

FOREST SERVICE NEWSLETTER



An entirely unofficial budget of news, nonsense, 'n' opinion compiled from time to time for the profit, amusement, and annoyance of the staff. ♦ ♦ ♦

No. 105

VICTORIA, B.C.

APRIL, 1952.

REFORESTATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

By A.H. Bamford
Ass't. Forester, Reforestation Div.

The first planting in British Columbia was, apparently, composed of alder (perish the thought!). The Annual Report for 1925 reveals - "A total of 7,500 alder, black cottonwood, ash, Manitoba maple, and caragana were planted in April as an experimental fire-break." Survival was good and the next year the fire-break was completed by planting another 6,000 alder. Where this planting stock came from is not revealed, but the fire-break is known to have been in the Oyster River district on Vancouver Island. In 1927, a small, temporary, experimental nursery was laid out on Shelbourne Street just outside Victoria. Experimental work was carried out at this site until 1933, and during this period a satisfactory nursery technique was worked out.

After widespread search and investigation the site for the first permanent forest nursery in British Columbia was selected in 1929. This consisted of 655 acres of logged-off land on the Trans-Canada Highway five miles south of New Westminster. The area is now known as the Green Timbers Forestry Station. Work was commenced immediately on the 25-acre nursery site. A few trial seed beds were sown here in 1930, 80,000 seedlings were transplanted from the Shelbourne Nursery, and the first extensive plantation of 50,800 Douglas fir and Sitka spruce was established on 55 acres. Further experimental work and field planting was continued here.

In the Spring of 1939, the first large field plantation was established in the Sayward Forest, just north and west of Elk Falls, where 810,000 seedlings were set out on 945 acres which had been burned over for the second time by the Bloedel Fire of 1938. In 1941, a second nursery came into production at Campbell River and, in 1946, a third, at Duncan. These three nurseries have a potential production of 20,000,000 seedlings. The annual target at present is, however, only half that figure. Over the last ten years an average of 7,150,000 seedlings have been planted on 8,650 acres per year until at present 82,000,000 seedlings have been planted on 99,000 acres on the Coast. Of this total, approximately 15 per cent has been planted by logging companies on their own lands. This percentage is expected to increase considerably as Management Licences come into operation. (The Forest Service supplies seedlings free of charge for legitimate reforestation purposes, such as planting cut-over areas, farm woodlots, farm windbreaks, and Christmas tree farms).

The technique in the three Coast nurseries which produce about 99 per cent Douglas fir is identical. Seed is sown in 4 x 50-foot beds with 8-inch side boards. These boards support removable shade screens which are necessary the first season. Depending on the viability of the seed used, a calculated quantity of seed is sown per bed so that each has approximately the same density (50 per square foot) and number of seedlings. Seed is covered with screened sand to a depth of about one-eighth of an inch. Many weeds germinate and emerge before the seedlings and are burned off by passing powerful blow-torches slowly over the beds. A certain amount of sprinkling is usually required for seedlings in their first year. In the Fall, the seedbeds are covered with a mulch of sawdust to minimize frost-heaving. Root pruning in the Spring of their second year causes the seedlings to produce a more bushy root, which increases field survival. This root-pruning is accomplished by a tractor which passes over the seedlings in the beds and forces a rigid blade along five to six inches beneath the surface of the ground thereby cutting the roots. Nursery work is beset by such problems as - damping-off, strawberry-weevil, white grub, birds and deer. All of these, except the last two, have been brought under control soon after their first occurrence.

Reforestation in British Columbia (continued)

Seedlings are ready for planting out in the logged and burned areas as soon as they have hardened-off (become woody) in the Fall of the second year. (This process can be hastened by root-pruning again in August.) Most areas are not planted until the Spring, however, due to the loss from frost-heaving, et cetera. Only those areas where snow remains late in the Spring are planted in the Fall. Here, a deep snow-fall after planting is counted on to prevent frost-heaving and winter-killing. Spring planting is commenced as soon as the ground is clear of snow, or as soon as the ground in the nurseries is in suitable condition for lifting the seedlings. These are tied in bundles of 100 and packed in bales of from 3,000 to 5,000 for shipping.

Planting projects are normally organized around a portable camp with accommodation for 75 men. The camp is run by a foreman and a planting supervisor directs the work of the three or four fifteen-man crews. Such a unit can plant 1,500 acres during the relatively short six-week Spring season. A good planter can average from 700 to 800 trees per day, depending on the size of seedling and type of ground. The method of planting is fairly simple. A grub-hoe or planting tool is used to dig a hole with a perpendicular back. The tree is placed against this perpendicular face and the soil packed firmly against the roots. These must be straight down and the tree at the same depth that it was in the nursery. A supply of seedlings is carried in a canvas bag and the roots must be kept moist at all times. All trees on hand on a project are kept in beds with earth closely packed around the roots. They are removed from these "heel-in-beds" as required by the planting crews. The normal size of a planting crew consists of fifteen planters, one staker-packer, and a crew foreman. The crew moves across country roughly line-abreast with each man keeping six feet from his neighbour. Each man plants trees as he goes at approximately six foot spacing, varying, of course, for stumps, logs, rock, and other obstacles. The man on each end of the line usually has a line of stakes to guide him. Strips are normally laid out to run up and down hill. Coming down hill the planters travel backwards, more or less. With an ideal six-foot spacing, 1,216 trees per acre would be planted. The actual figure is usually around 900 to 1,000, but may go as low as 600 depending on the type of ground, debris, and amount of natural reproduction already on the ground. The staker-packer is responsible for keeping guide lines ahead of the crew and keeping the planters supplied with trees. The crew foreman must supervise the planting one hundred per cent of his time, and he is constantly checking the work of each planter.

As soon as possible after a planting-project is completed, one-hundredth-acre survival plots are established two chains apart along lines running diagonally to the planting rows. These lines should sample all the different exposures and sites planted. A total sample equal to one-tenth-of-one per cent of the total number of trees planted should normally be sufficient. These plots are re-examined one and three growing seasons after planting. The average survival after three years is 75 per cent but may be 90 per cent if a very wet Spring follows planting, or 60 per cent, or lower, if a very hot dry Spring and Summer follow planting.

Reforestation involves numerous types of work, such as finding the areas of Crown Land which require planting, making accurate maps usually to a scale of one-inch equals 20-chains to show which portions require planting and which do not. If there is sufficient area with less than 50 per cent of the milacres stocked with one established seedling (strips 10 to 20 chains apart, four one-milacre quadrants of a 7.5 foot radius circle every 1.25 chains) a project is organized. Five hundred acres is considered as the minimum for which it is economical to set up a portable camp (one crew for one season). These camps must be constructed or moved from previous locations, old railway grades converted into truck-trails, and in some cases new road constructed to make the area accessible. In addition, all the snags in the area to be planted and in surrounding or adjoining reproduction must be felled to help in fire-proofing.

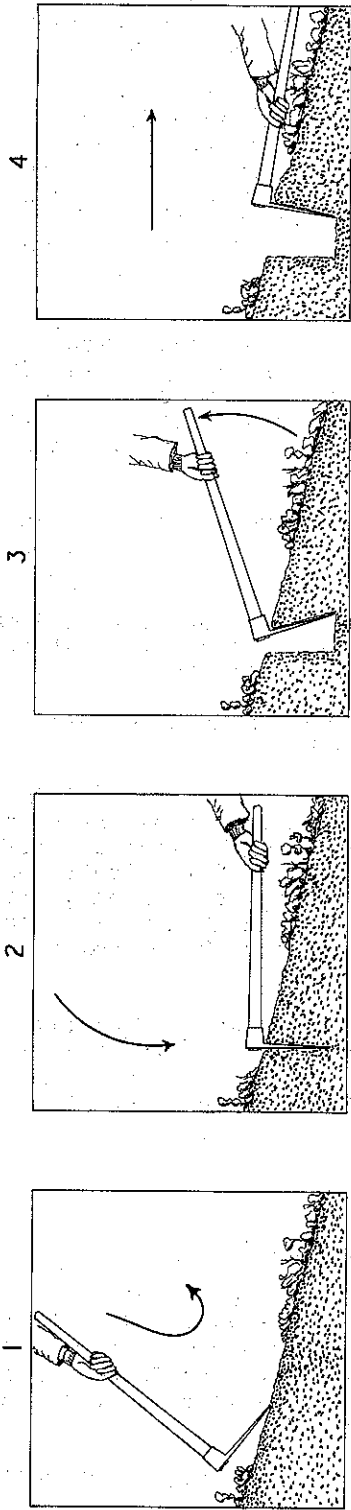
The three Coast nurseries require about 1,000 pounds of Douglas fir seed per year. Since good seed crops occur only intermittently on Douglas fir (the last bumper crop was 1945) a supply sufficient for at least five years must be kept on hand. This means collecting some 10,000 bushels of cones in a good year. These green cones are dried either in a specially-constructed cone shed capable of holding 2,000 bushels at a time, or exposed to the sun on screens at some central location. Seed is extracted by a commercial seed extraction plant on a contract basis and stored in four-gallon, airtight cans in a root cellar which maintains a temperature of from 42 to 45 degrees F.

In the Spring of 1949 a start was made on reforestation in the Interior when a few seed beds were sown on a previously-prepared site near the Elko Ranger Station in the East Kootenays. This site was later found to be unsatisfactory and a new site has been developed on Perry Creek about nine miles from Cranbrook. This nursery has a projected production of 1,000,000 seedlings, mostly Yellow pine. Some 108 acres have been planted on an experimental basis in the last two years, both by hand and by a tree-planting machine. A mechanical transplanter will also be used in the nursery.

The purpose of reforestation is not to supplant the work of nature but to augment and supplement where nature has wholly or partially failed. Even with total lack of consideration for seed sources in past methods of logging, well over 50 per cent of the logged and burned acreages on the Coast have restocked satisfactorily. With the rapidly improving cutting methods and silvicultural practices of this decade, the acreage which will require planting should be greatly reduced. The apparent near perfection of a technique of broadcast seeding by helicopter may further reduce this acreage. From an economic standpoint, this is most encouraging as the cost of actual planting alone was nearly \$20.00 per acre in 1951 without considering preparation of site, snag-falling, or cost of growing seedlings. Nature does the job for nothing!

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CORRECT AND EASIEST METHOD OF PLANTING A TREE

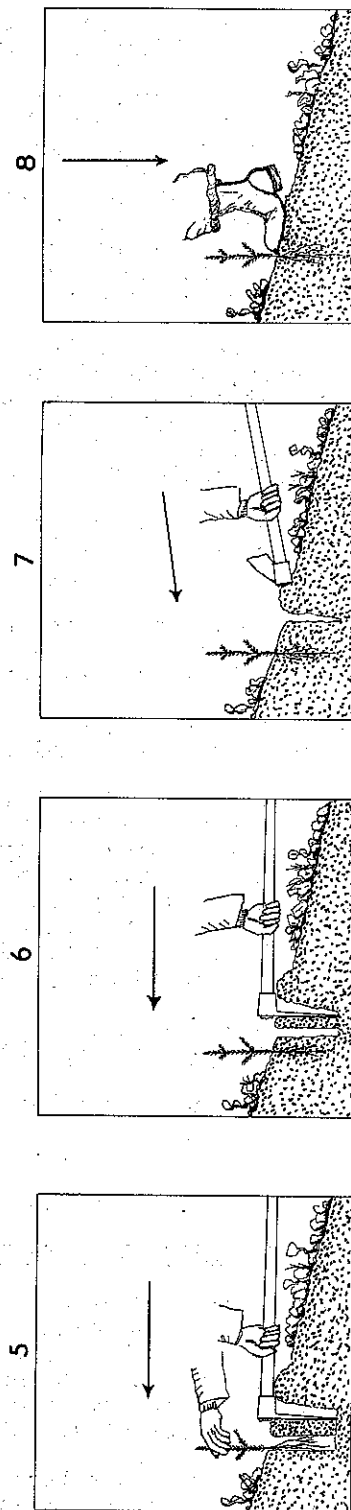


1. Sculp or clean off moss, dirt, dead leaves etc. to get one square foot clean mineral soil.

2. Sink planting tool blade in vertically as deep as possible.

3. Pull up on end of handle to open bottom of hole.

4. Pull back on handle to open up top of hole. Leave blade in position to hold earth.



5. Hold tree against back wall making sure roots are straight down and tree is at correct depth. Then push up soil with blade.

6. Push up more soil and tamp firmly by pushing with blade. Make sure no air pocket is left around roots.

7. Completely fill up hole so no hollow is left.

8. Firm soil down by patting all your weight on ball of foot. (You don't need to stamp)

PRINCE RUPERT RANGER MEETING

The Prince Rupert Forest District held what was considered to be a very successful Ranger Meeting from March 10 to 14 inclusive. The following is a copy of the two-column write-up in the Prince Rupert Daily News:

" Forestry problems of this District were discussed at a meeting of Forest Rangers which was held at the Civic Centre here this week. Sessions opened Monday with District Forester Marc Gormely presiding and continued until Friday. Department officials from Victoria were here to join with most of the personnel from the District for the Meeting.

Deviating from the normal procedure of solely discussing problems which crop up during the year, a brief course in photogrammetry was held. Photogrammetry is the interpretation of aerial photos for map making, timber inventory, etc. District Forester M.W. Gormely opened the proceedings by stressing the importance of the use of air photos in all manner of forestry work, be it timber cruising, road location, fire fighting or map making, etc.

Mr. W. Hall, Chief Air Survey Engineers, Lands Service, Victoria, a recognized authority on this subject, briefly discussed the manner in which the photos were taken, followed by the basic mathematics and geometry involved. This work was later followed by the actual preparation of the photos for the transference of photo information to mapping paper and then the actual basic map-making. This course was followed on the third day by advice from Mr. W. Young, Forest Service expert on photo interpretation for forestry purposes, on tone, density, etc., and how to lay out sample plots for timber cruising, i.e., estimating timber volumes and values.

Finally, Mr. R.G. McKee, Forester-in-Charge of Operation (Fire Protection), Forest Service, Victoria, discussed the use of photos for locating forest fires and finding the best methods of access to such fires by road or trail. He also advised on the value of a mosaic which is made up of numerous photos accurately cut and fitted together and pasted on a backboard, forming a map on which all the details visible in a photo are immediately apparent.

With such a course as a background the District Rangers expect to save many hours of work normally spent tramping through the woods locating timber, and many valuable hours often lost trying to locate fires.

On Thursday the Meeting discussed general Forest Service problems and on Friday the Rangers had personal interviews with the local headquarters staff on their peculiar local problems before returning to their Districts.

Thursday evening a stag banquet followed by a dance was held in the Commodore Cafe for the visitors, local staff and wives."

Prior to the dance a cocktail party was held at the home of the District Forester for the ladies directly or indirectly interested in the Forest Service. Attending were: Pat Gormely, Bea MacDonald, Jay Kullander, Marg Smith, Marnie Hepper, Renee Strimbold, Lois Ashton, Annie Martin, Jean McLeod, Eve Couling, Evie Rivett, Anne Dumas, Evelyn Antilla, Herdis Holkestad, Olga Zabudney, Bert Boulton, Helen Bruce, Olive Antilla, and Ella Farmer. When the dance concluded, a very large number sojourned to the Gormely's to sip coffee while being serenaded by Thor Strimbold, Herb Hammer, Jack Mould, Hugh Bancroft, Bev Boulton, Marc Gormely, et al.

It might be added that the success of the dance was definitely assured by the dance-calling initiative of Art Tourond and the square dance calls by Paul Piche.

Bull sessions and poker parties took up most of the other evenings.

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KAMLOOPS DISTRICT

ANOTHER DISTRICT FORESTER RETIRES

It was with mixed feelings that I accepted the job of giving you a short biography of Alan Parlow. Mixed because - an old-timer myself - I, like many others in the Forest Service, feel that we are losing an old friend and mentor when Alan retires from the Service; but not, at the same time, without a certain satisfaction that this, my first essay into journalism, should have as its subject a man who has had such a varied and colourful life in Forestry, both in peace and war.

Alan Edward Parlow was born in Toronto in 1887, a sixth-generation Canadian, of Irish forebears, and after matriculation attempted a commercial career by manufacturing leather goods, specializing in moccasins, jackets and gloves. The whiff of smoked leather no doubt called him to the outdoors and after a spell of prospecting in the north he made a brief trip to the United Kingdom. The trip was made by cattle boat, a method of transportation much used in those good old days of impecunious Canadians. It was unique, as young Alan is reported to have valeted the last bunch of long-horns which left these shores for Britain.

After obtaining his B.Sc.F. at Toronto in 1913, he was employed with the Dominion Service and the Pennsylvania R.R. Forest Branch until, under the Dominion Service, he was appointed Forest Assistant at Kamloops, and was promoted to Acting Supervisor in 1914.

Another District Forester Retires (continued)

At the commencement of the First Great War he enlisted with the Rocky Mountain Rangers and left for the United Kingdom with the first contingent in 1914. In December of the same year he was commissioned with the Imperial Army and served with the London Regt., leaving Britain for France in 1915.



"The Colonel"

Eleven months later, being the only original officer left in the battalion, Alan found himself Adjutant on the staff of Lord Lovat at Directorate of Forestry G.H.Q., France. He admits rather wistfully that it was a nice job with a Vauxhall car, a driver and a servant.

At the close of the war, Alan returned to his old job with the Dominion Service and in December, 1919, joined the B.C. Forest Branch. Since then he has been Asst. Forester at Victoria and Vancouver, and District Forester at Vernon, Nelson, Prince Rupert, and Kamloops.

At the outbreak of the Second Great War he was given command of the Advance Coy., Can. Forestry Corps, and took his command overseas with the rank of Lieut. Colonel. On his return to Kamloops after the cessation of hostilities the rank stuck and everyone now knows him as "The Colonel".

One can still find remnants of his company in our logging camps who are willing to swear that the Colonel attempted to apply the B.C. system of hunting Mowich to the moors of Scotland, but that this proposal was coldly received by the natives, who hunted the stag by the King's Rules.

Although Alan is giving up his connection with this Department, he passes on the torch to his son Larry, a sprout who, like his father, got war and forestry very much mixed up. If you haven't met him yet, you'll do so one of these days.

And so, as we say good-bye to Alan, Departmentally, and wish him well, we would like to remind his charming wife and daughter Betty that we still retain the privilege of calling for a cup of tea as we have done so many times in the past.

Cym Williams.

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KAMLOOPS RANGER MEETING

On Friday, March 28, a very successful three-day Ranger Meeting was concluded with a banquet and dance. The success of this meeting, as marked by the amount of lively discussion which followed each paper, cannot be denied.

Victoria was represented by the Chief Forester, Dr. C.D. Orchard, whose visit was all too brief, Al Dixon, John Stokes, Sawyer Hope, Clarence Cooper, Viv Hicks, Jim Williams, and Paul Johnson; Prince George, by Lorne Swannell and Eric Robinson; the Dominion Services by Al McLean of the Range Experiment Station; Bill Mathers, Doug Ross, and Alex Whitecross of the Entomological Laboratory at Vernon.

Honoured guest at the banquet was Colonel Parlow, who is retiring as District Forester. The Colonel was presented with a Skill Saw from his many friends in the Forest Service. This presentation was made by Dr. Orchard, whose "one word" notes contributed much to the enjoyment of the occasion. At the dance which followed the banquet, Colonel and Mrs. Parlow received additional gifts from the Kamloops Office Staff. These gifts were a record player, some "cash" records, and an electric kettle.

The singing for the evening, as led by Emory Scott's "Quartet", and highlighted by Dr. Orchard's (The Ranger Song) and Al Dixon's solos, was most enjoyable. Further entertainment was provided by three skits, two of which depicted some phases of Forest Service activities, and the third, the valiant efforts which saved a frail maiden (Ranger Fraser) from a fate worse than death.

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Ranger School Grads.

At the close of the ranger school in December, Ranger Ted Gibbs returned to the chilly Chilcotin, at Alexis Creek. The other graduates have been tramping the snowy hills under various rangers; Bill Smith has been helping Ranger Roy Eden at Kelowna; Geo. Specht with Ranger Milt Johnson at Vernon; Gordon Cameron with Ranger Bob Hewlett at Merritt; and Les McKenna with Ranger Harry Mayson at Chase. Any shuffles for the above will have to be reported in the next issue.

Kamloops, with five stalwarts enrolled in the new ranger school class, is ably represented by Dick Jackson from Vernon, John Ivens, the flyer from Kelowna, Bert LeDuc, air observer last season, John Weinard, a second generation of Forestry personnel, and Alex Kuly, claimed by many as the best hockey referee in the Interior. We welcome them back to the Kamloops District to get dried out before returning for the long winter session.

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Kamloops District (continued)

Pat Stevens leaves the Service

To wish Pat Stevens good luck on his venture into private business, the staff gathered at five o'clock on January 31 and raised glasses. On behalf of the Kamloops Forest District personnel, Cy Phillips presented Pat with a lovely briefcase.

We had a Sleigh Ride!

On Saturday, February 2, we all climbed into cars and headed for Barnhartvale for a sleigh ride. After skidding around a bit, and with a little pushing on the side, we were able to park our vehicles in Rupert Duck's backyard.

With three sleighs well cushioned with hay and with Pete Duck and his mates at the helm we started off. The second sleigh got a sing-song going and the fun was on. There seemed to be lots of snow everywhere except on the road, but we scraped along and had a merry time. After the ride we made our way back to town and the Pringle residence where Betty DeBeck and her good helpers went to work on hot dogs and coffee, amid strange electrical disorders. When all this was disposed of, we gathered for a sing-song, accompanied at the piano by Bernie Desharnais. Reluctantly we set off for home, leaving Rod Pringle standing on his doorstep with two dead fuses in his hand.

Annual Forest Service Dance

We held our second annual Valentine Dance on Friday, February 22, in the recently opened Valleyview Drive-Inn, with approximately one hundred Service personnel and guests in attendance. As a result of the labours of an enthusiastic work party a couple of nights previous, the hall was garlanded with a variety of Valentine decorations, with the odd bit of Forest Service colours thrown in for good measure. We all had a grand time. Some of the high spots were the crowning of our Queen of Hearts, Betty (Mrs. Asst. D.F.) Phillips, the cutting of the birthday cake, and the awarding of two trophies; to Mel Kerr, selected as "the best pitcher of woo in 1951", and to Bill Lehrle, a crown and banner as "the most eligible Kamloops Forest Service bachelor of 1952."

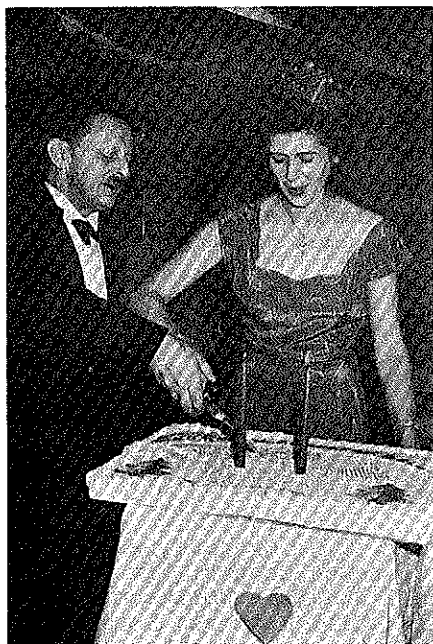
Broom Ball Boys Take a Bruising Victory

One tired Monday morning in early February the Land Registry Office of Kamloops challenged the Forest Service to a game of broom ball to be played on the night of the 26th in Memorial Arena. Coach Gordy Bregoliss immediately flashed around the office and signed up a team of speedy ball players.

Costumes and playing gear gathered slowly until the playing night, when a boxful of fallers' hard hats of various shades (to distinguish the different players' "lines" for power plays) was borrowed. They were the only part of the uniform which looked similar. The rest of the playing gear was up to the individual player.

The teams took to the ice with a roar from the crowd. "Mighty Mite" Andy Dalglish in heavily padded size 42 coveralls called out the white helmets to tire the fast, first string of Land Registry. Above the clatter of the fallers' helmets bouncing on the ice and being mistaken for the ball, a counter was craftily dribbled past Tom "Broadside" Wallace in goal. A wavering quarter-back line of Mel "Red Devil" Kerr, resplendent in girl's brilliant red pyjamas, and Keary "Dimples" DeBeck in a very short yellow dress and using a grey and balding floor mop overskated the ball repeatedly. There may have been more than six of our players on the ice at the same time but the ball managed to stay behind our blue line without much trouble. Sheer weight of our numbers wore out the heavily costumed Land Registry boys in the second half. A rugby ball was the object of the bruising chase in the last ten minutes until Bob "Offside" Broadland flashed a pack of cards and Bruce "Basher" Neighbor, Hubert "Stonewall" Janning and Johnny "Two Ton" Noble reclined to the ice for a short siesta. Meanwhile Bob "Two Goal" Weinard cruised in and scored twice unassisted (somehow). The tempo of the short rushes changed as the battle wore on, but generally governed by the number of bodies scattered between the blue lines.

Queen Betty Phillips aided by Col. Parlow cut birthday cake.



Other players who put in their brooms to make up the team included Al "Speed" Paulsen, streamlined in purple striped pyjamas, Bill "Long John" Lehrle, with swaying exterior padding, and Geoff "Boom-Boom" Bodman, in a pair of bowed bearskin chaps. It was a crushing victory with only a few bruises and limbs out of place next day, and everyone agreed it was loads of fun to help out the Junior Hockey at the Jamboree.

Births

Congratulations are extended to

Ranger and Mrs. Harry Mayson, Chase -- a SON, Edward James, on December 6, 1951.

Ranger and Mrs. Ted Gibbs, Alexis Creek -- a DAUGHTER, on Boxing Day, 1951.

Kamloops District (continued)Births (cont'd)

Asst. Ranger and Mrs. Jim Garfield -- a SON, on February 13, 1952.

Acting Ranger and Mrs. Keith Berard, Kelowna -- a DAUGHTER, Susan Irene, on February 18, 1952.

Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Ross (nee Alena Budrawech -- our former Grazing steno.) -- a DAUGHTER, Elizabeth Ann, on February 17, 1952.

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Illness in the Family

Management steno. Janet Freathy, is on sick leave at the present time, having recently parted with her appendix. Be seeing you soon, Janet.

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VANCOUVER DISTRICTGayle and Williams Take Over

On February 8, one of our former friends mentioned that he had seen our names in the January issue of the Newsletter. Well, you couldn't prove it by either of us, but seeing is believing and sure enough we found word to the effect that we had "kindly" -- note the loose use of this word -- undertaken to supply Vancouver District "copy" to the Editors of this esteemed publication. We both pondered the matter for quite a while before a small bell began to tinkle loudly, stirring recollections of Charlie Holmes having requested our co-operation in this regard shortly before noon last December 24. At any rate we decided we had better hurry and dig up a few facts for subsequent issues.

With the co-operation of Stan Phillips, our keen and very competent lensman -- some day we'll have to try and publish a photo of our photographer photographing -- and the many others who submitted (usually voluntarily) contributions, we submit the following for our readers' perusal. (We might add here that should anything printed draw forth "brick bats", such missiles should be carefully wrapped, correctly stamped, and addressed the same way as normal contributions -- "District Forester, Vancouver, Attn. Newsletter.")

In line with the above, we thought we could fill up at least a 2" x 2" space if we published our own picture. The photo on the left was taken in Bert's office, which has more or less become the centre of our Newsletter operations. (It is quiet and roomy therein, these conditions representing a direct contrast to the general office.) Bert is therefore "in the chair", and we are both chuckling over the latest contribution received. (The mere fact that same is on our Campbell River Suppression Crew File is purely coincidental, and should not be considered as representative of the usual work done by our file boys). Here is where we will plan our nefarious contribution campaigns, and map out the strategy for each successive issue. Incidentally, someone who saw our photo remarked, casually, "what lovely ties". In order to stay the curiosity of other readers, Frank's is a Grecian Modern by Abbey and Bert's is an Arrow Cravat.

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New ArrivalsWelcome

G.N. Ferguson -- a man with a broad Scotch accent who has been appointed as Despatcher at H.Q. radio-room effective March 1.

R.J. Bryson -- on temp. staff February 25 replacing McNamee.

E.F. Jones -- on temp. staff March 10 in the scaling office.

W.W. Millson -- on temp. staff March 10 in the scaling office.

Mrs. L. Symington -- on temp staff March 24 in the billing room.

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DeparturesBest Wishes

R. Bourden -- who left the Service on March 18. He has been a top-notch cat-driver with this Department for one year and for the past year was Asst. Ranger at Campbell River.

Norah Casey -- past employment, Child Welfare Division; future employment, Visual Education; Miss Casey has been 8 months with the B.C. Forest Service.

Murray F. Chambers -- voucher clerk. Past employment -- W.C. Pitfield Co. Ltd., Stock Broker and Investment Dealer; future employment -- A.J. Forsythe & Co. Ltd.,



Bert Gayle and Frank Williams

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Vancouver District (continued)Departures (cont'd)

Vancouver, B.C. wholesale Steel Distributor. Mr. Chambers had been six months with the Forest Service.

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March 17, 1952.

Office of District Forester
Marine Bldg.
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir,

The Forester from Sechelt was up to see me. He said I didn't need a hammer. Just to ask for a stamp. He went on to say, that he thought a half of a stamp would be sufficient.

When you send the stamp, will you kindly tell me what part of it, I am to use.

Yours truly,

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All in a Day's Work

I, as well as others, happened to see rather an amusing incident in the office the other day. It seems Norman MacLeod, reaching for a deleted file case, developed a revealing tear in the upper portion of the right sleeve of his Tuesday shirt (its the striped one). Miss Irene Reid, not wanting him to go around feeling "bare" nor to take time off to return to his home for his Wednesday shirt (plain blue), took pity on the poor chap and volunteered to sew up the offending sleeve. After procuring the various materials (surprising what can evidently be found in business desk drawers), she set to work sewing his sleeve together again. Norm was warned, of course, to remain perfectly still, and found this very difficult to do. Norm is normally very active, being our Chief File Clerk. As the work progressed, numerous people (there are about 95 in our office) passed by, stopped, and remarked on the unusual event. The consensus of opinion was that Norm had evidently been flexing his muscles again, (he's a drummer as well as a bagpipe blower). However, "all is well that ends well." Have other Districts such efficient, adaptable, all-around stenographers?

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PARKS AND RECREATIONA HOLIDAY IN THE BOWRON LAKES

Contributed by - Recce. & Inv. Section.

This month the "Back Room" has been asked to contribute to the "Newsletter". Of particular interest to us today is the Bowron Lake chain which is being considered for a new Provincial Park. We recommend this area for that long-awaited fishing and sight-seeing vacation, that is, providing you have not been fly-camping all summer.

This beautiful chain of lakes, located in the northern Cariboo, can be reached by automobile via Quesnel and the mining town of Wells. You can get to Quesnel by road, rail, or air and take a bus into Wells. A taxi will take you the eighteen miles to Bowron Lake which is the real take-off-point for your tour.

On Bowron Lake there are two lodges and outfitters who will be prepared to take care of your needs depending on what pre-arrangements you have made with them. However, you can take your complete outfit with you and if you do, you will have to keep in mind that you have seventy miles of water and about ten miles of portage to cover on your trip. Keeping this in mind, you can see that your equipment list will have to be rather light. We would suggest a nice, light, fourteen-foot canoe, and a two-and-one-half-horse "kicker", and enough gas to last at least twenty-four hours running time. If this does not meet with your idea of suitable transportation, the outfitters on Bowron Lake have boats spotted around the seventy-mile lake circuit that can be rented for \$5.00 per day.

Your food supplies should be brought in from outside, with special emphasis on selecting light-weight foods to make the packing over the portages as easy as possible. While planning your trip and equipment list, remember your party will be isolated for a week or ten days, and certain caution must be exercised against accidents that might spoil your trip. A first-aid kit is an essential. Rain is common in this part of the Province and mosquitoes, black flies, and no-see-ums, troublesome at times. Therefore, a tent fly and netting should be taken. If you are not too confident of your ability as a boatsman and haven't too much river experience, a guide can be hired at Bowron Lake and would probably take the apprehension from your trip.

You will need to spend one day and a night at Bowron Lake. You can either camp out or stay at a cabin belonging to one of the well-appointed lodges for about \$5.00 per night for two persons.

It will take you a day to get your outfit together and make arrangements with the lodge owner to have it packed over the first and longest portage by horse. This portage between Bowron and Indian Point Lakes is six miles long, easy to hike along, but rather tough on the horses. The operator will charge about \$15.00 a trip to pack your equipment over the six miles.

A Holiday in the Bowron Lakes (continued)

If you leave about eight o'clock in the morning you should reach Indian Point Lake about noon. Have a leisurely lunch, try a little fishing and enjoy the panorama of forest-clad mountain slopes and clear blue lake.

A suitable campsite for the first night in the wilderness is half-way up Indian Point Lake in a clearing on the north shore. Camping early gives you the full evening to fish, and the opportunity to establish a comfortable camp.

Next morning load the boat again and strike off up the lake. Near the east end, the lake gets very shallow and you may have trouble with weeds and sedges. After about the third shear pin you may feel you have gone as far as you can, however, at this point look for narrow openings in the grass and keep slowly edging up the channels. The grass will suddenly disappear, and open, shallow water will appear again. Throttle up a bit and head for the far shore.

After beaching the boat, on the north-east shore of Indian Point Lake, you are ready to back-pack your supplies and equipment the three-quarters of a mile over to the north-west end of Isaac Lake. Several trips may be necessary if there are only two of you. The trail is good and comparatively level with only the odd windfall across it. Lunchtime should see the portage completed and the bow of your canoe breaking the waters of Isaac Lake.



Cariboo Falls, south of Grizzly Lake.

The mouth of Wolverine Creek is only a short distance from the west end of the lake and would be a good place to camp for the night. This would give you an opportunity to investigate the lake itself and examine some of its wildlife. The first fish you notice will probably be the little Rocky Mountain White fish that nose along close to the shore turning over small stones with their snouts in search of food. A piece of bannock dough on a bent pin is all you need for a closer investigation.

The following day you are ready to continue your trip down Isaac Lake to the south end. A stop for lunch at Betty Wendle Creek would probably give you a chance to explore a set of rock banks on

the north side of the creek where, at times, you will find schools of pan-sized trout. This creek mouth is famous for its large fish - Great Lakes Char, Dolly Varden Char and Kamloops trout. Moose come down close to the water at this point and beaver are numerous. If you are "interested" in bear, however, they are probably away up on top for the entire summer.

By early evening you should be setting up camp at the south end of the lake and that night fall asleep with the rumble of distant rapids in your ears.

The next morning you begin another portage which will probably mean two trips back and forth. The portage, about two miles in length, is along one of the roughest trails you will encounter on the trip. It follows along the east side of Isaac River, up and down steep slopes and twisting through shattered rock. Close at hand the river foams through rapids and cascades down rock-bound stairs into mountain-circled McLeary Lake.

On conducted tours by the lodge a day's stop-over is often made here to allow visitors the opportunity to enjoy the quiet beauty of the scenery. Perhaps you will wish to do the same, but for our purposes here, we assume you will only be spending a couple of hours on the lake.

The next part of the trip requires the utmost care and is the most hazardous of the circuit. This is running the Swamp, or Cariboo River. The three and one-half mile stretch of river between McLeary and Lanezi Lakes has been the scene of a number of mishaps and near drownings. The swift water and pinched channels combined with sudden curves and sweepers offer a challenge to even the experienced boatman.

Plan on making camp shortly after entering Lanezi, or Long Lake. There are some good sites on the north shore. You are now half way around the lake circuit and from now on will be proceeding homeward.

Lanezi, and Sandy, the next lakes in the circuit, being connected by a wide channel, are almost one body of water. Seven to eight thousand-foot, jagged, snow-clad peaks border the forest-clad shores of the milky blue lakes. You will want to spend another day on these lakes, so travel leisurely down to the north-west shore of Sandy Lake and make camp under the trees on one of the sandy beaches.

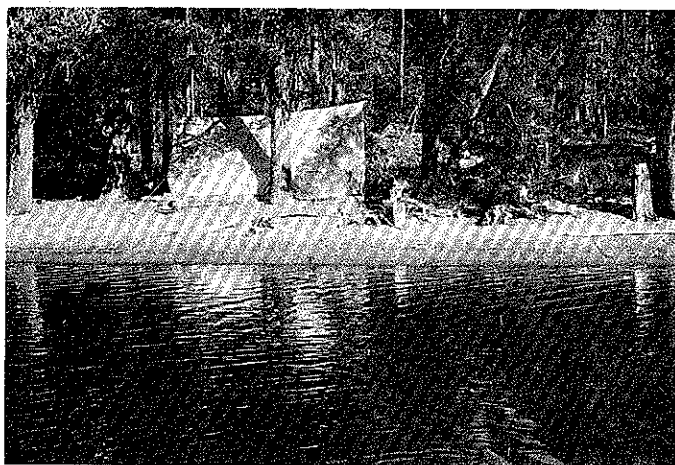


Difficult Water Between Babcock and Cariboo Rivers.

A Holiday in the Bowron Lakes (continued)

Next day should find you floating gently down the blue Cariboo River between low banks covered with spruce and jackpine. Less than an hour's run down the river should see you opposite the mouth of Grizzly Lake. You will have to keep a sharp lookout for it on the left-hand side since it is not too noticeable. On no account pass it because about one mile below this point the Cariboo River thunders over a sixty-foot fall. Pass through the entrance into Grizzly Lake and find before you one of the most beautiful gem-like lakes of the entire trip. The contrast between the cloudy, silt-laden, blue water of the Cariboo River and the clear, sparkling, light-blue waters of the lake is very striking. Swimming off sandy, sloping beaches is refreshing. Large fish can also be watched through the transparent waters.

Spend a day at Grizzly Lake or continue up Three Mile Creek to Babcock Lake. To find Three Mile Creek you will have to back-track up the Cariboo River for about a quarter of a mile. Three Mile Creek is a small stream three-quarters of a mile long coming in on the north side. In some places you will have to drag the boat over beaver dams and still further along you will have to get out and wade up the stream, pulling the boat behind you. It will take you about two hours to reach the calm waters of Babcock Lake. Proceed to the far end where your first rail portage awaits. Load your boat and equipment on the small rail car provided and push it along the quaint wooden tracks leading to Tenas Lake a quarter of a mile away. Here embark once more and cross this small, lovely body of water to another rail portage. This short rail line, the last portage of the trip, ends at Spectacle Lake. You will be ready to camp after the strenuous efforts of the day at one of the lovely sites along Spectacle Lake. Make this camp one to remember because tomorrow you will be back in civilization.



A Camp on Spectacle Lake.

five miles to the lodge at the upper end of the lake.

Follow through with this travel plan and it will give you an experience you'll never forget and assure you that the Bowron Lake chain is one small part of the Province that is well worth preserving.

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Births

To Barbara and Wally Rolls, a DAUGHTER, Margaret Anne, on February 26, 1952.

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To Joan and Charles Velay, a DAUGHTER, Suzanne Maria, on March 26, 1952.

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THE BIG MOVE

With effect April 1, 1952, the Service witnessed a shifting of personnel unparalleled in its history. At the same time the "2-in-1" policy of "Technical Services" and "Administration Services" became operative.

The Newsletter is listing below the affected positions and the new incumbents. With a slide rule it can be figured out.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointee</u>
1. Asst. Chief Forester (Technical) (ex. R.C. St. Clair, retired)	F.S. McKinnon
2. Asst. Chief Forester (Administrative) (newly organized)	E.W. Bassett
3. District Forester, Vancouver (ex E.W. Bassett, promoted)	D.B. Taylor
4. District Forester, Kamloops (ex. A.E. Parlow, retiring)	L.F. Swannell
5. Forester i/c Management Division (ex. F.S. McKinnon, promoted)	J.S. Stokes
6. Asst. District Forester, Prince Rupert (ex. M.O. Kullander, reverting to Ranger at own request)	L.B.B. Boulton
7. Asst. Forester i/c Management, Kamloops (ex. C.D. Grove-White, resigned)	E.W. Robinson

The Big Move (continued)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointee</u>
8. District Forester, Prince George (ex. L.F. Swannell, promoted)	W.C. Phillips
9. Asst. District Forester, Vancouver (ex. D.B. Taylor, promoted)	I.T. Cameron
10. Asst. District Forester, Kamloops (ex. W.C. Phillips, promoted)	J.R. Johnston
11. Asst. District Forester, Nelson (ex. I.T. Cameron, promoted)	W.E. Young
12. Asst. Forester, Management, Victoria (ex. J.S. Stokes, promoted)	J.A.K. Reid
13. Asst. Forester, Management, Prince George (ex. E.W. Robinson, promoted)	I.R. Burrows
14. Asst. Forester, Management, Nelson (ex. W.E. Young, promoted)	J.C. Payne
15. Asst. Forester, Management, Prince Rupert (ex. L.B.B. Boulton, promoted)	J.B. Bruce
16. Asst. Forester, Management, Vancouver (ex. J.A.K. Reid, promoted)	C.E. Bennett

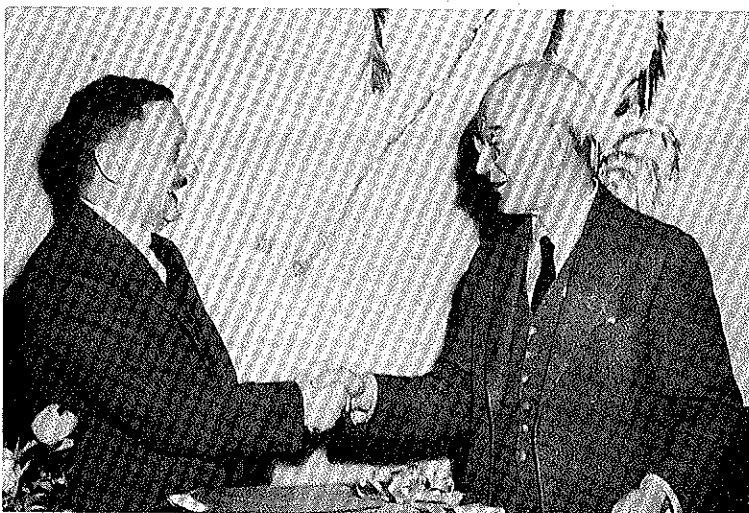
In making the official announcements by circular, Dr. Orchard, the Deputy Minister, said, in part -

"It is inevitable that a certain disruption and considerable personal inconvenience will naturally arise from so many moves taking place in a short time. The Forest Service is passing through a critical period of expansion and reorganization. I wish personally to call upon all the staff to give their utmost co-operation in forwarding the interests of the Forest Service, and in continuing to render an efficient and helpful service to the public, while these moves are being effected."

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OUR KAMERA AT KAM2-

SEE
PAGE 12

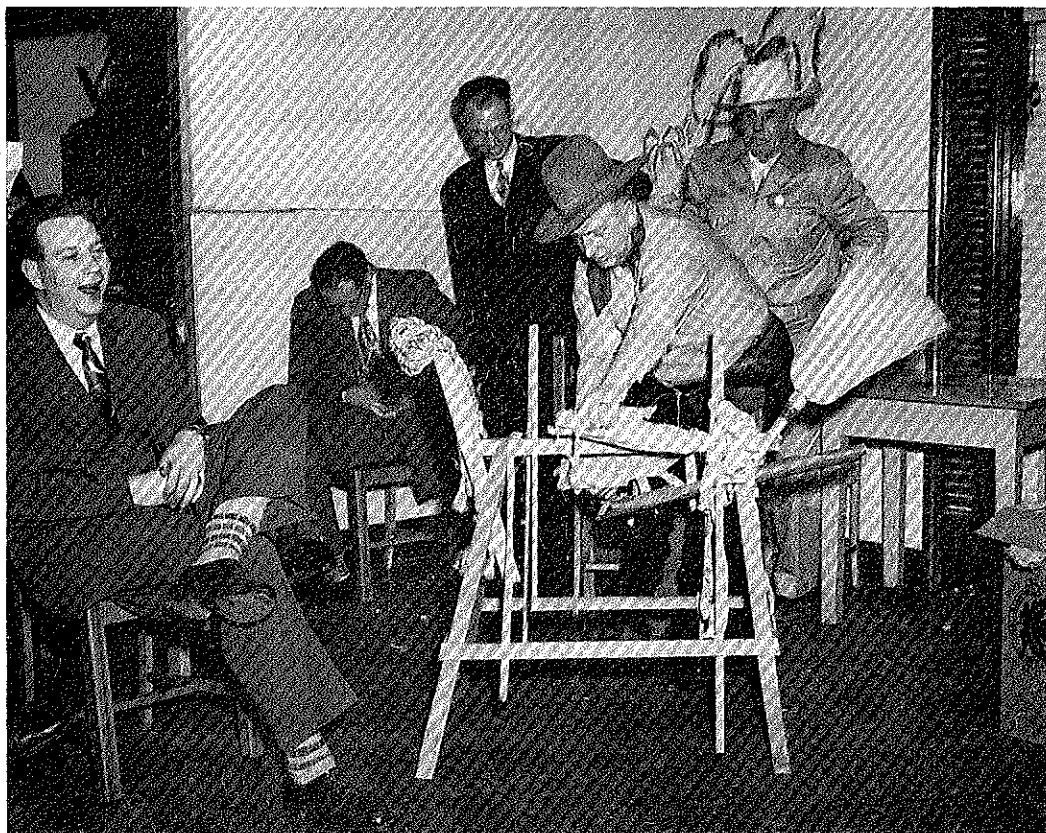


Left: Dr. Orchard making presentation to Alan Parlow.

Below: The dinner under full throttle.



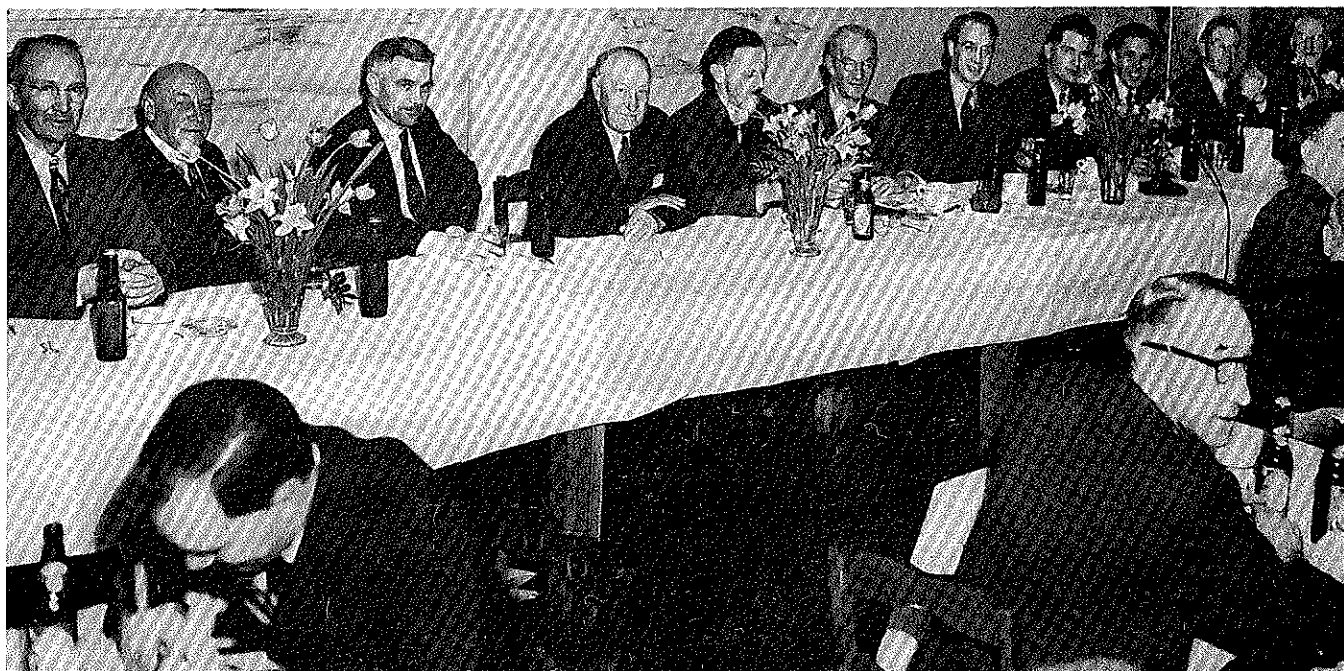
OOPS
PARDON!



Saddling "Old Paint".

L.-R.:

Tom Wallace,
Bill Lehrle,
Stan Noakes,
Ted Gibbs, and
Roy Eden.



The Brass.

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FLASH - MATCHED

During the evening of Saturday, April 5, at St. John's Church, Victoria, Robert (Bob) Golding, assistant photographer in Public Relations, and Miss Vivian Notley, were married. After a honeymoon trip to Vancouver and points south, the Robert Goldings will reside in Victoria.

Congratulations, Bob, and good luck to you both.

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