

THIS PDF APPLIES TO MARILEWEIN.COM AND BLOG POSTS THEREIN

LOGGING HISTORY IN NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN, VANCOUVER ISLAND, AND NEWFOUNDLAND

We have three unpublished volumes on logging history; one authored by our grandfather Matt Hemmingsen (1876-1967), two by our father, JO (John Oliver) Hemmingsen (1913-2008). However, this is a genealogy blog, with family stories woven around their work. The blog has many more stories than captured here, as we have tried to par the list to be more logging specific. Some context may be lost.

Matt was a Norwegian immigrant, who at aged 12, entered the woods of northwest Wisconsin as a cookhouse flunkey. That was 1888. He mastered every job of logging operations and in so doing, had many times contracted to the industry giant John Humbird (and partner, Weyerhaeuser). They had vast timber resources in British Columbia under V.L. & M (Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Company). Mr. Humbird, was very favorably impressed by Matt's skills and called him out to B.C. in 1906 to solve their epic Tsolum River Logjam.

Matt, the entrepreneur, was credited with bringing high lead logging to BC. After nearly 60 years in the woods, he retired from his co-owned venture, Hemmingsen-Cameron Co. Ltd, Port Renfrew. He wrote his memoirs in 1956, which remains in draft form, except for its use here.

John Hemmingsen also entered the woods at 12. Unlike Matt, with a fourth grade education, his was weekend and summer work, until he graduated college. After college, John continued in the Port Renfrew operation until it sold. Two of his children were born there, and they received his scrapbooks entitled "Forest Regeneration – 50 years later". John took a position with Bowater in Newfoundland in 1947 and was charged with mechanizing their logging operations. After confederation in 1950, he returned to British Columbia. He retired as Executive Vice President MacMillan and Bloedel in 1978. John wrote his Family History in 1999, detailing his career, and adding insight into that of his father.

We very much appreciate reader comments in the reply box at the end of each piece.

LOGGING IN NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN 1884-1905 MEMOIRS: MATT HEMMINGSEN

TITLE of POST	URL	DETAILS	Data Range
FROM the MEMOIRS OF MATHIAS HEMMINGSEN – VICTORIA, B.C. (1876-1967)			
I- <i>History; Farming. Logging, Road Building. Life.</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/06/13/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-history-farming-logging-road-building-life/	Matt's early recall on Wisconsin farmstead with his Civil Engineer father	1876-1890
II- <i>Forest Fires 1894 to Water Bombers 1970s</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/06/26/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-forest-fires-1894-to-water-bombers-1970s/	Mid 1890s economic depression. Ole/Matt's forest fires of 1890s vs John's of 1970s.	1894-1970
III- <i>Logging; Sleigh Roads, Decking Riverbanks, Humbird and Weyerhaeuser</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/07/12/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-logging-sleigh-roads-decking-riverbanks-humbird-and-weyerhaeuser/	Matt gives a detailed account of logging operations and the life of the young logger.	1895-1898

TITLE of POST	URL	DETAILS	Data Range
IV- <i>Bunkhouse Lice, Boiling Clothes for Freeze Dry and Capitalism.</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/08/01/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-bunkhouse-lice-boiling-clothes-for-freeze-dry-and-capitalism/	Matt gives a grueling account of logging camp life.	1895-1898
V- <i>Loading Logs and Logging Horse Welfare</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/08/10/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-loading-logs-and-logging-horse-welfare/	Life of the logging horse, a recurrent theme for Matt.	1898-1898
VI- <i>"White Water" River Drive and Spanish American War</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/08/13/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-white-water-river-drive-or-spanish-american-war/	Matt ventures a little west and encounters much adventure and learning.	1898-1900
VII- <i>Brother Harry; Death by Logging in 1900-Obit in 2019.</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/08/21/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-brother-harry-dead-in-1900-obit-in-2019/	Description of beloved Harry's logging accident. Harry's biography.	1900-1900
VIII- <i>Matt Hemmingsen (1876-1967) Memoirs: Healing On a Logging Horse – THUD</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/09/01/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-healing-on-a-logging-horse-thud/	As Matt mourns Harry's death by working on a logging horse, his father, Ole, unexpectedly dies.	1901-1903
IX- <i>A Lumbering Bait and Switch.</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/09/04/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-a-lumbering-bait-and-switch/	Matt weds They migrate to Canada, only to return to Wisconsin	1903-1906

LOGGING ON VANCOUVER ISLAND B.C. 1906-1946 MEMOIRS: OF MATT HEMMINGSEN

TITLE of POST	URL	DETAILS	Data Range
X- <i>Family Leave circa 1907 and Epic Tsolum River Logjam</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/10/02/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-family-leave-circa-1907-and-epic-tsolum-river-logjam/	Matt returns to the west coast of Canada. Performs amazing logging feat.	1907-1907
<i>Hemmingson Homestead Photos 1880s WI vs 1914 BC</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/05/30/hemmingson-homestead-photos-1880s-wi-us-vs-1914-bc-ca/	Ole's build in Wisconsin and Matt's in British Columbia.	1887-1914
XI- <i>Lake Cowichan Float Home; Democrat Wagon for Logging Horse Billie</i>	https://marileewein.com/2019/11/16/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-lake-cowichan-olde-democrat-wagon-for-logging-horse-billie/	Interval between Matt's return to Vancouver Island and marriage to Margaret Naysmith Alexander.	1907-1911
XII- <i>Comox Valley; Sunny Days Ahead</i>	http://marileewein.com/2019/12/07/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-comox-valley-sunny-days-ahead/	Matt marries Margaret. The girl, Margaret, is written.	1891-1910
XIII- <i>So Was Ed Hemmingsen at the Wedding?</i>	http://marileewein.com/2020/01/11/matt-hemmingsen-1876-1967-memoirs-so-was-ed-hemmingsen-at-the-wedding/	Ed: another extraordinary child (logger) of Ole and Berith. Identifying his formidable wife Anna.	1882-1911

<i>Oil Painting on Maple Burl; Logging 1912, Cowichan Lake</i>	https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-V3	An artist depicts Matt's logging operations at Lake Cowichan – oil on maple burl. Stunning	About 1912
His Innovations in West Coast Logging 1907-1911	https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-1rl	Matt's spectacular logging achievements in BC	1907-1911

THE ROLLOUT OF MATT'S MEMOIRS WILL CONTINUE INTO THE LATE 1940S

FOREST REGENERATION 1940 + 50 YEARS VANCOUVER ISLAND: J O HEMMINGSEN

Our Home in the Woods. Earthquake and Tsunami

From the Logging Camps 1 <https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-5N>

Port Renfrew Logging Camp: The Lambsy Divey Murder

From the Logging Camps 2- <https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-66>

Introduction of Logging Trucks. Getting Heavy Equipment to Camp

From the Logging Camps 3 – <https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-8h>

Our Shay Loco, Trestle, Tugboat, Booms, Etc.

From the Logging Camps 5 – <https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-aY>

Port Renfrew Logging Camps – Forest Regeneration, 50 years after planting

From the Logging Camps 6 – <https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-cd>

Logging Camp: Logging Patent (Mathias Hemmingsen) Pulley, Clothes Line, Trucks

<https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-eh>

Maquinna: Calling on the Way-stops of Life – Getting Loggers and Miners to Work ca 1910

<https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-9o>

MoPop's Last Christmas Tree: Our Last Foray Deep into the Woods

<https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-1QP>

LOGGING IN NEWFOUNDLAND TO CONFEDERATION: JOHN OLIVER HEMMINGSEN

[HTTPS://WP.ME/P9ORWJ-EX](https://wp.me/p9ORWJ-EX)

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