

JUST COGITATING: Jesse F. Ives Was Inspiration to Afflicted

By C. T. CONOVER
77-Year-Old Seattle Pioneer

JESSE F. IVES made a notable success of life, despite a physical handicap in later years that would have blighted most lives.

In Jesse's early boyhood, the Ives family moved from Iowa to California, and Jesse became a pupil in the public schools. Later he attended a military academy.

At an early age, Jesse began working in lumberyards as a common laborer. In 1898 he entered the employ of the Stimson Mill Co. at Los Angeles. His zeal and application to his work won him promotion. Within 15 years, Ives moved upward steadily and became manager of the great Stimson plant in Seattle.

Ives largely rebuilt the plant, making it the most modern in the Pacific Northwest. Until his death, June 6, 1926, he continued as manager of the Stimson business.

THERE was no phase of the trade, from the purchase of standing timber to the delivery of the finished product, with which Ives was not thoroughly familiar.

A reporter once visited Ives to get a story about the operations of the Stimson firm.

He wrote: "Ives drove to Everett. Here we stopped at a restaurant long enough to order dinner, and then drove to the waterfront, where he inspected a barge belonging to the company, and then back to eat the dinner he had ordered."

"We then drove to the camp. After I had been shown everything, it was suggested that I go to bed, as he had a job to do that would keep him until midnight or after."

"THE next morning I was awakened before day-break. After breakfast, we took a logging train for the upper camp. Ives ran the locomotive. It seemed impossible for him to be where there was anything to do without doing as much of it as was humanly possible."

"Just as we arrived at the camp, a telephone message came that a dredger that had been working at a camp many miles away was out of order and would have to be towed to Seattle for repairs."

"Again we boarded the locomotive, which Ives drove, to the dump."

"'Pull that bucket out,' Ives said, 'and throw it on the dump. Let's have a look at it.' He found the trouble, made the necessary repairs and started it working again."

"WE returned to the main camp for lunch, and then started for Seattle. We stopped at the point where the road crossed the railroad. Ives walked two miles and back to see if the dredger still

was running. It was, and we returned to Seattle. Ives was glad to get back early, as it would take him hours to catch up with his work."

"Few receive a stunning blow such as Ives received and come up smiling. About ten years ago, he lost his sight. The first time I saw him after that misfortune, this viable man was standing at his desk with a broad smile on his face and a cheerful word on his tongue."

"Although blind, Ives still was active and had built a swimming pool at his home. He had exercisers of all kinds. He had a beautiful yacht and he operated the engine personally."

"And," said Ives, "when it

comes to money I have made more both for the mill and for myself since I have been blind than I did before. I formerly used my hands too much and my brain too little. There are times when I cannot find anything worth while to do physically and, as I have to be busy, I think."

In early manhood, Ives married Miss Mary E. Hood, a direct descendant of Jonathan Edwards. His interest in his family was a dominant feature of his life.

NELS S. NELSON made his way up from poverty to a top place in Seattle's business world. He was born in Sweden in 1856 and came to America at an early age, virtually without funds. He worked in the mines at Leadville, Colo., and later was in the cattle business.

In 1891 he landed in Seattle and met D. E. Frederick, whom he had known in Colorado. Frederick induced him to invest his savings of \$5,000 in a store with him, and thus came into being Frederick & Nelson, which years later was sold to Marshall Field & Co.

Nelson was a Mason of high degree. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Club and its president for many years. He was also a member of the Rainier Club. He was interested in sports and in music and the arts, but outside of business his major interest was his home and family.

In 1895 he was married to Miss Telda Johnson. They



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ALEC the GREAT



It's sure a dog's life -
There's no other name for it -
When no matter what happens
You get the blame for it.

R.D.