



Elmer R. Goudy

1900-1979

Born in Chicago, Illinois, September 8, 1900, Elmer R. Goudy became an Oregonian when his family moved to Portland in 1904. Elmer's early formal education was achieved in Portland and after graduation from Washington High School, he went on to Oregon Agricultural College (now Oregon State University) to study agriculture. He changed his major due to his interest in law and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. This interest in law lured Mr. Goudy to Harvard Law School for a year, followed by two years at Stanford University Law School.

With a freshly earned Juris Doctor degree, Mr. Goudy returned to Oregon in 1929, promptly passed the Oregon Bar exam, and entered private practice in an office association with Judge Estes Snedecor.

In this practice, Elmer Goudy initiated the first of three distinct careers. As a quiet, analytical man he worked as a lawyer in Portland until 1932, when he caught the attention of Governor Julius Meier. Mr. Goudy was persuaded to leave his practice and enter a second profession in service to the State of Oregon, working with the Welfare Commission as Administrator. In 1932 the Welfare Commission organized a standard procedure for welfare administration across the state. Prior to this time welfare procedures varied widely, depending upon characteristics of individual counties. During this period of change, the Welfare Commission employed Elmer Goudy, presumably on a temporary assignment to review welfare conditions in the state's 36 counties. While the task was expected to be of limited duration, it actually continued for nearly ten years.

With relief activities, Mr. Goudy was convinced that productive employment should be provided through regular employment channels at competitive wages for those in need. For others, unable to work, Mr. Goudy preferred separate programs, removed from work relief activities. In pursuing these objectives, he was responsible for 10 years of progress in Oregon's welfare system.

Mr. Goudy resigned as State Administrator of the Welfare Division in 1942 to enter yet a third profession. It was in his new position with the Collins Pine Company, subsidiaries and affiliates that he was to discover his most satisfying career, and turned to forestry, a branch of agriculture, his first interest at Oregon Agricultural College.

This involvement in forestry came when Truman W. Collins, then President of Collins Pine Company, joined the United States Navy's effort in World War II. While Mr. Goudy had intended to return to private law practice after leaving the State, he recognized an opportunity to be of value to the Collins Pine Company.

During the war years Elmer Goudy's management skills were put to use in continuing the operation of the Collins' interests in a mill located in Central Oregon, as well as completing the construction of a sawmill at Chester, California. The latter, because of the war effort and the scarcity of materials, tested his skills in his third career. His management encompassed the forestry and logging practices that have proven exemplary, as well as the construction and management of a large pine and fir industrial plant.

Mr. Goudy admired and endorsed long-existing commitments of the Collins Pine Company to the welfare of employees and their community. The company undertook three tasks at Chester in order to provide a suitable environment for its 500-plus employees: good schools with competent faculty were established; trusts were created to support scholarships and to finance and build a medical clinic, which later was sold to a responsible doctor; and, churches were assisted. Such responsible contributions to the community were vigorously supported by Elmer R. Goudy, reflective of three generations of Collins family commitment to their employees.

After the war years when Truman W. Collins returned to the company's presidency, Elmer R. Goudy remained with the company in responsible management positions. During this period he contributed greatly to the decision and ultimate construction and operation of a particleboard plant at Chester, California, to utilize the residue from the sawmill that could not properly be consumed in the manufacture of power. This plant was notable as the first particleboard plant to use Ponderosa pine and other species indigenous to the area, and showed early concern for efficient use of wood residues. He contributed mightily to the respect enjoyed by Collins Pine Company within the forest products industry. He was a friend and able advocate of the industry that he came to love.

In 1964, Truman W. Collins died at an early age and Elmer R. Goudy became president of the Collins Pine Company, a business wholly owned by members of the Collins family. A mutual respect existed between Mr. Goudy and the Collins family, as evidenced by Goudy's appointment to the presidency and his commitment to the ideals of Truman W. Collins.

The summer of 1974, under the direction of Elmer Goudy, the Collins Pine Company returned to the Pennsylvania area as a lumber manufacturer with the purchase of a small mill and timberlands. These lands were added to the original lands held for many years that were the

beginning of the Collins lumber business by Truman D. Collins in the 1800's. A policy of increased acquisition of Pennsylvania timberlands was followed by the construction of a modern complete hardwood mill located in Kane, Pennsylvania, deep in the heart of the Alleghenies. At this operation, Mr. Goudy continued the commitments of the Collins Pine Company to the welfare of its employees and the community as he had at Chester.

Throughout his years in this third career he was a successful businessman building plants while also an able custodian of the various forest properties owned and/or controlled by the Collins' interests in four states.

Elmer R. Goudy was a quiet man by nature. Yet, on occasion, that quiet personality could abruptly change to punctuate a point. His alert, legally trained mind was readily apparent and, as a result, Mr. Goudy was in demand to offer leadership to business and civic organizations. His dedication to responsible company involvement in the community overflowed into his personal life as Mr. Goudy provided guidance to numerous civic activities.

Elmer R. Goudy was married to Grace E. Collins in 1926. Their son, Alan C. Goudy, succeeded Elmer as president of Collins Pine Company in 1974, when Elmer was elected Chairman of the Board. In 1977, Elmer R. Goudy retired from Collins Pine Company, ending his third and most satisfying career.