

FOREST SERVICE NEWSLETTER



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08581

VISIBILITY MAPPING

Visibility mapping is one phase of the field work necessary in establishing a planned system of lookout coverage. A short discussion of the evolution and the present aims and ambitions of Lookout Planning should illustrate the connection.

Early attempts at fire protection in our province fell on the shoulders of a handful of Fire Wardens, who roamed on horseback over their vast districts trying to spread the gospel of fire prevention and doing their best to extinguish any small fires they happened upon. At the best, they were lucky to keep even rough track of the areas burnt each year. To enable them to cover the large expanses of territory, Wardens would pick some lofty peak for an over-all glimpse of as much country as possible. As fire protection progressed, these vantage points became lookout sites, manned for the fire season.

With continued development of centers of population, development through logging of high risk areas, it became necessary to locate lookouts of more local nature to cover the sections of extreme risk. These new lookouts were located here and there as local necessity dictated and without sufficient thought to forming a connecting network of lookouts over the entire country. With the formation of more and more Ranger districts there also developed the feeling on the part of most of the Rangers, that it was necessary to have his district covered by his own lookouts regardless of any coverage given by lookouts in neighboring districts. The result was our present hodge-podge of lookouts--a condition where we have some areas covered by several lookouts while other areas, sometimes of higher risk, have no lookout control.

The present project of lookout planning has been initiated to bring organization to our present system.

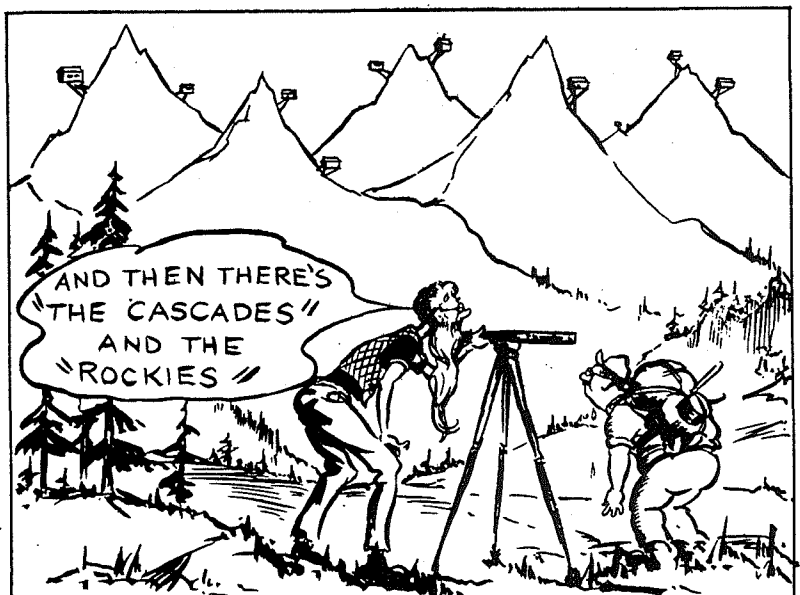
Obviously every acre of country cannot be given coverage by a primary lookout network. The first step in reorganization is to determine the areas of high inflammability. Next, a study of previous fire occurrence showed where, on the basis of previous years' experience, fire loads could reasonably be expected. A combination of these two studies determined the areas which require primary lookout control.

Once the areas to be covered are delineated, the next step is to examine existing lookouts to determine which are giving satisfactory control and will, therefore, be maintained as the basis of the permanent primary network.

This is where the work of the Visibility Mappers begins. The areas to be covered are defined, the areas covered by existing satisfactory lookouts are known, and now all the Visibility Mappers have to do is fill in the blanks--sounds simple doesn't it?

From experience it has been found that no lookout can be depended upon to give satisfactory detection throughout the fire season of small smokes at distances greater than 10 miles. Therefore, no lookout in this final network must be required to cover any area beyond a 10 mile radius.

In selecting points to be examined as possible lookout sites, the first consideration is how they will tie in with the existing lookouts. By knowing the area to be covered and the limit of visibility the approximate location where a lookout site has to be found is indicated. Starting from the most desirable location the search is continued outward to



cover all possible points that might control the area in mind.

The local Ranger can often materially shorten this initial reconnaissance for the Visibility Mappers. He has most likely had the coverage of the same area in mind and may have found some point that gives the required coverage. Also, if the indicated location of a lookout site falls within their operations, a Logging Company may have a lookout point they use. Asking trappers, guides, or prospectors, however, invariably brings the one classical suggestion embodying the highest peak in the district.

After the preliminary reconnaissance has indicated several possible points, the Visibility Mappers, working in pairs, move into the area to examine each possibility in detail.

The first step in the examination of a proposed lookout site is to make a rough reconnaissance of the mountain top to determine the best point or points from which to map the visible area. Using a plane-table, an accurate map is made of the area visible from the point. A confirming panorama of pictures is also taken. If any clearing has to be done to improve the visibility a careful estimate is made of the work involved.

If the nature of the mountain top is such that a tower is required, an accurate survey is made of the peak and, from profiles of the site, the best location and necessary height for a tower are calculated. The tower site is marked on the ground, usually by a squared post. Notes are made as to the availability of tower timbers and building logs. A search is made for a suitable water supply within reasonable walking distance and, if found, it also is shown on the map. On the way in and out, notes are made on possible road or trail locations and any particular construction problem likely to be encountered. The suitability and length of phone line needed are also recorded. With the two men working together as an efficient team, the complete examination, once the site is reached, usually takes three or four hours.

Back in camp after the field examination, a tracing is made, on a transparent sheet, of the area visible from the point. The report is completed, sketch maps showing water supply and possible trail and phone line locations are attached, and two weary mappers fall into bed--another day and another point examined. Early morning will see them on their way up another mountain.

Any possible sites that are overlooked in the preliminary reconnaissance are picked up by the mappers so that, when they have finished in an area, they will have complete records of all possible sites to cover the area in mind. After the field work has been completed, the relative merits of each point can be studied and the most suitable point to control the risk area and at the same time tie in with existing lookouts is selected.

The 1946 program has been curtailed by lack of transportation and inclement weather. As a result it is not anticipated that much will be accomplished this season beyond the Vancouver Forest District.

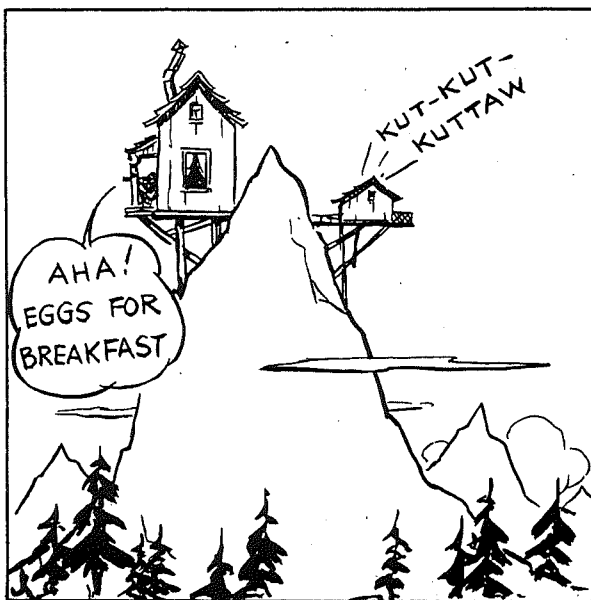
Thus, by the blood, sweat, and tears of Visibility Mappers, will the hazard areas of our province someday be covered by an efficient lookout network.

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EGGS "A LA ALPINE"

During recent years we have been told that the standard of living of the North American continent is one of the highest in the world and visits to other portions of the continent indicate that we certainly seem to have a greater share of the better things of life here in British Columbia than elsewhere.

On a recent visit to Mount Prevost Lookout near Duncan we find that these living standards are sometimes also extended to lookoutmen. At this station we find a road to the tower site and electric lights installed at the lookout (courtesy of the R.C.A.F.). In addition we find the lookout-man's building has a carpet on the floor. It seems that lookout-men, just like anybody else, object to hitting cold boards with their feet at dawn. Elsewhere around this lookout we find evidence of an energetic attempt by the occupant to render his living conditions more habitual. In the evening hours, with "scrounged" materials, he has constructed cupboards and cabinets and has lined the walls of what, previously, had been a bare shack.



Incidentally, during the 1945 season, on a visit to this point, we were surprised to find chickens wandering around and, upon querying the matter, we ascertained that lookout-men also like fresh eggs for breakfast!

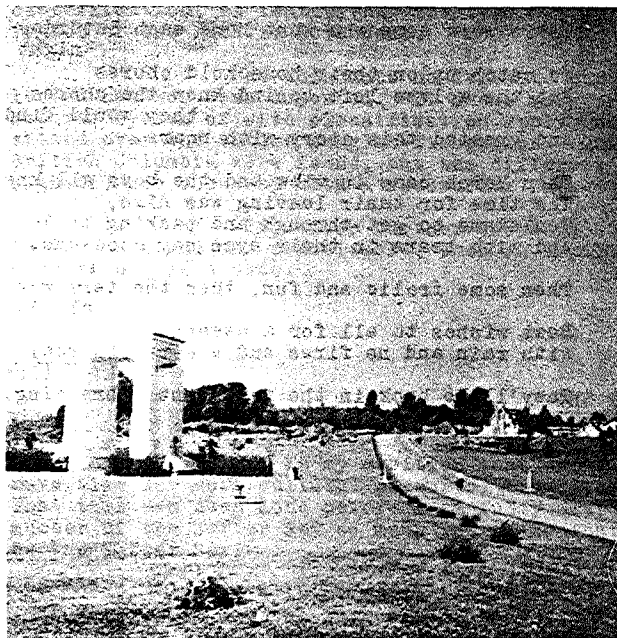
While the above discourse may seem to indicate to some that we are advocating the development of small farms on tops of mountains, the reader is reassured that all the labour put in by Jim Burdes has been during nights and rainy weather when, instead of sitting around bemoaning his lot, he conducted an intensive campaign to better his living conditions. At the same time Jim has provided outstanding service as a lookout-man, conscientiously rendering accurate reports at the earliest possible moment. As an example we have a letter from the Victoria Lumber Co., at Chemainus, informing us that on the twenty-fourth of May, half an hour after midnight they were awakened by a call from Prevost Lookout to inform them that a lightning fire had originated near one of their camps. The crew was called out of bed and action was taken within 45 minutes which, being in a slash area, might have developed to serious dimensions.

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PERFECT EXPLANATION

One of the District Offices, writing respecting eleven pieces of cedar reported previously as cut, advised their report was in error and the total should have read 612 poles instead of 623 poles. "The Error", said the correcting message, "resulted when the inspecting officer inadvertently added the 'i' and the 'l' of 'nil' to arrive at his total."

"PETE"



In case you did not know, in years gone by, school children of British Columbia and Washington contributed sufficient pennies to complete an imposing Peace Arch astride the International Boundary, at its western terminus, at Blaine, a few yards from salt water, to commemorate the many years of peace between the United States and Canada and the thousands of miles of undefended boundary line.

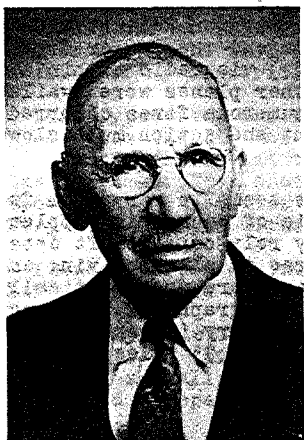
We believe the intention was to establish at the Peace Arch, and on both sides of the Line, a suitable park area but the cost of the arch put such a dent in the children's funds that for many years no improvements were made.

Finally, in 1939, the Forest Service, acting for the province, acquired the necessary lands and improved the park area on the Canadian side and the State of Washington immediately followed suit. Since then, the Peace Arch Park on both sides of the Line, with its acres of beautifully kept lawns, summer houses, rockeries, pools and landscaping, has constituted a beauty spot probably not excelled in North America.

The Park authorities of Washington and British Columbia appear to have worked in the closest co-operation. Here in Victoria, and on our infrequent visits to Peace Arch Park, we are repeatedly reminded that the Parks men across the Line are grand guys. At the moment, there is in the British Columbia warehouse sufficient U. S. paint to paint the imposing arch. British Columbia has agreed to supply the labour and the job only awaits the possibility of finding painters.

A few days ago, an unusual situation arose where it seemed desirable to have the Chief Forester's approval on policy involved. "Okay," says the Chief, "you had better write to the boys across the Line"; and then it developed that, despite years of the closest co-operation, we are unable to find a single piece of correspondence between the Forest Service and the United States authorities. The immediate reaction was "with whom have we been dealing?", and the best answer we could give was that on the American side there is a man we know as "Pete", and so we learned that, over this period of years, if any difficulties were to be ironed out, Don MacKenzie saw Pete and the matter was settled.

We think that this constitutes something of a record in International relations and that somebody, either the Washington State park authorities, or Pete, is in line for a leather medal with a couple of bars. And we suggest that, as long as we have sufficient "Pete's" on the two sides of our International Boundary, Canada and the United States at least will pull through the present turbulent times with a minimum of trouble.



Meet Pete and Don.

(We now know that "Pete" is P. J. Barbeau, of Blaine, Washington.)

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THE RANGER SCHOOL

By A.J. Kirk, Forest Ranger.

Oh, a bunch of the boys were swotting it up
In a place called Timbers Green.
They were there at the call of the great white chief
Who for years had harboured a dream--
A dream wherein he saw his boys,
Who were rough, untutored, and wild,
Turned by learning and gentle words
Into Rangers brilliant and mild.

And the man he picked for this hell's own job
Was Greggor, or as Doug better known.
And to help him carry the awful load
Jim Pedley came with a groan.

And out of the North, that was forty below,
And out of the South, where it rains,
The Rangers came to learn this game
And in all there were twenty names.

To start the first day in proper way
And make the boys full of fight,
The chief spoke words both grim and gay
And predicted a future bright.
To add to his words and cheer the boys on
Spoke Kenney and Ternan and Haddon
And the Rangers they praised sat wond'ring and dazed

"Do you really mean us," Mr. Haddon?

The Ranger School (cont'd)

Then Greggor and Pedley, those men of steel,
Took charge and the race was on
To fill heads with knowledge like boys in a college
Ere three short months were gone.

Besides the "Act", and math., and phones
And weather, pumps, and trails,
There were many other things to learn
That brought forth anguished wails.
Botany, pathology, dendrology, and bugs,
Morphology, ecology were crammed between their lugs.
So help me folks! the only things that saved the

Were a cook who fed them mighty well
And the monthly cheque of pay.

And so the weeks went and the days were spent
In learning the three mighty "Rs",
The figures that harried were not those they married
And the tables they used weren't in bars.

There were some who went home each Saturday
To catch up on their household chores
But the wolves left behind knew the chores
And greeted this story with roars.

Then March came in view and the boys all knew
The time for their leaving was nigh,
Ten exams to get through and packing to do
And with tears in their eyes say good-bye.

Then some frolic and fun, then the term was
Best wishes to all for a season
With rain and no fires and a car with real
They'll be back in the fall just a-breezing.

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PROTECTION IN ONTARIO.

In our last Newsletter we reported that E. w. (Ed.) Bassett, Chief of Operations, had been borrowed by the Ontario Royal Commission on Forestry. The following extracts from a letter from Ed., written from Sioux Lookout on June 19, gives a picture of protection practice in that section of Ontario. (The northwestern portion of Ontario is heavily watered, about 25 per cent. of the area being lake or river. Roads, particularly in the north, are almost non-existent. Three railroads cross the region from east to west, at distances from a few miles to two or three hundred miles apart.)

"Just at present there is quite a fire season in progress here and has been for the past week or ten days. It's really the first chance I've had to properly observe suppression action and I must say it's excellent when not too many fires occur at the same time. Practically all transport is by aircraft and when fires occur at decent intervals they are able to get very fast action. Conversely, if a number of fires occur at the same time, aircraft on hand are unable to cover them all and action on some fires (which have to be left in favour of others) is pretty slow. Lakes are so numerous that rarely does a fire crew have to walk over a mile from the place they are landed by aircraft. A hike of 2 or 3 miles to a fire is considered just about the worst type of location and rangers seem to record time by "remember the fire on Cedar Lake when we had to walk the crew and pack the equipment in 2½ miles etc. etc." Practically all fire-fighting is with water and the Service seems to have standardized on Wajax pumps. Very little shovel work is done and practically no fireguards are built. Large fires appear fairly rare (in recent years anyway) although I've been on two so far--one about 2 miles square and the other about 6 miles by 3 miles".

We are doing considerable flying--an average of 1 to 3 hours per day so I'm certainly seeing Ontario. Today I went on a 2 hour patrol in a Stinson Reliant with pilot and local Chief Ranger (equivalent to our Ranger). We spotted 3 fires and the Ranger organized and dispatched crews and equipment to all fires (by means of other aircraft) via radio within a few minutes of our spotting each fire. As it happened in this instance two other planes were available at local bases without fires to service and he was able to use them. If numerous fires occurred in adjacent districts of course the picture would be considerably different and action much slower--but it certainly was excellent today.

As far as detection is concerned coverage seems to vary from fair to poor to none at all--I refer to ground detection from steel towers. This of course is supplemented by aircraft patrol and as far as I can see the Rangers seem to actually rely on aircraft detection even where they have fair ground detection organized. Country of course is all low lying and gently rolling and even the 100 foot steel towers have but poor coverage as there are practically no eminences as tower locations. A rise of 100 to 200 feet in the general topography of the country is outstanding. By the same token, detection from aircraft in this type of country (given decent air and visibility) is absolutely marvellous--on a good day you can spot smoke 50 to 75 miles away from about 3000 feet".

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FOREST SITE STUDIES

R. H. (Dick) Spilsbury and Doug. Smith recently returned from a five weeks trip through the western portion of Washington and Oregon. This trip climaxes several years research on a method of classifying forest site quality by means of the natural vegetation.

During the past two years nearly 200 plots have been examined on Vancouver Island and the lower mainland. The composition, abundance, and vigor of the ground cover was studied and related to the volume of timber found on each plot. The studies were nearly all in second growth fir varying in age from 30 to 150 years and the sites ranged from the best to the poorest. At the conclusion of last season's work a tentative classification was outlined in which various plant associations were shown to be related to different Douglas fir sites. For instance vigorous sword fern and an absence of salal and Oregon grape was correlated with the best, or fastest growing, fir sites. The poorest, or slowest growing, sites were associated with dense salal and lichens. Altogether five different site classes were described.

The original study areas were confined to rather a limited geographical area. Since Douglas fir extends from southern Oregon to nearly the northern tip of Vancouver Island, it was considered important to find out if the same plant associations extended over this entire area, or even if the same principles were applicable throughout the length and breadth of the Douglas fir region.

To answer this question an extended trip was made through Washington and Oregon and forest sites were examined from the coast to the Cascades. The co-operation of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experimental Station contributed greatly to the success of the expedition for they not only made available their research files, but also helped with an itinerary. Some seventy sample plots were examined in the Olympic, Snoqualmie, Cascade, Columbia, Mt. Hood, Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests, and the McDonald and Pack Forests of the Universities of Oregon and Washington respectively.

As a result of this trip it seems safe to say that the system of forest site classification, as tentatively outlined, is fundamentally sound and applicable to the Douglas fir region of the Pacific Northwest.

At this date no definite conclusions are possible as the vast amount of data collected has not been digested. It seems very probable, however, that the principles governing this natural system of site classification apply, and that the actual plant associations, in general, extend over the entire Douglas fir region. Quite a number of plant species that do not occur in British Columbia were found, but the different combinations of plants that are of special indicator significance occurred with a reassuring frequency.

If, after further thorough study, this method of forest classification is acknowledged as sound and practicable, then an important step forward in our knowledge of Douglas fir forests has been made.

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THE TYPEWRITER

It is my ambition that when I finally retire to a life of luxury and ease, and have time for more cultural pursuits, to write a treatise on the Depravity of Inanimate Objects. That this has been done before I am fully aware. But if I am not mistaken it was written by a member of the Softer Sex so many years ago that there was still some foundation to their claim to be the Softer Sex.

It is my contention that no woman, at least of that day, could really do the subject justice or use the language necessary. If and when I write this book, I will devote a very full chapter to the typewriter.

When I first joined the Forest Service I was instructed by my senior officers to write my reports on the machine mentioned. With specimens of my handwriting already on file they no doubt thought they were using considerable judgement. I expect they reconsidered this idea after my typewritten reports began to arrive.

In operating the typewriter I employ a variation of the Hunt and Poke method so well and favourably known. Holding the two index fingers poised I focus my gaze intently on the key to be struck. Without removing my gaze...and keep this in mind...I strike the key a sharp tap. Thus, if I wish to write Cat I concentrate the gaze on the key "c", strike it smartly with the left index finger and then proceed to the key "a", fix it with deep concentration and tap it smartly with the right index finger....and so on etc.

Now you would think that with a system like this nothing could go wrong. If I hit "a" up would come "a" to strike the ribbon and inscribe the letter. This does not necessarily follow....not with me. "a" does come up often enough of course, but it will very likely have "s" clinging to it, and it is not unknown to science for me to have three letters come up at once. Or I can gaze earnestly at "q", strike it according to method, and have "q" come up. Now why is this?

If this is not depravity in an inanimate object then no such thing exists.... which is absurd.

When I was at Prince Rupert I was issued the Alpine Fir, a kind of semi-sub, for transportation, and from the old tool shack on the dock they raked up an old typewriter for my use. Apparently the question of my handwriting versus my typewriting was still unfinished business.

This typewriter was both massive and aged. I was told by somebody, probably Jimmy Underwood, that this machine was a dual purpose job and could, and had been, used for an emergency anchor. I do remember that the ship had to be trimmed afresh every time the typewriter was moved while the ship's compass, another piece of depravity, could point only in the direction the typewriter stood. This particular machine was a masterpiece. When I hit a key anything could happen. It was very fond of long words with several similar syllables. Like Mississippi.

I once started a line with the word "repetitious" and it was still repeating "ititious" "ititious" when the dingus at the end struck 8 bells.

It is my belief that all typewriters are in a conspiracy against me; for new or old they all act the same. I think the idea is to show the world what a nitwit I am. That the wonder is not that I did actually pass grade 8, but that I ever managed to enter grade 4. Look what a typewriter does to my spelling!

I will admit that I have never won any spelling bees, but I have a dictionary.... I can look the word up. But does it make any difference? No.

Typewriters give my spelling an original slant, make me spell with an accent, or else to give an entirely different meaning to that intended. For example, supposing I want to write the simple word "have". I find the right keys, hit them smartly, and up comes "ahve". Suppose I want to write.. "Alright, you can have the berth". What comes up? "Alroight, you can ahve tye boith".

It is said of Dr. Spooner that addressing a meeting he noticed a very large number of farmers present. So he started out by saying that he was so pleased to see so many tons of soil present. That's the kind of thing my typewriter does.

If I write "surpass" up comes "sourpuss". I claim it is the inherent deviltry in all typewriters that comes out only when I, and other unfortunates like me, endeavour to operate one.

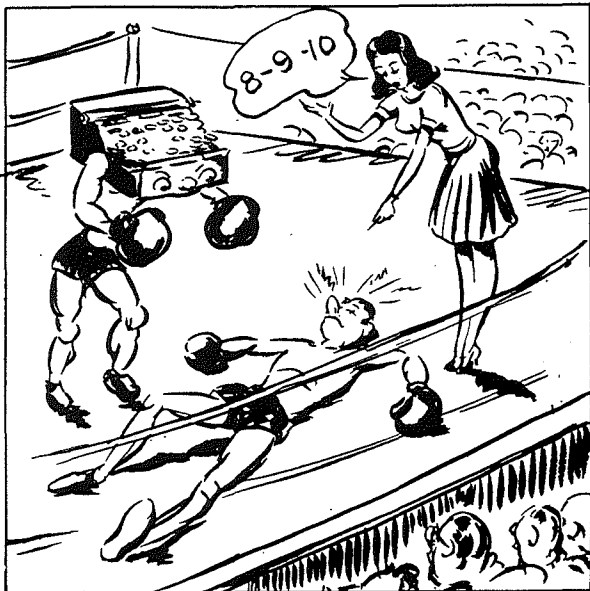
Let us consider the District Office stenographer, purely impersonally that is. Her eyes will be out the window, her thoughts up in the clouds. Does she concentrate as I do? Does she put all her mental energy into typing?

No! She just sets there and twiddles her fingers over the keys and up comes the words in proper order, neatly printed, and most of them spelt right.

Let me try that.

I have been told that my trouble lies in not having taken lessons, in not having studied the proper system. Something called the "touch system". That the typewriters objection is not so much to me personally as to the H. & P. system, particularly when improved as mine is.

I don't know. Perhaps they are right. But knowing so well the depravity that exists in all inanimate objects, particularly typewriters, I have my doubts.



I do know this, and it has been impressed upon me during all these years by a succession of evil minded typewriters, that you can't buck them. If they want to be "touched" or twiddled over you may as well let them have it. Scientific methods such as my inspired variation of the H. & P. method is of no avail,

To young forest officers who, sooner or later, must make acquaintance with this infernal machine, I say study and acquire this fancy, delicate, too, too, peachy touch system. You have to use a typewriter, why let yourself in for a lifetime feud with the clan. Gaze on the office stenog, impersonally that is, and see how easy she gets by. You too can have that Ivory look when typing if you study the job.

You may even be able to see the keys coming up and hitting the ribbon and all the little letters being inscribed on the paper....something I have never seen in my long life of missapprehension. I never know what has been written until I am through and can take my concentrated gaze from the keys. Then, alas, it is too late. So again I say, listen to the voice of experience. Learn to tickle the D....nd thing the way it wants and live happy.

J.A.P.

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THE MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Fund went "over the top" in May and, in accordance with our commitment to the Queen Alexandra Solarium a cheque for \$2,500 was handed over on June 29 (see pic.).

At the same time we started repayment of the loans, received from members of the Service, which had made the success of the project assured. Although we still have several months of work ahead of us to complete repayment of all loans it is gratifying that the response has been so whole-hearted and one can take pride in the enthusiasm and generosity that has marked the project.

The following are the vital statistics of the Memorial Fund to date:

Maximum receipts;-	
Contributions to date and loans	\$2,060.40
Contributions	\$1,016.59
Loans	\$1,643.87
Number of Loans	20
Repaid to date	6
Present Balance	\$19.23
Administration Costs	
(Exchange on cheques, \$3.21;	
Stamps, 30¢)	\$ 3.51
Loans to be repaid	\$1,357.41

The loans repaid to date are the smaller ones received. It is planned on repaying next those loans for odd amounts which resulted from individuals turning over Bonds for disposal. (A concession to the treasurer who is not very bright at calculating interest). At the same time we would remind you that if you would like early repayment of your loan it is in order to ask and you will be moved to the top of the list.

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Ranger's Report Upon Licensee's Failure to Fulfil Timber Sale Contract

"Licensee was interviewed at September 25. He had stored his camp and equipment and was then on his way to the farm in Saskatchewan. His plans for the future were indefinite but if he did eventually decide to return to B. C. he would seek new ground for any future logging operations.

Licensee and a brother were partners and planned to use a small gas donkey. All went well until a Widow from Saskatchewan was hired as cook. Then things happened and finally ended up with the brother taking the machine and the Licensee, the Widow. Hence Licensee did not want either extension or resale."

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VANCOUVER DISTRICT

In order to better acquaint the Scaling Staff with the activities of other parts of the Service, banquets have been held in Vancouver each month at which all scalers in town and members of the Vancouver District and Victoria Headquarters Staff available have attended.

These banquets have permitted the scalers to air many of their pent-up problems and a number of suggested improvements have been brought to light in this way. Members of the Forest Service from the Chief Forester down have had an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with each of the Scalers, more familiar with scalers' problems, and likewise of in-

forming the Scaling Staff of general Forest Service policies, hopes, and ambitions. With Charlie Haddon and Bill Byers at the helm at each meeting and outside speakers including the Chief Forester, E. B. Prowd, F. S. McKinnon and Eric Druce, very interesting and instructive meetings have been held.

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At the last Scalpers' dinner, held late in May, E. B. Prowd of the Victoria office gave a very interesting address on the relation between Management and scaling. The dinner was well attended, with visitors from both the Vancouver and Victoria offices.

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It is with regret that we report the resignation of W. C. Deans from the scaling staff. Bill is one of our old timers, and goes to join Harold Moscrop with the Goodwin Johnson Export Co. His fellow scalers all wish him the best of luck in his new job.

Another resignation from one of the newer members of the staff is that of Ian McLean, which takes effect at the beginning of August. We're all sorry to see him go.

Among our Student Scalpers recently taken on are Bill Brown, Alvin McDonald, Wilf Lowdell, Ben Mitchell, Harold Rayner, Larry Coles, "Doc" DeMuth, Johnny Widsten and Harold Layton, most of these from the services.

Al Robertson, we understand, is moving to Ocean Falls where he will act in the capacity of "Acting Official Scaler."

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Stan Hephner has made two trips to Nelson recently and we are just wondering whether his plans are to further expand his Management duties to embrace other parts of the Province.

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The Forest Service has lost a capable Forester and an employee of over 20 years in the resignation of Cedric W. Walker who, shortly after his assignment to special work in the Vancouver Forest District, left to associate with another former Forest Service employee, Consulting Forester Charles D. Schultz.

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We are pleased to have Miss Gloria Holden back on the Vancouver Staff after having spent two and one half years in the Womens Division of the R.C.A.F. Gloria, having seen Eastern Canada and New York, tells us she still prefers the "Wild and Woolly West."

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Recent initiates to the Vancouver Office clerical staff are Misses Alma McRae, Betty Harris, Velma Thornley and Edna Christie. We hope they will enjoy their new work.

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Another new arrival on our Staff is George Anderson who, after spending 6 years in the R.C.A.F. as Draughtsman, finds similar work with the Forest Service very interesting.

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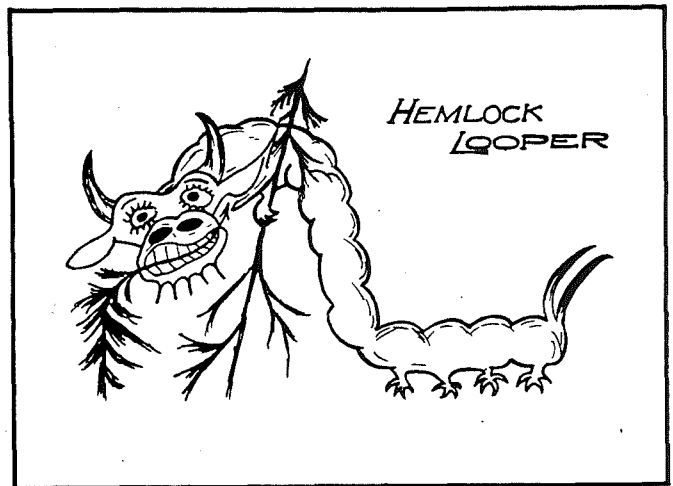
No wonder many of the Management and Protection men have not been sleeping lately. This cartoon was found on Chris Armstrong's scratch pad the other day and no doubt depicts thoughts of future problems.

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R. D. GREGGOR TO TOUR DISTRICTS

"Hizzoner the Dean", R. D. Greggor, is planning a tour through the Districts about August and September. Doug's purpose is to discuss protection problems with Rangers and District Officers with a view to incorporating any desirable changes in the Ranger School curriculum.

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FORT GEORGE DISTRICT

For the first time since before the depression, this district has a Scaling Supervisor--with headquarters here--sharing him with Prince Rupert District. From some of the weird ideas of scaling found, it is about time. In the vast majority of the small mills in this District the scaling is done by Permit Scalpers. One small mill, on its first return, showed an average scale per log of 18 f.b.m. On checking, this scaling was found to be satisfactory but, under pieces, his return showed the number of pieces of lumber cut. Another, cutting sawn ties, showed in one column, day after day, an average of exactly 32 f.b.m. per piece and, in the next column, a varying f.b.m. content averaging about 4 f.b.m. (We found he was recording each sawn tie in one column and lumber tally of side lumber in the next.) Another of the original systems of scaling was that of the man who, under pieces, showed number of logs and, under scale, showed his lumber tally. The over-run of his mill was very low.

Talking of over-runs--we have had a considerable number of would-be mill operators. One of them was rather bewildered to find that the government billed stumpage and royalty. He was under the impression that government dues were obtained by the sale of the over-run.

In common probably with other districts, we had a big upheaval this year with shifts and change of staff. When the sound and fury died, four rangers had districts new to them. Just so that all may be informed here is our present line up:

McBride -- Jim McAlister, who took over from Ray Sansom a year ago, stayed put.
 Penny -- Walt Thomas went off to Quesnel, his place being taken by Larry Willington, just returned from the war.
 Giscome -- Bill McCabe took over his father's district; Art going to the District office as scaling supervisor.
 Prince George South - George Forbes, one of the real old timers, stayed put.
 Prince George North - Rusty Campbell, who started off in 1914, took over from Bell Porter who resigned from the service. Rusty also took over Charlie McGuire's Trench District; Charlie departing in a cloud of dust to Nelson District.
 Vanderhoof - Alf O'Meara stayed put. (the war.
 Fort Fraser - Art Kirk took over from Rusty Campbell. Art also had returned from Quesnel - Walt Thomas took over from Bill Adamson who resigned earlier to grow strawberries or, at least, farm.
 Fort St. John - Cy French--full of learning from the Ranger School--stayed put.
 Pouce Coupe - Irwin Johnson stayed put.

In the District Office--since the last Newsletter--we lost Doug Ross who returned to his old haunts at Nelson as Fire Inspector. We gained Art McCabe as Scaling Supervisor and, from the Army, Len Peckham as draftsman. We also lost one stenographer to Eastern Canada, had a brief replacement by, first an extremely haughty damsel (who disapproved of us and resigned in a week); another one (who also went elsewhere) and, finally, gained Mary Morris. Certain other losses in stenographic staff, due to the hazards of matrimony, are reported to be in the offing.

This District had a ranger meeting this year, early in April. We thought it pretty good, too! Geh Ternan, Mickey Pogue, and E. B. Prowd visited us from Victoria; also Jack Bier of pathology fame.

The fire season, at the time of writing--July 9-- hasn't been too bad (touch wood). May was fairly hectic with the spring hazard usual to this district and we had two large and expensive fires. Since May 24, in common with the rest of the province, we have had little hazard and no bad fires.

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PRINCE RUPERT OFFICE AND DISTRICT

Our sincere congratulations go to District Forester J. E. Mathieson on his confirmation as "Boss" of the District. "Ernie" has been with this District since 1938 and served in the capacity of Fire Inspector during the War years until 1945 when the well-earned Acting appointment was forthcoming. We of the District concur heartily with the judgement and decision of the "Powers that Be" in making him the Leader of our allotted Forest.

Assistant Forester J. S. (Jack) Stokes arrived in Prince Rupert last month from Ocean Falls where he carried out the duties of Ranger for that District. He was relieved at the Falls by H. W. Campbell from the Kamloops District.

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D. R. (Don) Smith has relinquished his Ranger District at Burns Lake and is now a Senior Clerk with the District Office. Methinks that, although Don misses his old stamping grounds in the Interior, sometimes a sparkle of complacent satisfaction is noted in his eye when, instead of plowing through slash and windfall to make a Burns Lake Cruise, he checks appraisals and stumpage rates. S. T. (Thor) Strimbold is his successor at Burns. Thor attended Ranger School at the last semester, prior to which he was Acting Ranger at Southbank. The Southbank vacancy has been ably filled by L. G. (Lester) Taft. Lester previously was Acting Ranger in the Hazelton District while C. L. (Charlie) Botham was absent in the service of the R.C.A.F. and attending Ranger School.

We had a visit, during June, from Mr. A. E. Collins of Cover Map and Forest Inventory fame. "John" spent considerable time with us and visited field officers and temporary assistants with a view to organizing their various offices from a mapping standpoint and to give instructions with regard to Report Mapping.

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An enjoyable surprise party was held at the Landmark Cabaret recently in honour of Harold A. Iverson on the occasion of his leaving the Forest Service. The evening was spent in dancing and participating in games that the "gals" had devilishly concocted and, altho' the party came to an end about 1:30 A.M., rumour has it that certain 'die-hards' were still revelling at the breakfast hour. (What's that, Bill?) A presentation in the form of a desk pen and pencil set, suitably engraved, was made by District Forester J. E. Mathieson. Harold leaves us to take up residence in Minneapolis, Minn., and his many friends in the District will regret his departure.

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At the July celebrations in Terrace, our Ranger, Syd Cooper, received honourable mention for his Forest Service float in the Jubilee parade. The float--a miniature logging operation, sawmill, pulp mill and shipping wharf--was the subject of much favourable comment among those who visited Terrace for the week-end celebrations. Syd added another feather to his bonnet, when his son Jolin defeated all comers in a log bucking contest at the same celebrations.

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A wedding of much local interest took place recently when Miss Violet Dell, one of our capable billing clerks, was married to Sergeant Perlino Cappadacio of the Sault Ste. Marie Regiment. Mr. and Mrs. Cappadacio carry with them to Montreal the best wishes of their many friends in Prince Rupert, as well as a quilt presented to them on behalf of the members of the P. R. Forest District. Miss Evelyn Antilla, formerly a dispatcher at our Burns Lake Ranger Station, has taken over the duties performed by Violet and we welcome her to the staff.

Welcome Home!!!

We welcome back, after six years in the Royal Canadian Navy, C. V. (Carl) Smith. Carl left the Forest Service in August, 1939 and travelled hither and thither with the Naval Service until November 1945, when he was honourably discharged as a Lieutenant (S) R.C.N.V.R. As our Management clerk in the District Office, Carl is assisted by J. W. (Jack) Eastwood, a veteran of the R.C.A.F. Jack spent considerable time with the Air Force overseas and we welcome him as a member of the Forest Service. Prior to his enlistment he was industriously completing his education at local schools.

We also welcome back W. H. (Bill) Murray, another Naval Veteran of 6 years standing. Bill saw a couple of years' service in Atlantic and Mediterranean waters with H.M.C.S. "PRINCE HENRY" during his sojourn with the Naval Service, and is now employed as Draughtsman in the District Office.

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News from Rupert would be incomplete if "Weather" were not mentioned. We feel more than a bit sorry for the unfortunates who dwell in the land of thunder storms and earthquakes, while we bask in a land of eternal sunshine and placid warmth. (Vancouver and Victoria editions, please copy). Yes it's true -- statistics will bear us out!!!

HATCHED AND MATCHED

Carey -- To Davis and Dorothy Carey, Victoria, July 9, a son, Bruce Thomas.
Druce -- To Eric and Ida Druce, Victoria, July 22, a daughter, Judith Marie.
McMullan -- To Larry and Nellie McMullan, Victoria, June 26, a daughter, Sheila Eileen.
MacQueen -- To Ian and Joan MacQueen, Victoria, June 22, a daughter, Margaret Ann.

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Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Walls, who were married in Thornley, County Durham, England, on May 18. Mrs. Walls is the former Miss Bernice Hull, "Operations" steno., and met her husband-to-be while he was serving with the R.A.F. at Patricia Bay.

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On May 23, Miss Nora Lea, steno. in the Management Office, Victoria, was married to William Sphiruk, Public Works Department. Prior to her marriage, Nora was guest-of-honor at a tea and shower given by the girls of the Forest Service, and was the recipient of a pair of Kenwood blankets presented to her by Mr. C. D. Orchard on behalf of the staff.

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On June 1, Miss Audrey Mudge was married to David Monk of the Draughting Office, Victoria. Mr. Ternan presented David with a chenille bedspread on behalf of his colleagues in the Forest Service.

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D. L. (Larry) McMullan of the Victoria (Economics) Staff has resigned to accept a position as Forester for the British Columbia Forest Products Co. Ltd. He leaves in August.

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Janet Graham (Economics, Victoria) stenographer, has had a long session in the St. Joseph's Hospital in that city. Her fellow-workers extend sympathy and good wishes for a prompt return to the job.

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LUNCHEON FOR JACK ASSON



This photograph of the members of the Vancouver Forest District, with the exception of the Vancouver Island and North Coast Rangers, was taken early in May when a short, Lower Mainland Ranger Meeting was being held in Vancouver. The photograph was taken following a luncheon held upon the occasion of Jack Asson's retirement from the Service and presentation of 25 year buttons to L. B. Webster, former Ranger and now Management Clerk, and E. T. Calvert, Ranger with headquarters at Mission.

Ross Douglas, representing Victoria, presented the 25 year buttons and Charlie Haddon, with the assistance of Della Drummond, Bill Byers, and Eric Fox, eulogized the fine service rendered to the Forest Service by Jack Asson. The photograph was taken at the Stanley Park Pavilion.

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Cy Oldham has left the Service and joined the Dominion Bureau of Northwest Territories and Yukon Affairs. Cy is to be Forester in Charge of that vast area of the Dominion north of the Provinces and will make his Headquarters at Edmonton, Alta. His domain comprises something over 1½ million square miles and although, admittedly, it is not all forest covered, that is a lot of territory. The good wishes of his fellow-workers in the B. C. Forest Service go with Cy to his new field. Before leaving Cy left a legacy in the form of a tried remedy for mosquitoes and black flies. It is Vitamin B-1, taken in tablet form, one before each meal, cost 75¢ per hundred. The medical profession advises that any excess of Vitamin B-1 is not absorbed by the system and, therefore, is not harmful. According to Cy, who has conducted some experimental research in the matter, after you take the required dosage the mosquitoes and black flies simply refuse to bite you and, if the odd one does bite, you will not swell up nor be bothered by itching. Unfortunately, however, the taking of Vitamin B-1 does not seem to have any effect on the biting of "no see-ems". Cy further suggests that when purchasing Vitamin B-1 it should be entered on your expense account as "fly dope", otherwise it might be questioned.