility and mobility necessary for performing his job. A metal falling wedge is located in his right, rear pocket. Brookings, Oregon, 1950 (Charles V. Ames Collection).



Figure 36. A member of informant Howard Brunson's logging crew operating hydraulic wedges used in the process of falling a tree. The stagged-off denim work pants he wears provide the flexibility and mobility necessary for performing his job. Kernville, Oregon, 1959 (Howard Brunson Collection).

Did different seasons of the calendar year require you to wear clothing made of different fabric types?

Those interviewed for this project wore clothing made either of cotton or wool. Those individuals whose work required them to operate hand falling or bucking saws year-round wore cotton denim jeans during drier seasons of the year, and either cotton denim or tin pants during the wetter months. While "tin" rain jackets were available to those interviewed who used falling and bucking hand saws during the rainy months of the year, the majority of informants responded that they chose not to wear "tin" rain jackets because of restriction of arm movement required to operate their hand saws.

Informant Robert A. Cookson, who fell and bucked timber using hand saws in 1936, recalled those he worked with who also fell and bucked timber by hand. During the rainy months of the year, wearing "tin" pants but not wearing "tin" rain jackets while actually operating a hand saw was common. Mr. Cookson recalled:

Well, in the first place you wasn't rollin' around in the mud, diving under logs and what not like you was on the riggin' [crew], and unless it was pouring down rain, really pourin' rain, you never got very wet anyhow; and you never lived until you've tried pulling a fallin' [saw] with a heavy ['tin'] coat on! You can't do it! No movement for your arms and your body, see. And, I don't know, I suppose some of those old cutters [loggers] might have worn some tin clothes, but I don't remember too many fallers, fact is I can't name anybody that wore 'tin' [jackets] while they was fallin'. Generally those old guys, the regular old faller, 90 percent of the time, was stripped down, not even a shirt on [while it was not raining], when he was fallen'. A lot of em' would drop one suspender off of one shoulder... free arm movement. No bindin' (Interview with Cookson, R. 1995).

While discussing his experiences logging in Tillamook County during the 1920's, informant Herbert Miller remembered what his co-workers wore: "I heard some fellows mention that if they were falling trees by hand, or bucking by hand, they normally would not wear a tin jacket because it restricted their arms too much" (Interview with Miller, H.T. 1996). When asked if he wore either "tin" or denim work pants while falling and bucking timber by hand, Mr. Miller mentioned having worn both saying, "I just wore whatever I had... it depended on the weather" (Interview with Miller, H.T. 1996).

Informant Harold McKern, who fell and bucked timber in Polk and Linn Counties, both by hand and with power saws, talked about the rain gear he wore while hand falling timber in 1945: "Then we didn't get the rain clothes until the rubber rain clothes came in about 1945, somewhere around there. We wore 'tin' pants, those canvas pants and canvas coats. But you couldn't work with them on so you usually wore wool underwear. Hand falling, we'd took our shirt off, you know, and just work in our underwear, water running down your back, steaming!" (Interview with McKern, H. 1996).

When asked what effect seasonal weather had on the type of work clothing he wore in different seasons, Mr. McKern recalled:

Oh yeah! Yeah, we wore wool underwear in the winter because you went out there for all day, you couldn't come in, you know, you stayed all day so you had better dress warm. Then in later years, in the 1940's and 1950's we wore these rubber rain clothes over your ordinary clothes, you know. Well, then you stayed dry all day. See, you ran a power saw. See, you weren't waving your arms like you are hand falling, you know. Stayed pretty dry (Interview with McKern, H. 1996).

What influenced your buying decisions regarding the work pants you purchased?

Three key factors influenced the buying decisions made by informants interviewed for this project: availability of work clothing in relation to where individuals worked and/or lived; previous brand name reputation; and what fellow workers were observed wearing.

Informants interviewed for this project purchased clothing that was available in the area where they worked and/or lived. During the early 1920's, informant Herbert Miller (see figure 37) lived and worked along the central Oregon coast. Recalling how



Figure 37. Informant Herbert Miller in 1919, age 16 (Herbert Miller Collection).

he first acquired much of his work clothing, Mr. Miller said his employer, a gentleman named Adler, sold clothing to employees on "margin" deducted from employee's wages. Once each employee earned enough money to cover the cost of outstanding debts, clothing purchases were paid-in-full. According to Mr. Miller, it was common for small logging contractors working in

the 1920's and 1930's to operate on a shoe-string budget. Employees' wages were the last business expense a contractor paid out of timber revenues. When asked further about his experience working for Mr. Adler, Mr. Miller continued:

... he was a shoe-string operator, see. He persuaded an old homestead

couple to let him have timber on "tic" and he would pay everybody when he got logs and sold 'em. And he also had the merchant in Rockaway, a hardware [store] give him some supplies, and he had the oil company on the string too, to buy oil. After he had got out [logs], we worked about a full month and we got out about twelve or thirteen or fourteen cars of good spruce logs. We thought we was going to get paid so we all waited for him one morning when he said he would pay us, but he didn't show up! He took the money and run and there was some very disappointed fellows there. My step dad was working there and I was the bull cook and my dad was an engineer, my step dad. There was two old prospectors there from Alaska trying to save up a grub stake to go north again. And there was a box of socks in there, and there was a Hudson Bay blanket, very fine article! And there was 'tin' pants, and a pack sack laying there. I looked all around and nobody was watching me, so I loaded all that stuff in that pack sack and took off with it. And the operator, he was, finally he was in Portland, and he wrote to me and he wanted his stuff back but I wouldn't give it to him. And he didn't make any formal complaint, I think he was probably afraid to, so I got away with all that stuff. I sold the cork shoes and I sold one of the sweat shirts, and I give the socks away, here and there, they were all too big for me (Interview with Miller, H. 1996).

During the late 1920's and early 1930's, informant I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, living in Dallas, Oregon at the time, recalled purchasing his work pants locally. When asked to share his recollections regarding his work clothes purchases, he commented, "Where we bought 'em, we bought all our [clothes] here in Dallas. We got some from Criter's store... Yeah, they used to sell them at Criter's and Finseth's. She's still living there, Millie (Finseth). But her dad was running the store when I was buying clothes there. They sold cork shoes too." When asked what kinds of pants they carried, Mr. Lambert recalled the Criter's store selling the Hirsch-Weis brand of "tin" pants (Interview with Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Throughout most of the 1940's, Mr. Lambert and his wife lived in Valsetz, Oregon, while Mr. Lambert worked in remote locations in Polk County. When asked

if he purchased work clothing while living in Valsetz, Mr. Lambert commented, "I think we bought pants up there at Valsetz... the store that Doug Grout ran" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). When asked if he paid cash for his clothing Mr. Lambert remarked, "No! Hell No! They had coupon books. You go to the office and draw a coupon book and you'd use that at the store... they used to have five and ten dollar books" [Lambert, I.B. 1996]. When Mrs. Lambert was asked to recall using these coupon books to buy dry goods from the Grout store she commented, "The first time I had to take a coupon book down there (to the Grout store) I was just gonna' die... I always had money, and to me that wasn't money, you know, and, oh my gosh" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Mrs. Lambert continued, "This was a whole alien thing for me to go up there [to Valsetz] in that situation, I'm telling ya! Toilet was clear across the road" (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

From the early 1950's until his retirement in 1976, Mr. Lambert no longer purchased his work clothing in Valsetz. He began buying work pants in either Dallas or Salem. Mr. Lambert recalled, "Well, we didn't buy clothes at Valsetz anymore at that time. We use to drive out over the hill and buy 'em at Criter's or Finseth's [in Dallas] or [Les] Newman's (see figure 38) in Salem. I used to buy a lot of clothes at Finseth's, when Leaf Finseth was the old man" (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Charles Ames, like Mr. Lambert, also worked in the Valsetz area of Polk County during the early 1920's and 1930's. Mr. Ames, whose logging career began at the age of 14, first worked as a whistle punk. When asked where he purchased his work clothing during the 1920's and 1930's Mr. Ames replied, "Well,

let me think. Well now, I lived, naturally lived here [in Falls City]. I would say I got 'em at Criter's in Dallas. I'm pretty, dang, I'm pretty sure that's where we bought 'em. But you could buy 'em, you could buy 'em, I bought 'em before I went to [the logging] camp. But after that all these logging outfits, they had a commissary, and you could buy rain pants and rain coats, overalls... and a hickory shirt" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996). When asked to define what he termed "overalls," Mr. Ames proceeded to share his following experience, "By God I don't know now days [laughing]! Well, all I



Figure 38. Les Newman's men's clothing store, Salem, Oregon, c.1948, Les Newman's catalogue, pg. 1, 1997.

would say is, well, you know the coverall is the shirt and the pants all together, just covers the whole body. Overalls was just pants" (Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames continued, "You bet. I never knew the word jeans. I didn't know what they's talking about [laughing]. Up until, well, these girls are wearing 'em. And you know, I don't know what you think, but I kinda' frowned upon these girls trying to look like boys... I'm an old timer, you know, 82 years old and I don't like it [laughing]" (Ames. C. 1996).

Asked if his wife purchased his work clothing after they married in 1937, Mr. Ames replied, "Oh yeah. Once in a while. But she always went with me [to town], so we went together" (Ames, C. 1996). Asked if the stores in Dallas were open on Sundays, Mr. Ames replied:

No! No! That's what I get so mad about today. You know, I don't blame the ministers for growling. These stores stay open 24 hours, just boggles me to see what they've done to the American public. No. Saturday was a big day. See, we'd work all week and never got to town on Sunday, I mean Saturday darn-it! I mean, then I would sneak away from her and the other women. They'd get together and I'd go in a beer joint and have a beer (Ames, C. 1996).

I asked Mr. Ames if he shopped at J.C. Penney's in Dallas. Mr. Ames replied, "Yeah. Yes I did. And I bought [work] clothes there too" (Ames. C. 1996). Asked if he shopped at other stores as well, Mr. Ames replied, "Yes, Criter's" (Ames, C. 1996). When asked if there was any difference between the two stores in work clothing offered for sale, Mr. Ames stated, "They kept pretty together [on selection and price]. They were, them days there wasn't too many big stores you know. J.C. Penney's and Sears and Roebuck was about the big, big boys" (Ames, C. 1996). When asked if he recalled Criter's store carrying the Hirsch-Weis brand of

work clothing, Mr. Ames replied, "Yep! They carried everything" (Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames also recalled the Dallas, OR, J.C. Penney's store carrying Hirsch-Weis brand work pants as well. He stated, "...That was the most prominent brand in the world! In my world those days" (Ames, C. 1996).

In 1937, informant Robert Cookson worked in both Yamhill County for Murphy's - Trask Willamette Lumber Company and in Polk County for the Polk Operating Lumber Company. Mr. Cookson recalled each company having a company commissary for employees to purchase work clothing. When asked about these company commissaries, Mr. Cookson replied, "Polk Operating Company and Murphy's - Trask Willamette, they both had commissaries, and you could buy shirts and "tin" pants, and stuff in there. In the company store, yeah. Yeah, you go into camp with nothin' but a pair of skivvies on and outfit yourself to go to work, with the exception of boots. Couldn't do that because nobody carried 'em. You couldn't carry all boots like that, see" (Interview with Cookson, R. 1995).

In 1938, Mr. Cookson moved to Sweet Home, in Linn County, where he logged for a short time before entering the saw mill industry. When asked about purchasing work clothing in the Sweet Home area, Mr. Cookson recalled, "Pants and shirts and boots and, yeah, you could get, in those two towns, you could get anything you wanted in that line" (Cookson, R. 1995). Asked if he remembered where he

purchased his work clothing Mr. Cookson said, "Well, in '38, probably bought at [J.C.] Penney's in Lebanon, [OR]" (Cookson, R. 1995).

Returning from military service after World War II, informant Fred Hendrix, who lived and worked in southern Benton County between 1945 to 1956, recalled traveling to Corvallis to purchase his work clothing. Mr. Hendrix stated, "I can't remember when Hirsch-Weis went out of business, but it probably would be that I went to [J.C.] Penney's. Although there was what was called The Man's Shop there too, and I did some business with them. They're out of business now. Then later on, Denson Feed and Seed Store, they started selling overalls, work clothing. I bought some there [too]" (Interview with Hendrix, F. 1996). When asked to discuss his experience shopping at the J.C. Penney's department store in Corvallis, Mr. Hendrix recalled, "Well, it got to be at Penney's that I had to order 'em out of a catalogue to get what I wanted, and that was always a real problem" (Hendrix, F. 1996). When asked why this became a problem, Mr. Hendrix replied:

Well, they were carrying some (work pants) but not the ones I wanted, with the (suspender) buttons. To get the leg size I wanted I finally had to get away from the 18" inch cuff. I had to go to what was called an 'industrial.' It had the side pockets down here along the side. Some of them even had a hammer loop on 'em. The one's that I got didn't. But, when they quit carrying them the only way that you could get 'em was to get 'em out of a catalogue. Half the time you would order 'em and they wouldn't come in, what you ordered. So, they were nice enough about it, but it took extra time. You know, a logger always buys a new pair of overalls and that's his dress pants (Hendrix, F. 1996).

Among those informants who remembered particular brand names of work pants, their perception of brand reputation weighed heavily upon their decisions to

purchase pants. The most familiar brand name they recalled was Hirsch-Weis.

Informant Herbert Miller remembered the work clothing he wore while working in the woods of Oregon's Central Coast during the early 1920's said, "If it was rainy, or looked like rain, I'd wear tin pants. You know why they call 'em tin pants? Well, they'd be stiff as a board, see. And the colder they were the stiffer the pants. You fall in the mill pond for instance, you didn't hang your pants up, you leaned 'em up against a wall" (Miller, H. 1996). Mr. Miller continued, "Hirsch-Weis! Well, lots of people wore Hirsch-Weis. That was one of the most common all right" (Miller, H. 1996). Asked what type of work pants he wore while working during dry weather. Mr. Miller recalled wearing denim jeans. He could not recall buying any particular brand, however.



Figure 39. H.D. Lee Company, "Can't Bust 'Em" advertisement, c.1946.

When asked about the brand names of work pants he wore during the late 1920's through the late 1930's, informant Charles Ames stated, "I remember we had pants that said 'Can't-Bust-'Em' (see figures 39 and 40) on 'em! There were others, but I'm trying to think. I don't know whether Hirsch-Weis put out any overalls or not. But, hum, yes sir, there were others. Now day's there's Lee" (Ames, C. 1996).

When asked if he remembered seeing loggers wearing either Levi or Wrangler brands of denim jeans Mr. Ames stated, "I don't remember the name Levi or Wranglers in the old days. But they might have been there, but I don't remember 'em. I remember Hirsch-Weis more than anything" (Ames, C. 1996). Having said that he purchased work clothing from the J.C. Penney's store in Dallas, OR, I asked if he recalled whether J.C. Penney's may have carried their own brand of work pants.



Figure 40. H.D. Lee Company, "Can't Bust 'Em" brand denim jeans with suspender button, c.1950 (Larry Bond and David Little Collection).

He stated, "Oh you bet they did" (Ames, C. 1996). He continued, "Yes they did! They had their own brand of overalls, J.C. Penney's, right on 'em! You bet they did" (Ames, C. 1996). When asked to recall other brand names of work pants he might

have worn during the later part of his career, 1940's through 1973, Mr. Ames replied, "If I remember right, I can still see the name DAYS, DAYS on a pair of pants. I don't know why, but it seemed to me like I wore more DAYS than anything" (Ames, C. 1996).

Informant Harold McKern, when he worked for the Weyerhaeuser timber company in 1945, stated, "Yes, I wore Lee [brand]. Lee overalls and Hirsch-Weis tin pants" (Interview with McKern, H. 1996). Showing Mr. McKern a pair of Hirsch-Weis "tin" pants he stated:

These are "tin" pants. That's what we call "tin" pants, there so dam stiff when they get cold, and you couldn't work, couldn't buck [timber] with a tin coat on. In 1945, we made a rain cape out of canvas. In order to buck logs [during the winter] I just had a piece of canvas with a buck string around it, and tied it around the waist and tied it around the neck, and sawed to beat hell under there, you know, trying to keep dry. That was when I worked for Weyerhaeuser. Yes, I wore their [Hirsch-Weis] coat and pants both, years and years ago. We'd throw them off to the side, go ahead and work, get wet, hot and steamy you know (McKern, H. 1996).

When asked to talk about the denim work pants he purchased and wore during the 1940's through 1978, Mr. McKern remembered buying work clothing at the J.C. Penney's store in Albany, OR. When asked which brand(s) of denim work pants he purchased at J.C. Penney's, he recalled purchasing Lee Brand.

Informant Fred Hendrix recalled the brand name of work pants he wore while working in the Santiam Canyon area of Marion and Linn Counties, during 1939 and 1940. Mr. Hendrix stated, "Well, since I was just up there and back here, I probably bought my clothes in Corvallis. I don't remember the names of the stores if that's what you're thinking. But back in those days, I think I told you over the phone [I wore] Hirsch-Weis,

'Ton-Tested'" (Hendrix, F. 1996). He continued, "Where they got that from, they took a pair of their pants and put a weight on one leg and a hoist on the other leg and lifted a ton without ripping the crotch out of them" (see figures 41, 42, and 43) (Hendrix, F. 1996). When asked if the "Ton-Tested" brand name was used for both tin and denim pants, he replied, "...That was a denim. Can't-Bust-'Em I think was the actual trade name. And they quit making 'em because they said they could no longer get the denim that they required" (Hendrix, F. 1996). Asked what brand names of work pants he would have worn during the later part of his logging career, during the early to mid 1950's, Mr. Hendrix recalled beginning to purchase the "Big Mac" brand of denim work pants from J.C. Penney's. Asked why he stopped wearing the Hirsch-Weis, "Ton-Tested" brand, and began wearing the J.C. Penney, "Big Mac" brand, Mr. Hendrix stated it was because the Hirsch-Weis Company stopped making the "Ton-Tested" brand. He could not recall the specific year.

When informant Dwight Templeton, who worked in the woods from 1935 to 1975, was asked brand names of pants he recalled wearing or seeing other loggers wearing, he stated, "I think the most famous name was probably Hirsch-Weis rain clothes, and they undoubtedly made clothes for mail order companies too, without their name on them, because, [J.C.] Penney's, [Montgomery] Wards, and Sears [Roebuck and Company] all sold rain clothes" (Interview with Templeton, D. 1996). When asked if he recalled if the work pants from these companies were made from heavy cotton duck canvas material, Mr. Templeton said the following, "Yes. We called them 'tin' clothes" (Templeton, D. 1996). When asked to remember brand



*Strength to Spare ~
Wearing Quality Unbelievable!*

—that's what you'll find in these famous TON TESTED Overalls by Hirsch-Weis. They're as sturdy and smooth-fitting as they are modern and up-to-date in design and features of construction. That's why men working at strenuous labor always insist upon TON TESTED Overalls. They're comfortable—wear like iron, and exactly fill a definite clothing need.



*Guaranteed Not to Rip
Won't Shrink
Double and Triple Sewed throughout
with Shoe Thread*



Union Made

Figure 41. Hirsch-Weis, "Ton Tested" brochure, c.1930.

GUARANTEE



Hirsch-Weis
TON TESTED
TRADE MARK
OVERALL
Check its Merits



LOOK for this TAG

1. Pre-shrunk denim
2. Reinforced crotch
3. Reinforced wear-proof pockets
4. Multiple stitched throughout
 5. Extra heavy belt loops
 6. Double back pockets
 7. Hercules thread riveted
 8. Rust proof buttons
 9. Shoe thread seams

You'll Like Them

They're absolutely guaranteed not to rip. No copper rivets to scratch. The Ton Tested overall is without question the very best overall of its kind on the market.

PRICE

UNION MADE



Hirsch-Weis
TON TESTED

HIRSCH-WEIS MFG. CO.
Portland, Oregon




Want Like Iron


TON TESTED OVERALLS by *Hirsch-Weis*

Figure 42. Hirsch-Weis, "Ton Tested" brochure, c.1930.

"BUILT to STAND the STRAIN"
a Truly TON TESTED Overall!



Pre-shrunk



Won't Scratch






Before Hirsch-Weis put TON TESTED Overalls on the market, they were put to the most rigorous tests. They met requirements more exacting than ever met by any overall. Over time, men in many different lines of work have worn TON TESTED Overalls, and have learned from experience that they can take the hardest abuse day after day and month after month. Glance over this page and note the superior *TON TESTED* features.


TON TESTED Overalls are absolutely guaranteed not to rip. Without question they are the very best overall of their kind on the market. There's real satisfaction in owning them.

So remember—the next time you buy overalls, be sure to ask for TON TESTED with the *Scratch-Test GUARANTEE*—and pay safe!


NOTE this Remarkable TEST—
This shows Scratch-Test TON TESTED Overall being a Wash Test.


UNION
MADE




Cross-hatched cotton
could stand up to the roughest abuse.




Reinforced pocket
handles heaviest loads.




Waist band with three buttons
keeps overalls from slipping.




Washable heavy-duty belt
holds up to the roughest abuse.



Double reinforced back pocket
handles heaviest loads (weight capacity 50 lbs.).



Pockets of main overalls have double reinforced flaps
handles heaviest loads.



Waist band buttons
handles heaviest loads.

Figure 43. Hirsch-Weis, "Ton Tested" brochure, c.1930.

names of denim jeans he wore during the early and middle parts of his logging career, Mr. Templeton said, "Can't-Bust 'Em" was the main brand (Templeton, D. 1996). Later in his career, from the mid 1960's on, Mr. Templeton remembered wearing black colored "Frisco" brand name denim work pants.

Informant Don Oakes, who worked in the woods from 1955 through 1999, recalled first buying work pants in 1955 from J.C. Penney's. Mr. Oakes stated, "Well, I wore jeans. Just jeans... the 'Big Mac,' they's Penney's! I bet they's Penney's clothes" (Interview with Oakes, D. 1996). When asked to recall other brands names, Mr. Oakes mentioned the Ben Davis brand was worn by equipment operators during the late 1960's through 1970's.

Those interviewed for this project often made their decisions to purchase work clothing based on what they saw their fellow workers wearing. Whether they were new to the profession of working in the woods, or following a traditional family occupation, informants discovered the role that their clothing played in the dangers associated with their new profession as well as the demands their work clothing would need to meet.

The work clothing worn by a new logger was a nonverbal "calling card," signaling a new man's lack of experience working in the woods. When asked how a new logger knew what to wear to work during the early 1920's, in Tillamook County, informant Herbert Miller recalled, "Well, the young fellows, he'd see what the other loggers wore, a fellow just gettin' ready to go to camp. For many years you seen the other loggers wearing their stagged-off pants, tin pants, naturally you wanted the

same thing. You just followed along with what you saw" (Miller, H. 1996). Asked if the new men were trying to fit in and be accepted by other workers, Mr. Miller commented, "You'd want to fit in. [Today] you see a lot of young punks running around dressed like loggers that hadn't ever done any logging yet. Real common. Like a cowboy thing" (Miller, H. 1996).

In 1928, at age 14, informant Charles Ames joined his father in the logging profession (see figure 44). When asked why he started logging at such a young age and how he knew what work clothing

to wear, Mr. Ames replied, "I was punkin whistle [working with my dad].

I went into the woods in 1928 when I was 14. I quit my sophomore year of high school 'cause I worked too long [into the fall], and [by] the time I got back to school they was so far ahead of me I said, 'I'll wait 'til next year.'

Then the depression come along and I just never went back to school"

(Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames continued,

"Well, my dad worked in camps! And I tell ya', all those loggers come to our

house. I saw what they wore... Hell, I've seen dead men going out on the speeders



Figure 44. Informant Charles V. Ames, c.1928 (Charles V. Ames Collection).

[a small gasoline powered railroad car that traveled on railroad tracks]" (Ames, C. 1996).

Recalling how a logging boss might "size-up" a new man's abilities by the appearance of his clothing, Mr. Ames continued:

If you walked up and asked a man for a job, and went on the job, it might be if you had dress clothes on, o.k. But, if you went out there in the woods and he seen you with farmer's coveralls on, or a belt on, he'd know damn well you didn't know nothin'! He might even not let you go into the brush. I mean it! I mean it! There used to be, there was even guys them days that would take and send to Portland for a couple men, and they already had it in their head, and I don't want to name the guy that done this at Black Rock (OR), but I know him. And I, I'm telling ya! And then they'd take and wait 'til in the morning, and when they'd come out of the [mess hall wearing coveralls or a belt], after eating breakfast, they'd tell 'em, 'You go get your time [pick up your paycheck]!' He told me one time to go get my time and I wasn't working on his side [job site] and I told him where to go! And he later was a friend of mine. He used to laugh at me because I didn't take no crap off of nobody! (Ames, C. 1996).

In contrast to Mr. Ames' account of loggers not wearing belts, informant Gene Caswell, who fell and bucked timber throughout Linn County from 1927 to 1960, recalled always wearing a belt. Asked why he preferred wearing a belt to wearing suspenders, Mr. Caswell replied, "No, never liked them. Only in my [rubber] rain gear" (Interview with Caswell, G. 1996). Asked to further explain his dislike for suspenders, Mr. Caswell continued, "Well, I just didn't like those things hanging over my shoulders. And I didn't have to wear them, so I didn't" (Caswell, G. 1996).

When asked if it was possible to tell a logger by his work clothing, informant I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, who worked in the woods from 1921 to 1976 stated, "No problem! That was easy to tell whether they had any past experience. You could tell

by their walk or anything" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Asked if he recalled ever seeing men new to the logging profession show up to work wearing bibbed overalls, Mr.

Lambert commented:

No! They wouldn't let 'em go out in the woods, cause they wouldn't let 'em stay out there. Guys would run 'em off! They [those wearing bibbed overalls] couldn't stand it out there [in the woods]. They'd run 'em off if they come out there with bibbed overalls. Yeah, hell! Na, [they] wouldn't have the nerve enough to go out there anyway. You've got to be able to handle a job in the woods. Why that was altogether different from farming (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Don Oakes, who logged in Southern Benton County from 1955 to 1998, remembered his first experience wearing "tin" pants during the early 1950's.

Having observed fellow workers wearing "tin" pants, Mr. Oakes said:

I tried a pair of 'tin' pants when everybody on the landing had tin pants. So, I thought I had to get me a pair of those, and I didn't like 'em! They were cumbersome! They didn't keep me any drier. Around the knees they'd crack, they'd come up [above the tops of your boots] and then water would run down inside your shoes. With jeans, the heavy duty jeans, you can bend your legs, and then we chopped 'em off about two inches above the top of your shoe. (Oakes, D. 1996).

When asked if he remembered what might happen to a new employee who showed up not wearing proper work clothing, Mr. Oakes recounted the following experience:

We use to have a lot of fun with that. I'll never forget, one time we had a kid come up, he was just new. My cousin was setting chokers with him So this kid come out and we said, 'We're going to make a logger out of you! First thing we do is cut your pants off!' So, I grabbed my knife, and my cousin grabbed his, and he started over here [motioning to his right pants leg], and he cut around a ways, and I looked at 'em, and he said, 'Well, mine's longer than yours, I'll have to cut a little off.' So, we cut them [pants legs] off. And so, the next time I'd be, you know, a little further up than he would be. And then he'd cut his up. And when we sent him home

[at the end of the day], he had about this much [gesturing with his hand approximately four inches above his boot]. And come to find out, they was his dad's pants! And man, his mom like'd to straddle him. And four about five or six years, every time she seen me, she'd shake her finger at me (Oakes, D. 1996).

What structural features did you look for when deciding which work pants to purchase?

When informants sought to purchase work pants, the structural features manufacturers incorporated into their clothing designs affected buying decisions. Three primary clothing design features were identified as most important to informants when they purchased either denim or cotton duck material work pants: the presence of suspender buttons; water repellency; and weight of fabric.

Working in Tillamook County during the early 1920's, informant Herbert Miller recalled features he looked for when acquiring work pants. Mr. Miller stated, "Well, the 'tin' pants, as I recall, they all looked alike. Oh Yeah! They all did, they had to have those buttons there [pointing to the waist area of the pants he wore during our interview] or nobody would buy 'em, see, because practically everybody wore suspenders. I never saw anybody wearing 'tin' pants without suspenders" (Interview with Miller, H. 1996).

Asked to recall if he wore suspenders during the late 1920's through the 1970's, informant Charles Ames stated he always wore "bachelor buttons" on both his work pants. Asked to explain what "bachelor buttons" were, he replied, "That's what we called them buttons that you put on [your pants] for the suspenders, 'bachelor buttons'" (Interview with Ames, C. 1996). Asked if he remembered seeing loggers

wear suspenders affixed to their work pants with metal clasp closures, he said, "I don't remember any. I don't. They might have had a little, now wait a minute. They might have had some dress suspenders [like that]" (Ames, C. 1996).

Asked where he thought the term "bachelor buttons" originated, Mr. Ames replied, "Because people [single men working in the woods] would want to put a set 'a suspender buttons on a pair of dress pants. Or put 'em on , like I said on these [pointing to the pants he wore during the interview]" (Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames continued:

Yeah! Lots of [single men worked in the woods], you know in the 1920's, when I went to work in the woods, and a lot [of single men worked in the woods] during the 1930's, they had all these logging camps and cook houses [operated by the logging/lumber companies]. Then it kind'a, when they went out of the steam days, the railroad days, and started trucking logs, they had a road into these camps. And everybody lived at home. Men started 'gettin married [and their wives did their sewing for them] I mean this! And they stayed [worked] in the woods more, and they'd get married, and the have a home or a place to live. And they'd stay at home at night. And they'd run what we called the crew truck [which transported the men to and from work each day]. We called 'em crummys (Ames, C. 1996).

Informant I.B. Lambert, who worked in Polk County from the mid 1920's through the mid 1970's, recalled the importance of suspender buttons. Mr. Lambert stated, "Oh yeah! They had buttons so you could put your suspenders on. We all wore 'spenders. I never wore a belt in my life. Wore 'spenders all the time" (Interview with Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Herald McKern, who primarily logged in Polk County from the early 1940's to 1978, remembered his preference for wearing suspenders instead of a belt throughout his working career. Mr. McKern stated, "Well, that [Lee brand] was about the only kind [of denim work pants] we wore. Waist band, you know, and

suspenders. So, you had to get some with buttons already on them. They already had buttons already on them" (Interview with McKern, H. 1996). Mrs. McKern, present during our interview, added the following comment, "Penney's carried the best ones because I bought quite a few pairs at Penney's" (McKern, H. 1996).

Looking at the pants he wore during the course of our interview, Mr. McKern continued, "See these buttons here [pointing to his suspender buttons], you had to have them! Had to have your pants up" (McKern, H. 1996). Adding to Mr. McKern's observation, Mrs. McKern commented, "If they didn't have the buttons on them, why, we would buy the 'Bear Cat,' I think was the brand name of the buttons. And then you put them on because sometimes you couldn't get a pair with the buttons on them. I did most of the shopping so [laughing] I know what type of pants he bought" (McKern, H. 1996).

The need for water repellent work pants was of great importance to informants who worked during wet seasons of the year. The majority of informants who wore "tin" work pants during wet periods recalled the need to re-apply water repellent coatings of wax often to the outside of "tin" pants. This was done by applying coatings of paraffin wax on top of the original coating applied by the manufacturer.

Informant Howard Brunson's recollection of wearing "tin" pants dates to the early 1920's. Mr. Brunson worked primarily in the Central Oregon Coast Mountain Range, between 1923 and 1966. Mr. Brunson recalled how stiff his "tin" pants became during the winter months, "For winter, on our rainy West Coast, we had pants and coat of heavy canvas. We waterproofed them by coating them with paraffin

wax. Since they were so stiff, we called 'em 'tin' pants. You could put them on the floor, waist down, they would stand alone, with the legs straight up, especially after they had received a coat of fir pitch" (Interview with Brunson, H. 1996).

Informant Robert Cookson, who logged in Polk County during the 1930's, recounted a similar experience to that of informant Howard Brunson. Mr. Cookson shared the following: "When it was cold and wet you'd always wear heavy underwear, and, oh, it just depended how wet it was. ...well, generally you wasn't wearing anything other than your regular [denim] pants. But if it got really bad, and you was up and rigging all the time, and especially in the mud, well, you always nearly wore 'tin' coat and 'tin' pants. 'Tin' hat." Mr. Cookson continued, "Yeah, the tan duck. Heavy duck." Asked if he remembered applying paraffin wax to the duck material, Mr. Cookson replied, "No. It was already [waxed]. That was such a tight weave that it would eventually soak up [water] but you wouldn't get wet through it. But, uh, also, it was a such a tight weave that when you took 'em off, you just stand the pants up! And they'd stand there too (see figures 45 and 46)! It was a little hard. And when they'd dry why, it was hard to break the joints [the areas where pants legs remained stiff after drying] loose, and that's where they'd start to leak with those break points" (Interview with Robert Cookson, 1995).

Asked about the water repellency provided by "tin" work pants he wore during the mid 1920's to the early 1940's, informant Herbert Miller replied, "... I've seen fellows melt a candle at night [in the bunk house] and let it drip on their pants, right along here [pointing to his knee and upper thigh]. Rub the candle wax right in there"

(Miller, H. 1996). Asked why they did this, he replied, "Waterproof it! After you heat your (pants), 'tin' pants been hot and cold a few times see, they weren't so waterproof. Some fellows would attempt to make 'em a little more waterproof by candle wax, rub it in" (Miller, H. 1996). When asked why hot wax from a candle was applied to these areas of their pants, Mr. Miller commented, "well, because that's where they [the pants] rub against your skin there. Go along your legs and the seat, you see" (Miller, H. 1996). Asked how the additional wax contributed to the water repellency of the tightly woven, heavy weight cotton duck material, Mr. Miller continued, "There was little difference in the weight of the 'tin' pants... The weight made a little [difference] now in the softness, see. It made a difference in how stiff they were when they were wet, too. You could take a good pair of wet heavy weight 'tin' pants, and you just lean (them) up against the wall, and they'd stand there! And when they'd got warmed up they'd sag down a little" (Miller, H. 1996). When asked how workers in the 1920's and 1930's dried their pants after working in the rain or snow, Mr. Lambert recounted his experience living in a logging camp bunk house, "We had our own suitcase under our own bed in the bunk houses. Kept our stuff in that. ...When you come in at night you put your shoes, you greased 'em up and set 'em not too close to the stove because you didn't want 'em to get too hot, but wanted 'em to keep warm. And your ['tin'] pants, stood 'em up against the wall cause they were [stiff from] paraffin, so they would be warm in the morning" (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

White Stag Quality—An Inheritance

"Quality cannot be purchased at the public marts," said Aristotle, "It is rather a gift from one's fathers."

Topsy put it differently when she said to Eva, "They's quality folk".

No matter how you say it, quality is an inheritance—a trait that develops from the experience of generations.

And White Stag's quality stems from its history. It grows from a past in the pioneer West where necessity was mother of invention. Clothing reverted to its original purpose of protective and functional use. There was no time or reason to "gussy" up clothes for active, vigorous men and women of the West.

Fabrics *had* to be tough. Design *had* to give active wearers "elbow room". And seams *had* to be welded like steel. White Stag's "know how" from its sail-maker past served it well.

The overlapped, double-stitched seams of functional Western clothing became perfected in White Stag sportswear as an inheritance of "quality" from the past.



Out of this past comes White Stag's insistence on "testing". The White Stag "tin pants" withstood the test of the Western woods. Today's White Stag products must stand up to the same high standard.

Ski togs are put through every possible snow and water test. Then, they are actually put "over the jumps" on ski runs under the most rigorous of conditions.

White Stag's Sun Togs do not escape this testing simply because they are worn for less vigorous sports. They are not the

usual laboratory tests, alone. Actually, as with ski wear, every design is worn on beaches and mountains, and laundered and ironed, and dried in the sun before being finally approved.

After these tests, a design may be changed, a style may have to be discarded and a fabric may be re-woven or re-dyed. For White Stag's heritage of quality does not permit for anything less than perfect.

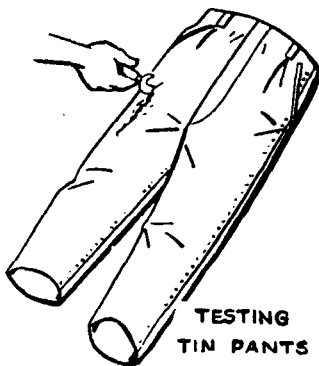
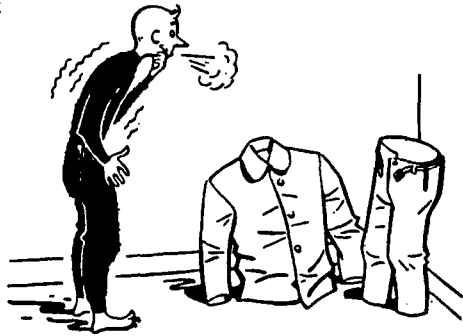


Figure 45. Hirsch-Weis, "From Sails to Play Clothes," brochure, c.1940.

In the milder Pacific Coast climate — with its more than frequent rains — those heavy mackinaws from the Mid-west became damp, uncomfortable sponges — soaking up the moisture until they were seldom dry, and always heavy and sodden.

"The men in the woods need tough waterproofs," said the timber bosses. And White Stag replied by literally hacking "waterproofs" from the heavy Sailcloth which had with-



stood the test of the sea and wind and storm. They then "dunked" these early Sailcloth garments in tanks of boiling paraffin until hardening and stiffening they actually stood up alone on the bunkhouse floors! So rugged were they that the men of the woods dubbed them "tin pants" and "tin coats", which they are still called today.



This was White Stag's introduction to the making of clothing—an introduction based on fulfilling a *need*—on the creation of strictly "functional" wear. And—that has been White Stag's way of life ever since.

The lumberjacks also soon discovered that when they wore their woolen shirt tails tucked "in", the rain either rolled down inside their "tin pants", or the shirts tended to draw moisture, like wicks, down inside their waists. And—more woe—when they wore them hanging out, their shirt tails snagged in underbrush and gear, actually endangering the lives of the loggers. One inventive timber-cruiser took a pair of shears and "staged off" his shirt tails. Others followed. And White Stag, taking a tip from the loggers themselves, created the first square-tailed "Stag Shirts", and insured their water-repellency by installing double shoulders from the cloth staged off the tails!



When — in the early 30's — skiing began to spread across the nation, there was no good American-made skiwear. Skiers had to be content with one of three methods of dress, depending largely on their income but never on their comfort. Some of them made their other clothing—such as hunting or fishing or work pants and jackets—do for the new sport. Others went to their

Figure 46. Hirsch-Weis, "From Sails to Play Clothes," brochure, c.1940.

Asked how he dried his cotton denim work pants, Mr. Lambert stated, "Oh yeah. You just hung them over the end of your bed" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Talking further about denim pants, Mr. Lambert continued, "Well, [they] wouldn't be wet [in the morning]. You don't wear 'em during that [wet] weather. Usually [you wore them when it was] dry. If they were wet why you'd just hang 'em up around the stove until they were dry, they wouldn't take long to dry. Hell! We'd have that stove red hot" (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

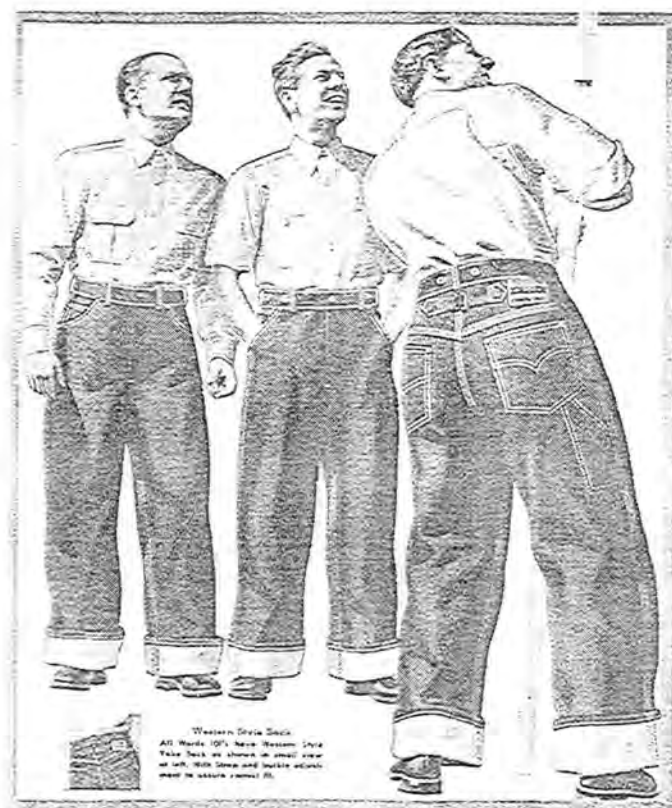
During the time period of this study, informants commented on the availability of work pants constructed from different weights of material. Informant I. B. "Jingles" Lambert, recalling the features of the "tin" work pants he purchased while working in Polk County during the late 1920's, stated, "Oh yeah. You could buy heavy weights and skinny weights and all" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Asked which he preferred, Mr. Lambert replied, "Why, I had the heavy weights because it saves your legs better" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Asked if the "tin" or denim pants he purchased during the late 1920's (see figure 47) were available with a double layer of cloth for added protection, Mr. Lambert replied, "No. They came out during the later years" (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Dwight Templeton provided the earliest recollection of the availability of work pants constructed from different weight materials. Mr. Templeton recalled, "There were different weights in denim (see figure 48) back in the 1930's that I remember. There was six ounce, eight ounce, and ten ounce. I guess there were some even heavier than that. That was a factor in buying the pants to work out there [in the woods]" (Interview with Templeton, D. 1996). Recalling having worn Hirsch-Weis



Figure 47. Informant I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, standing fourth from the left. Valsetz, Oregon, 1928 (I.B. Lambert Collection).

"tin" Pants, Mr. Templeton remembered them as the brand of "tin" pants that fit him best. Asked about the Hirsch-Weis "tin" pants he wore, Mr. Templeton replied, "The Hirsch-Weis brand always seemed to fit good. There were some brands that had a layer of oil cloth between the two layers of the ['tin'] material. I know that the Montgomery Ward ['tin'] rain pants had a layer between the two layers of cloth (see figure 49), that made them waterproof. And their coats also had oil cloth between the layers [of 'tin'] on the shoulders" (Templeton, D. 1996).



Western Style Jeans
All Wards 101's have Western Style
Yoke Neck as shown in small view
at left. With Slacks and Double Chain
Belt in colors shown at left.

Copper Riveted 101's

The Original and still the Best . . . only at Wards such
a Wide Selection of Sanforized-Shrunk Blue Denims



Good

77¢ 2 for \$1.49

**Extra Heavy Weight
8-oz. Blue Denim**

The original 101's . . . Scott's American's
Denim . . . 100% Cotton . . .
Sanforized-Shrunk . . .
Extra Heavy Weight . . .
Double Extra Heavy Weight . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .
Double Extra Heavy . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .

Better

89¢ 2 for \$1.74

**Double Extra Heavy Weight
Full 9-ounce Blue Denim**

Over 1000 Revere Fabrics . . .
Sanforized Blue Denim . . .
Double Extra Heavy Weight . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .
Double Extra Heavy . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .

Best

\$1.24 UNION
MADE

**Made in the West, Strongest,
Heaviest, 10-oz. Weight Blue Denim**

Some 101's . . .
Sanforized-Shrunk . . .
Heaviest Overall Fabric . . .
Union Made . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .
Double Extra Heavy . . .
Regular Slacks . . .
Extra Heavy . . .

Figure 48. Montgomery Ward & Company catalogue illustrating denim work jeans available in different weights of material, pg. 325, 1939/1941.



Double Tuck Pants with Riveted Metal Suspender Buttons. Two Snap-top Hip Pockets, Two Front and a Waist Pocket. Coat has Extra Large Double Collar and Double Sleeves.

10-oz. Shedpel Finish Army Duck

Water-Repellent Stop Coat

* Top Quality Shedpel Finish Army Duck has all the Features at Top of these Two Pages. You'll keep warm and dry! Cape curves about 28 1/2 in. down back, about 15 in. down front and covers the sleeves in arms. 2 pockets. About 50 1/2 inches long. Color: Olive Drab. Ship wt. each 4 lbs. 8 oz.

\$3.29

Reg. Size

42C5895—Regular Sizes:
15, 16, 17 or 18 in. neck.
State neck-size. \$3.29

42C5895—Extra Sizes: 19
or 20 in. neck. Be sure to
state neck-size. \$3.49

10-oz. Shedpel Finish Duck Pants

* Super Strength and Protection in Finest Army Duck. Head Quality Features at Top of Page. Tough work, tough weather. These Pants can take both! Knouting truck front waist in front; top (2) hip pockets in back to about 11 inches from bottom. 2 pockets (see small picture above). Color: Olive Drab. Ship wt. each 4 lbs. 4 oz.

\$2.98

Reg. Size

42 C 5899—Regular Sizes:
Even Waist 30 up 34 inches.
Inseam 24, 26, 28, 30 in. State
Waist and Inseam. \$2.98

42 C 5899—Extra Sizes:
Waist: 36 and 38 in.; Inseam:
26, 28, 30 in. State waist
and inseam size. \$3.29

Figure 49. Montgomery Ward & Company catalogue, pg. 321, 1939/1941.

Mr. Templeton continued, "The fallers used to pull [releasing large volumes of pitch that drained from a tree] a lot of pitch out [of] the tree when they were falling a tree, the big trees, and the saw dust and lots of pitch would be all over their clothes, and that would help make them waterproof, too" (Templeton, D. 1996).

During the course of interviewing informant Fred Hendrix, this interviewer noted a most interesting observation Mr. Hendrix made about the "Can't-Bust-Em" name brand of denim work pants he wore during the late 1930's. Mr. Hendrix commented, "And they quit making 'em because they said they could no longer get the denim that they required. And they made 'em different than anybody else. Most of this material [looking at the 'KEY' brand name denim work pants he was wearing at the time of our interview], the threads run straight up and down and cross ways. Theirs [the 'Can't-Bust-Em' brand], was cut on the bias. As I recall, they didn't wear out as much where you had wear points. A good deal better overall as far as I was concerned. And you could get 'em either way you wanted 'em, either with buttons for suspenders or without buttons" (Interview with Hendrix, F. 1996).

How many pairs of work pants would you purchase each year?

The number of pairs of denim work pants purchased annually by informants varied between two and five pairs. 12 out of 18 informants purchased between two and three pairs each year, two informants purchased between three and four pairs, and four informants recalled having purchased between four and five pairs annually.

Informant Harold McKern, who purchased between two and three pairs of new denim work pants annually, recalled purchasing his work pants once a year during the fall. Asked how many pair he usually bought, he replied, "Two or three. They wear out! I purchased pants in the fall usually. Fall, when it's cold, same as they [kids] do when you start school. We would buy our 'cork' shoes [boots] in the summer time and throw them in the closet until it rained. We wore our old shoes [boots] because they usually had crack in 'em, or leaks. Then as soon as the rainy weather started we pulled out the new ones and put them on" (McKern, H. 1996).

Recalling when he purchased new work pants, informant Fred Hendrix stated, "you know, a logger always buys a new pair of overalls and that's his dress pants! Usually they last 'till he has to wash 'em the first time, but not always" (Hendrix, F. 1996). Asked how long he wore a pair of work pants before patching them or replacing them with a new pair, Mr. Hendrix replied, "When I was logging, and my mother was still able to do it, why, she would do quite a little patching, but afterwards [after his mother's death] I didn't get that much [patching done]." Asked to explain how worn he allowed his denim work pants to become before replacing them, Mr. Hendrix recalled, laughing, "Well, anything more than [one] leg beginning to give out" (Hendrix, F. 1996).

With recollections similar to Mr. Hendrix's, informant Glenn Althausser recounted the following experience when buying new denim work pants, "I would always buy them a little bit ahead of time so that I could wear them as semi-dress pants, 'till I needed 'em to work in and got 'em all greasy and grimy. Then my wife

would scream at me" (laughing). Mr. Althausser continued, "And my wife would patch those and eventually they would wear out just below the pocket. With the chain saw and one thing or another, you're always pushing against your leg [with the saw] just right below your pocket. For falling [timber] you use that [portion of your leg to push against the saw] for leverage" (Althausser, G. 1996).

Depending upon the type of work informants performed, either operating logging equipment or working in direct contact with timber, i.e., falling, bucking, or setting chokers, the longevity of denim work pants varied. Informant Charles Ames remembered having worn three pairs of new denim work pants each year he worked. He recounted his experience of purchasing new pants shortly after he married in 1937:

Well, I've had overalls [denim pants] ripped off me practically [from accidents involving logging cables], and, then naturally you always got another pair. So, you've got another pair in reserve. So, then you'd just go to the commissary, and [purchase another pair]. 'Course after Lennie and I got married, and stayin' home, why, you'd maybe have two or three pair. You'd just go get you another pair [of work pants] next time you go to town (Ames, C. 1996).

Asked how often his denim work pants were patched before replacing them, Mr. Ames replied, "Well, if you want to know the damn truth, I don't know as I ever wore a pair of patched pants. Did I Lennie?" Mrs. Ames answered, "Oh yes you did!" (Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames continued:

No, she'd patch 'em! But, they was pretty well worn out. `Course she washed 'em pretty often, Oh, I'd say she might patch 'em once. I'm sure I can truthfully say if you wore out in the knee, and she put a patch on it, when that wore out again, it was throwed away because the rest of it was

too ragged. After I was married, I don't know if I come in half-way clean I might wear 'em the next day. But if I didn't, I wore the clean pair just like I do now. I drop these pair down here at night. I cut my own wood in the summer you know. I would come in half dirty, shirt and overalls. Naturally you're going to take and clean up at night, and take a shower. But I don't put the same ones back on. Or either that, but, you might wear the same ones but they've been washed in these modern deals. Now you wash 'em and try 'em and you can put the same ones back on the next morning. So, no. In the summer we had to take salt pills to stay alive. You drank lots of water. But you was runnin'. What I mean is them pants would get so full of sweaty salty sweat, and they'd itch ya, and rubbin' ya, and they would rub you raw if you didn't take and put on clean pants (Ames, C. 1996).

When informant Herald McKern was asked what part of his denim work pants wore out the fastest, Mrs. McKern replied, "Get patched. Be patched around the pockets where his saw rest on his thighs. On the thigh!" Mr. McKern then replied, "Power saw? No, you carried it in your hand!" Mrs. McKern then asked, "Well, how did you wear out those holes? I mended your pants and I mended those holes right over your pockets. So, it's either tools or the saw, one [of those] wore out your pockets." Mr. McKern then replied, "Well, I carried a wedge, can of gas, and everything else; ax, saw, can of gas." Mrs. McKern, responding to Mr. McKern, stated: "well, I remember mending your pants and that's what I was wondering about, your pliers or tools or something that wore out your pants right across and above your pockets... Well I remember mending a good many pairs of pants" (laughing) (McKern, H. 1996).

Recalling having patched many pairs of Mr. McKern's denim work pants, Mrs. McKern added the following:

Mainly that I didn't like that [hem portion of the pants legs] being cut-off! I'd buy him a pair of nice pants, you know, and he'd come home and

they'd be all hacked above the boot-line. I didn't care much for that because I thought he was going to wear them longer and for other things than just logging, you know. But, they'd wear out and I'd have to mend quite a few pair of pants... I would use the part he cut off for the patch. It would be the same [material]. And when I got the electric sewing machine in 1950, it was a lot better than that old treadle. Yeah, and use it for patches, 'cause you're not suppose to put new on old, so it came from the same pants. Yeah, I would patch them about twice and that was it (McKern, H. 1996).

Asked about how she cared for Mr. McKern's denim pants, Mrs. McKern replied, "...they got so filled with the oil from the saws and gasoline, and when you washed them, well, you had to wash that all out and of course that weakened the fibers" (McKern, H. 1996). Asked to describe the process of washing Mr. McKern's denim pants, Mrs. McKern continued, "Well, usually I threw 'em in the washing machine and hoped the soap would get that [pitch] out, or I did use some oil, or something, lard. Lard usually softened them. Yeah, just rub it in good with my hands and lard will take out a lot of pitch and oil. Then you would have to wash them two or three times to get the lard out" (laughing) (McKern, H. 1996).

Working primarily as a timber faller and buckler from 1927 to 1960, informant Gene Caswell recalled purchasing an average of two pairs of denim work pants each year. Asked to describe his experience wearing denim work pants, Mr. Caswell recalled, "Oh, I wasn't very hard on pants. Two pair (of denim) pants would do me a year I'm sure" (Caswell, G. 1996). Mrs. Caswell, present during our interview, added, "In those days, we bought what we could afford then, and did with what we could" (Caswell, G. 1996). Asked how Mr. Caswell cared for his work pants at the end of the work day, Mrs. Caswell recounted, "... he always changed when he got

home. Some men that worked in the woods didn't and that pitch and stuff didn't smell very good, but he always took a shower and changed his clothes when he got home" (Caswell, G. 1996). Contrasting with Mrs. Herald McKern's account of washing denim work pants, Mrs. Caswell stated, "Yeah, you didn't wash them though. That made them too limp; you left all the pitch and stuff on them" (Caswell, G. 1996).

When informant Finley Hays, who worked from 1951 through 1954 along Oregon's central coast and eastern Linn County, was asked how many pairs of denim pants he wore each year, he recalled, "Two or three. You know, one way you could determine the type of job a logger did in the woods was by their work pants." Mr. Hays continued, "A buckler smelled different (than other loggers) because of kerosene dripping down the back of his pants from a kerosene bottle [a bottle carried by loggers (see figure 50) that was filled with kerosene stove oil. Used as a lubricant,



Figure 50. Retired logger, Victor "Lyle" Ramey, shown carrying the tools he used while working as a timber buckler at Valsetz, Oregon from 1936 to 1950. A kerosene hook bottle can be seen hanging from his right belt loop, c.1986.

kerosene was sprinkled on a saw blade as pitch was encountered while cutting through a log. The kerosene allowed hand saws to slide and cut more easily (see figure 51)].

You could tell by smell what they [loggers] did for a job" (Interview with Hays, F. 1996).



Figure 51. A logger bucking a log with a bucking hand saw. A kerosene hook bottle can be seen positioned on the log to be bucked, just to the left of the saw, c.1930 (Oregon Historical Society, neg. #679).

Through the course of informant interviews, those who wore "tin" pants on a regular basis recalled purchasing fewer pairs of "tin" pants than cotton denim pants each year. The structural durability of a cotton duck "tin" material exceeded that of cotton denim. In addition to the superior durability of "tin" pants, the need to wear them only during rainy periods of the work year contributed to their longevity as well. A total of 13 out of 18 informants recalled wearing "tin" pants during their careers. Four informants chose not to wear "tin" pants because they experienced a lack of mobility and the fabric felt so stiff. One informant wore "tin" pants for a very short period of time, then stopped wearing them because they were too stiff. Twelve informants purchased at least one pair of "tin" pants annually.

Informant Dwight Templeton purchased two pairs of "tin" pants every other year. Mr. Templeton stated, "A pair of 'tin' pants in my case probably would last a couple of years. It depended on how active you were and just what you were doing. If your pants are muddy, and you were dragging a lot of cables across them, or something like that, they would wear [out] pretty fast. But if I were sitting on a piece of equipment, why, that's easy on clothes" (Templeton, D. 1996). Asked where his "tin" pants wore out the fastest, Mr. Templeton replied, "On the legs, knees, and thighs. Most the things you did, you know, rubbed against you" (Templeton, D. 1996).

Informant Herbert Miller, who recalled wearing one new pair of "tin" pants on average each year, stated, "Well, I had a wife, she'd keep my jeans patched all right,

of course. 'Tin' pants, that's something else again. You wore 'em 'til they wore out. I never saw anyone patch a pair of 'tin' pants" (Miller, H. 1996).

What changes in work pants do you remember over the period of time you worked?

All informants interviewed for this project recalled observing very few changes in the basic design of the work pants they wore during their working careers. A number of informants, however, did note changes associated with specific structural characteristics consisting of the following: weight and durability of cotton material used in pant construction; introduction of front zippers; overall fit; cost; and availability.

Working throughout Oregon's coastal region between 1919/1920 and 1945, informant Herbert Miller recalled no specific changes in appearance of the work pants he wore during his career. Mr. Miller stated, "Well, I didn't see any [changes]. They was wearing 'tin' pants when I first went to work in the woods, and jeans. Those two kinds of pants. No, fellows would come on the job sometimes with any old kind of pants... whatever they had maybe, see. But fellows that really worked with the woods, and stayed in it, why, 'tin' pants were pretty much the same, for the winter time" (Miller, H. 1996).

Informant I.B. "Jingles" Lambert, who worked from 1921 to 1976, also recalled no specific changes in the appearance of both the "tin" and denim work pants he wore. Talking about those characteristics he felt remained unchanged, Mr. Lambert commented, "They still stag 'em off [today] you know! I saw a guy yesterday [in Dallas]

that worked [as a logger] for Mike LeLack. His pants were stagged-off just like we use to years ago" (Lambert, I.B., 1996). Asked if the physical features of work pants he wore differed from those sold today, Mr. Lambert stated, "Well... them jeans [today] are small. Overalls had bigger legs, not tight like the jeans [today]." Asked if the weight of the material of work pants differed from work pants being sold today, Mr. Lambert replied, "... there were different weights [then] on 'em too, you know... you could buy heavy weight [denim pants] and skinny weights and all. Why I had the heavy weights because it saves your legs better [when working in the brush]" (Lambert, I.B. 1996). Asked if he recalled other differences between work pants sold today and those he wore during his career, Mr. Lambert recalled:

We didn't have any zippers at that time [during the late 1920's] that I can remember. I don't ever remember any zippers. But, what I was looking for was heavy material in overalls. We didn't call 'em jeans, they were "overalls. "They had bigger legs and the first thing I would do was stag 'em off to two or three inches below the top of my shoes [boots], whatever height they were. I know there use to always be somebody sneak a match out and light a match to them frazzled legs (while we were riding) in the crummy [Mr. Lambert road in a railroad box car, (see figure 52) termed a "crummy" to and from work each day] when we was standing up in there riding to work. God dang it! Get smoke coming up all over from pants burning! (Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Informant Howard Brunson, working between 1923 and 1966, remembered no changes in appearance of the "logger's uniform" during his career. Mr. Brunson did recall that the pants he wore at the beginning of his career were looser and provided easier mobility than those he wore at the end of his career.

Talking about the pants he wore during the late 1920's compared to those he wore toward the end of his career, informant Charles Ames recalled, "Well, the pockets,



Figure 52. A logging crew preparing to ride to work in a railroad box car called a "crummy." Valsetz, Oregon, c.1928 (I.B. Lambert Collection).

the pockets were not as good... and [the pockets], they were made out of, they had heavier cloth to make 'em in the pockets. Now' days you wear the pockets out and you've got to keep sewing 'em up" (Ames. C. 1996). Asked why his pockets wore out so often, Mr. Ames replied, "You put your pocket knife in your pocket. Well, I always wore it in this pocket here [pointing to his front right pants pocket]. We always had a [pocket knife].

Everybody had a good knife. You just had to have a knife because you would use it everyday" (Ames, C. 1996). Mr. Ames continued, "[Pockets were] deeper. Yeah! They needed to make some pockets in place of those little things. I say 'cause a guy who's gonna do anything is going to have something in there" (Ames, C. 1996).

Informant Glenn Althausser also commented on the difference in material used to construct the pockets in denim work pants. Asked what the differences were between the pockets in the pants he first wore and those he wore towards the end of his logging career, Mr. Althausser replied:

Well, the inside pockets. They couldn't be of flimsy material, such as the pants I'm wearing now. The inside pockets were of denim, the same as the outside. Therefore, when you'd carry anything in your pockets, why, it didn't wear through. I have used [worn] some [pants] that had a real thin cotton material that [when I] would be limbing a tree and all of a sudden nickels and dimes come rolling out [of] your pants leg. That doesn't work too good (Althausser, G. 1996).

Brothers Arlie and George Dickie both remembered that the work pants they wore at the beginning of their careers, (Arlie in 1929, and George in 1934), were constructed of a heavier weight cotton denim than the denim used to construct the pants they wore toward the end of their logging careers in 1970 and 1973, respectively.

Informant Frank "Tex" Blazek recalled no major changes in the appearance of the work pants he wore between 1923 and 1936, and 1941 to 1950. Asked what in general he recalled about the work clothing he wore during his career, he replied, "They've [loggers] all worn cork boots and 'tin' clothes in the winter, and very little clothes [during the warmer, dryer months]" (Interview with Blazek, F. 1996). Asked

if he wore pants with a zipper fly or button fly when he first started working, Mr. Blazek replied, "Oh! Zippers. No! It was unthought of! No. I don't think they ever did have zippers then" (Blazek, F. 1996). Asked if he recalled if denim work pants were available in varying weights of material, Mr. Blazek stated:

Well, I think you had a choice. Like if you were [working] in an extremely wet place you'd buy this heavy stuff, but you didn't want this heavy stuff to wear if you were very active. I'll tell ya', a logger, he isn't exposed to the weather [today] like they use to be. Timber fallers, you know, they had a lot of times they had to walk a ways to work. That was part of their job. They'd go in places where there was no transportation and they'd have to walk in there (Blazek, F. 1996).

The absence of zipper fly closures was also noted by Informant Fred Hendrix. Asked if the denim pants he purchased came with a zipper fly he replied, "Pretty near everything was button fly back in those days. Zippers came along somewhat later" (Hendrix, F. 1996).

Don Oakes, working between 1955 and 1998, remembered that the denim work pants he purchased from J.C. Penney's during the 1950's were available in various weights of material. Asked to talk about his experience wearing the J.C. Penney brand of denim work pants, he replied, "They [had their] own brand. They, they made an 11 ounce jean and a 13 ounce jean. And I used the 13 ounce jean after I got started" (Oakes, D. 1996). Asked to further share his experience wearing J.C. Penney denim pants, Mr. Oakes continued, "They'd swell up and water [would] just run off of 'em. They were 13 ounce cotton. It was, oh, about 1972, 1973, they quit making 'em. Nineteen-seventy two, 1973, or 1974, about the mid 1970's. I was

pulling rigging once in a while. I wasn't suppose to, but I did. I liked pulling rigging" (Oakes, D. 1996).

Asked to recall any differences in the fit of the jeans he wore, Mr. Oakes replied, "Well, see, jeans back then, they would probably call 'em, well, they weren't a bell bottom, but they were loose [fitting] (Oakes, D. 1996). Mr. Oakes continued, "Not tapered like Levi's. They were straight cut, about like what I wear, I almost wear a straight cut now. These are Wranglers. I had to switch in about 1975, I'd say, since 1975, or almost around then I switched to Wranglers. Penney's, well Penney's went out of [the] business [of selling work jeans] about then, and they were good jeans. They decided they were going to go for the college set, or something else. They quit making good clothes. Good work clothes. That's about when I quit wearing [work jeans]. I haven't bought a pair of jeans from them in years. They went down to some [lower material weights], they even make some six ounce jeans, Penney's did."

Asked what the biggest change in work pants he has observed during his career in the woods, Mr. Oakes replied, "... I can't see much difference in the pants. Well, of course, these kids try to wear these tight pants now. They wear these Levi's, like you're wearing. You can't walk in 'em... You can't walk in the woods. Your legs are gonna give out. You have charley horses at night, wearing that kind of a pants logging. Yeah, they just wear your leg muscles out trying to get 'em up. You'd

be surprised how much this [pointing to the portion of his pants leg fabric that covers the front of leg] moves across your knee."

Asked about wearing pants with either a button or a zipper fly, Mr. Oakes commented:

I always wore zipper pants. I hated them damn buttons. When your fingers get cold, your always runnin' around unbuttoned. Nobody ever kept them buttoned up. That just seemed to be the normal thing with loggers. `Course you would (wear) black long johns [long underwear] underneath of 'em, in the winter, when it got cold. Black woollies we called 'em (Oakes, D. 1996).

CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY: WHAT WE KNOW AND DON'T
KNOW ABOUT LOGGERS' PANTS WORN IN WESTERN OREGON,
1920 - 1970

The purpose of this study was to identify the types of work pants worn by loggers working in Western Oregon from the 1920's to the 1970's. Specifically, the present study increased knowledge of characteristics of loggers' clothing and consumer choices made by loggers throughout Western Oregon regarding the purchase of work pants. The present research considered the need for initial research, associated garment identification, and oral interviews identifying consumer choices in work clothing based on work location, socio-cultural influences, job experience, and available income. I wanted to find and identify extant garments available for study or reference as possible museum exhibits, as well as contribute more data to existing literature pertaining to men's historic costume.

Historic costume studies identifying men's work clothing based on socio-cultural influence, availability of consumer goods, regional differences, and physical characteristics are almost nonexistent. Background research for this study was conducted through examination of literature relevant to logging history in the Pacific Northwest and contact with historical associations within the focus area while seeking to identify potential informants. After identifying and reviewing relevant published materials, identification of potential informants took place. Informants were chosen based on their past employment in geographic locations within the study area, and interview questions were developed. Next, interviews were scheduled and conducted. Audio tape recordings of each interview

were made and notes were kept. After each interview, tapes were transcribed and information reviewed and identified for relevance to this study. If informants had photographs of themselves in work clothing relevant to this study, the photographs were borrowed from the informants and copies made for use as secondary reference materials.

Limitations

Limitations for this study consisted of the following: lack of existing published materials relevant to the history of men's logging clothing; limited availability of historic reference material kept by men's work clothing manufacturers and clothing retail companies; an ever-decreasing number of potential informants who worked as loggers during the first half of the 20th century; and informants' inability to recall all of the information that may be relevant to this study.

Costume historians have published books and articles over the past two decades that discuss men's occupational dress. Identified studies of protective work clothing were located but these studies focused on 19th century European clothing (deMarley, 1986; Williams-Mitchell, 1982). The majority of existing research located during the review of literature portion of this study focused on men's fashion clothing -- specifically, stylistic changes in high fashion or men's business wear (Hemken, 1993) or detailed inquiries into studies of 18th century European pants-fastening systems (Bryant, 1998).

A number of manufacturers were identified as having produced or sold men's work clothing. Those contacted for background research purposes offered only limited

information pertaining to types of work clothing sold in Western Oregon during the period in time focused on in this study. Clothing retail stores also offered little, if any, information regarding the history of their product lines of men's work clothing. A common answer to an inquiry for information was, "Sorry, our corporate archives are very limited," or, "We are just now beginning to gather old stuff" (Probst, J.1999; Ulf, P. 1997).

The passing of each year sees the number of loggers in the Pacific Northwest who worked during the first half of the 20th century diminish. As subjects were sought for interviews, the number of persons who worked during the beginning of the period focused on in this study were almost non-existent. The phrase heard most when historical society staff were asked to identify possible informants was, "Oh, you should have come last month," or, "Last year, when old..." then the name of an "old-time" logger now deceased was mentioned.

Fortunately, however, I found 18 excellent informants eager to participate in this project, and many had photographs as well as information to share. In some cases, wives also were present at interviews and contributed valuable information. Subjects also provided other information about their work lives in logging. The subjects interviewed for this project all appeared to have relatively good memories. Some subjects possessed an excellent ability to recollect details of the early years of their working lives. Most informants were able to recall where and when they worked as loggers; however, their ability to recall specific work clothing brand names varied.

Physical Appearance of Work Pants

In the time period focused on in this project, informants observed few changes in overall appearance of the work pants they purchased and wore. Informants consistently commented that the characteristics of the work pants they wore stayed relatively unchanged - loose fitting, with wide, non-tapering legs.

The changes in characteristics of appearance and structure of work pants observed by informants were: manufacturers use of less material in the back waist-band area of denim pants; the introduction of zipper fly closure systems during the 1950's (Hendrix, F. 1996); the introduction of denim work pants without suspender buttons; and manufacturers offering fewer choices in the weight of pants material. One informant recalled that one brand of denim pants, "Can't-Bust-'Em," were constructed from bias-cut material until the 1930's (Hendrix, F. 1996). This informant felt denim work pants constructed from bias-cut material wore out more slowly.

The background information gathered for the literature review portion of this project, which consisted of locating and reviewing work clothing manufacturers and retail clothing company product catalogues, historical logging photographs showing loggers working between 1920 and 1970, and related published materials, supports the above informant's observations.

With the introduction of "Western"-style, tight fitting, tapered-leg, denim jeans in the 1930's and 1940's, the availability and variety of denim work pants diminished (Little, D. 1996: 45). The 1940's also saw shortages in denim pants manufactured in the United States for non-military wear due to World War II (Little, D. 1996: 46). From a inspection

of clothing retailer's catalogues in the OSU library dating from 1922 to 1970, I observed that manufacturers and clothing retailers increasingly attempted to appeal to a wide variety of consumers. In doing so, they paid less attention to manufacturing and selling a wide selection of practical work wear and focused more on producing denim jeans that would appeal to the men's sense of style.

Based on perusal of many catalogues from Sears, Roebuck and Company, J.C. Penney's Inc., and Montgomery Ward & Company, conducted as part of the literature review portion of this study, I concluded that as new types of weather protective clothing were introduced to the men's work clothing market during the 1940's and 1950's, rain clothing manufactured from cotton duck "tin" material steadily decreased. Informants' observations confirmed this trend (McKern H. 1996; Miller, H. 1996).

From information provided by informants, I concluded that work clothing was more readily available from a wider variety of retailers during the first half of the 20th century (Ames, C. 1996; Hendrix, F. 1996; Lambert, I.B. 1996; McKern, H. 1996). Informants observed that as clothing manufacturers and retailers began focusing more attention on stylistic changes in denim jeans during the 1950's through the 1970's, the number of retailers selling work pants decreased, along with product quality (Ames, C. 1996; Hendrix, F. 1996; McKern, H. 1996).

With improvements in road building and truck transportation during the 1930's and 1940's, loggers no longer needed to live full time in logging camps near remote work sites. This access allowed them to live in town and travel daily to the work site (Ames, C. 1996). Small logging commissaries, which sold work clothing, decreased (Ames, C. 1996:

Cookson, R. 1995). Loggers could now purchase pants in town often at lower prices (Ames, C. 1996; Lambert, I.B. 1996).

Recommendations for Future Research

Recorded interviews collected for this study would lend themselves to further study and analysis. Researchers seeking to identify consumer influences and preferences for work clothing worn by workers in the logging profession in Western Oregon will find a great deal of information located in informant interview tapes. Other areas of work clothing covered include work shirts, long underwear, and boots.

All 18 informants were asked additional questions beyond those used for this study. These questions provided information about the technical aspects of logging including information about the kinds of hand tools they used and how they used them. Informants talked about tools such as falling and bucking saws, falling axes, spring boards, and electric-and gasoline-powered chain saws. This information could be useful to researchers investigating changes in hand-tool technology and the effect it had upon the timber industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Those seeking to better understand the dangers involved in logging in Western Oregon during the early to mid-part of the 20th century will find many recollections regarding serious injury and death in the oral histories gathered for this project. Each informant recalled first hand, the dangers of their experiences or accidents they observed involving other workers who were either seriously injured or killed while working in the

woods. Copies of interview tapes are housed in the Oregon State University

Archives for use by future researchers.

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