

SEP 12 1950

CRESTON FLATS, NELSON FOREST DISTRICT

J.C. Ingram Rogers

AUGUST, 1950

No. 85

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

VICTORIA, B.C.

ON UNIFORMS - A VAGRANT THOUGHT

Glancing aimlessly down the corridor one bright morning in July, we were suddenly jolted into consciousness by a truly stirring sight. There, before our very eyes, strode R. G. (Gerry) McKee, O. I/C Operations, resplendent in the new Forest Service Uniform!

Rushing madly down the corridor, we joined the breathless crowd gathering about Mr. McKee and stared along with the rest. The air was permeated by sighs from the stenographers and congratulatory rumblings from the men, while the object of this intense scrutiny turned slowly in an anti-clockwise direction several times so that the true merits of the uniform could be appreciated.

None could deny the smartness, the trim, efficient appearance, nor the over-all dignity of the outfit. However, as we all racked our brains for ways and means by which we might get hold of one for ourselves, one little vagrant thought - horrible but persistent - emerged and has been pestering us ever since.

Nobody - or almost nobody - will deny the advantages of the uniform. But, now that we have gone this far towards improving the appearance of the Service in the eyes of the public and, of course, saving the field staff some clothing money, why not complete the job? As it is, all members of the Service who appear in public in this uniform are, in fact, loudly proclaiming that they are members of the Forest Service. This in itself is harmless - almost laudable in fact, except - one large except - by so doing they are exposing themselves as a Forest Service oracle. We are pleased that the public is currently showing such forest consciousness and interest in the work of the Service. To anyone who has ever attended a Service display at a fair or exhibition the true import of these words will be felt. There is generally a steady barrage of questions about every conceivable subject even vaguely connected with forestry, to such an extent that one often finds oneself in heated arguments (discussions, I'm sorry) regarding whether or not Uncle Zeb's notoriously bunioned feet (the object of much interest in his small hamlet) were caused by lugging a Paramount senior up Old Glory in the fall of '28. In the event there is the slightest chance that these feet became so because of that, then the Service should foot (Hmmmram) the bill. I mean you can see how involved things can become!

Therefore, it appears to us that after exposing the field staff for all to see as members of the Service, the next step is to protect the poor guys and enhance the uniform and their willingness to appear in public at the same time. Our solution to this pressing problem is to design and issue a series of shoulder flashes which would indicate in no uncertain terms that the individual who owns the arm upon which it is hung is primarily concerned with such and such a Division of the Service or type of work and can, therefore, defend himself from the pursuing questioner by simply stating, along with a seemingly casual movement indicating the flash, "Well, you see, I'm in Public Relations and therefore couldn't really give you a direct answer to that". The questioner would then look hard at the flash, probably nod his head vigorously and say "Oh yes, of course, I see", and slowly walk away. Thus that particular member of the Service would be snatched from the jaws of what might have developed into a right nasty bit of embarrassment.

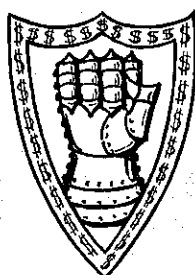
Pushing this idea to its logical conclusion, we feel that certain categories of "visiting firemen" should also be designated by an additional badge for the protection of the field staff who might not have had time to memorize those names of persons appearing in capital letters in the annual personnel directories. These capital-lettered individuals are strictly Brass and we feel it would be of assistance to a busy despatcher if, by glancing at the shoulders of the visiting stranger across the Ranger Office counter, he could decide whether it is necessary to spring to attention, and say "Yes, sir", or as is accepted practice, hurl a "Yeh? What can I do for you?" over his

On Uniforms - A Vagrant Thought (Continued)

own shoulder while trying desperately to read Saddle Mountain during a lightning storm.

Feeling that we are really on to something "hot" here, we have taken the liberty of designing a few such flashes for the consideration of Newsletter readers. It is in no way necessary, incidentally, that you immediately despatch a memorandum to your District Forester, re Shoulder Flashes, but, nonetheless, the Newsletter would be pleased to publish any written and signed opinions (subject of course to the Geneva Articles of War) that it may receive.

It is suggested that these designs be carried in the shape of a shield where the wearer is from Victoria Headquarters; a diamond from District Headquarters; and an oblong if a member of the Ranger Districts staff, Ranger School, or Marine Station.

Victoria Headquarters DivisionsMANAGEMENT

Mailed Fist in shield on field of blue, bordered with \$ signs.

PARKS & RECREATION

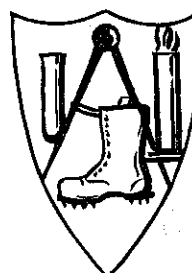
Hiker with large pack, laughing madly (Recreation) on field of endless mountain peaks.

OPERATION

Flying pump and hose on field of flames and forest green.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & EDUCATION

Large megaphone and gnashing teeth with open book and glamour glasses on field of purple.

ECONOMICS

Surveyor's boot with Bunsen burner, test tube and pair of plotting compasses on field of forest green.

GRAZING

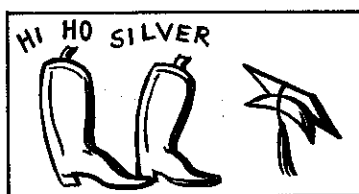
Golden cattle-head grazing on green grass. Steer wearing college mortar-board.

REFORESTATION

Vast area of snags and stumps with one bright green little seedling in foreground.

RECORDS

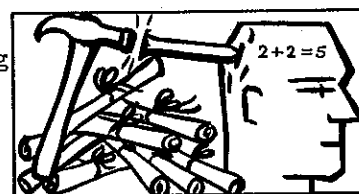
Large pile of books and paper topped by pair of glasses and crossed eyes on white background.

Field and Special StaffsRANGERS

Pair of high cowboy boots and mortar board.

RANGER SCHOOL

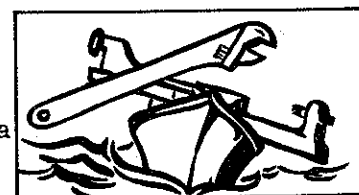
Concrete head being shaped by hammer and chisel with pile of diplomas in background.

LOOKOUTMEN

Pair of eyes, eyebrows and nose on field of sky blue.

MARINE STATION

Bow of boat carrying lathe with wrench rampant on field of sea green.



On Uniforms - A Vagrant Thought (Continued)Visiting Firemen's Badges

In addition to the Divisional shoulder flashes, capital-lettered members of the Service should wear the following metal markings on their epaulets:-

-B.S.-BIG SHOT

All Divisional Heads and Assistant District Foresters.

≡V.B.S.≡VERY BIG SHOT

Chief Forester; Assistant Chief Forester; and District Foresters.

Possibly a word of warning should be offered at this stage. You have now seen the suggested flashes. Just remember they are only "suggested". Also, before your arteries begin giving you too much trouble, try to think calmly of how you would handle the above-mentioned interrogation with respect to Uncle Zeb's bunions and be honest with yourself when considering whether or not shoulder flashes might be the answer.

... ..
... ..

VANCOUVER DISTRICTMARG SEZ:

We wish to extend our sincere good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Alan J. Solloway (formerly Athalie Frasier of Operations, Victoria and Vancouver) who were married July 15 in Gorge Presbyterian Church, Victoria.

Two little boys came into the world this July, Tyrone Geoffrey, son of Joyce and Geoff Hyde (nee Joyce Stevens of Management), and Lawrence Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Eric Bennett. Congratulations boys, you can't go wrong with parents who are (or were) associated with the Forest Service.

I was once told that there were no discoveries left to be made in this world, but I've found this quite untrue, for lately I've discovered that there are two very personable young men working for this office that have not even been unveiled yet. Most well-kept-secret is Phillip T. Cook, a student draughtsman, who crept in May 1, and the other very obvious omission is Bill Wallace, Despatcher at the Radio Station, who came in May 15 to aid Alex Ferguson and Stewart Croteau. We know these boys are with us for only a short time before U.B.C. beckons but, nevertheless, extend a warm, if belated, welcome.

Sorry to have to report that Doreen Lanaway is not back with us yet after over a month of illness but, by the time the next issue comes round, we hope to be able to say that she is again at her desk and feeling fine.

Stewart Croteau is recovering nicely after an emergency appendicitis operation and should be back to work very soon.

Along with the rain that falls (great stuff for forest fires, but not always good for a picnic) sometimes there comes pennies from heaven. Larry Cuthbertson was the lucky winner of \$40.00 on the Happy Holiday Fund, sponsored by the Public Service Branch of the Canadian Legion: our own Ena Bruce sold him the ticket.

Heard a rumour that Bob Robertson is getting married, but no one can supply any details. Sure wish these scalars would keep us up to date so our official mourners for the bachelor gals could get to work and keep our "available" lists up to date. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robertson from all Vancouver members of the Service.

... ..

"RUSTY" CAMPBELL RIDES AGAIN

Another outstanding example of good, practical, public relations on the part of a member of the field staff has recently come to our attention. This time, the hard-working member is Ranger W.N. (Rusty) Campbell of Ft. McLeod in the Fort George District.

During the past winter, Rusty has been travelling high, wide, and handsome through the Prince Rupert and Fort George Districts with a projector, a generator, and a selection of films from both our own film library and that of the National Film Board.

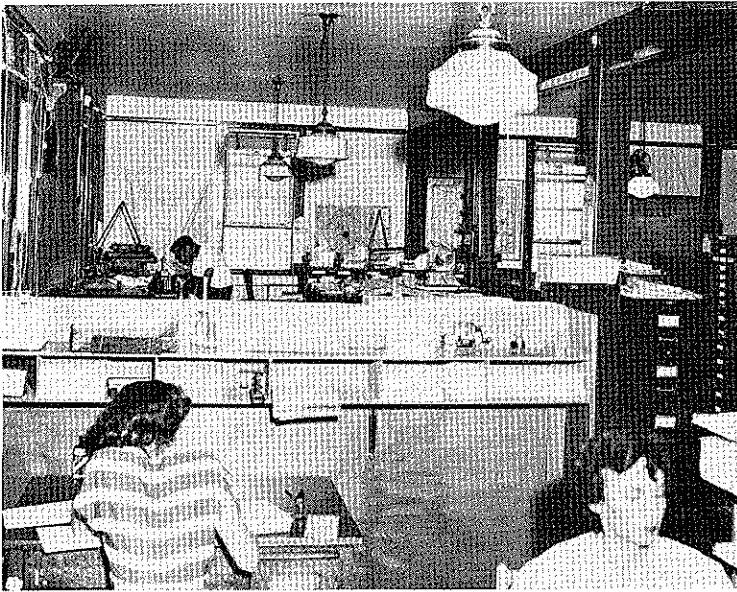
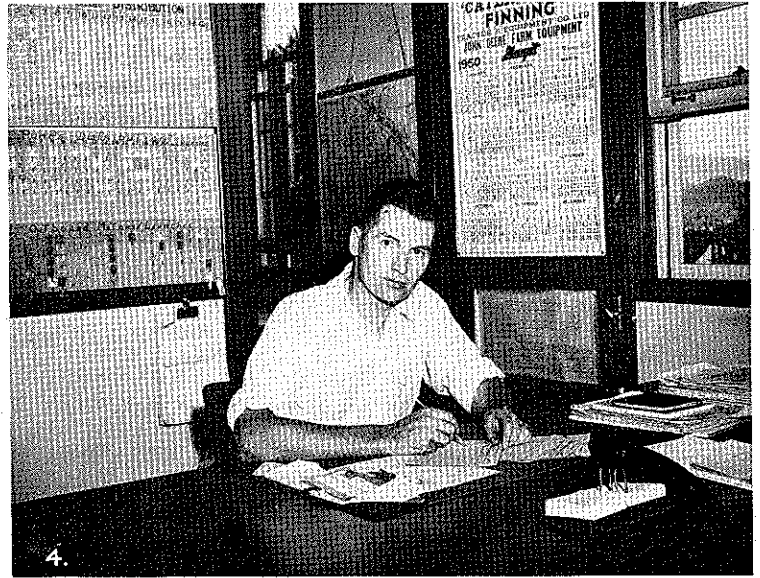
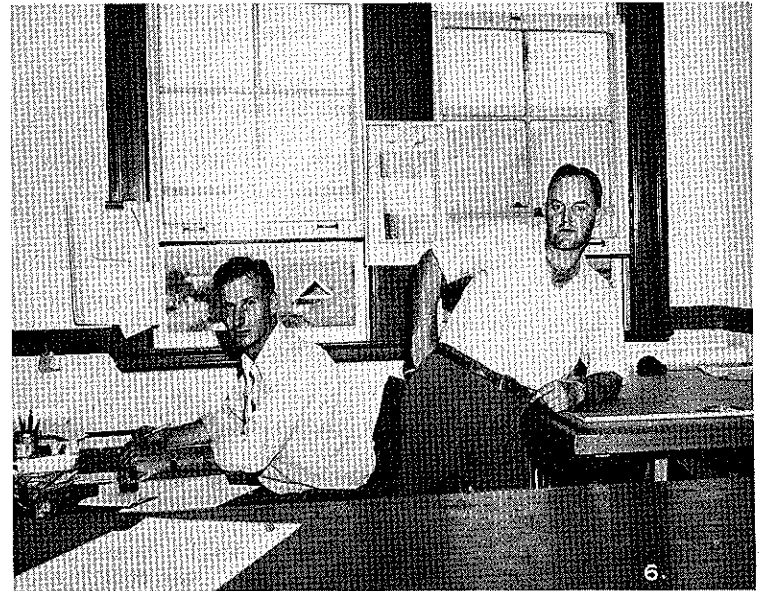
According to the May 11 issue of the "Prince George Citizen", Rusty has covered over 3,000 miles by small steamer and launch, on foot and on horse, in old 'planes and on railroad speeders addressing audiences of from 5 to 500 persons.

In several locations, the younger members of the audience were seeing their first movies and receiving their first introduction to the wonders of electric lights.

Just by way of pointing out that public relations work is no cinch, we again turn to the Citizen for the following - "on one occasion, Mr. Campbell's projector broke down Assisted by a forest ranger, he stood outside the hall in a snowdrift and turned the reels by hand." In this case the available room was so small the projector had to be set up outside in a temperature of probably 40 below zero.

Our congratulations to you Rusty for a job well done and a sound investment in the future.

... ..



1. & 2. A pan. of the General Office.

3. O i/c Col. A.E. Parlow.

4. Ralph Johnston, Operation.

5. Kamloops Ranger Office.
 Asst. Rangers G. Ludgate (l.) and
 J. Garfield (r.).

6. Grazing, with T. Wallace(seated)and
 R. Pringle(standing.)

Kamloops District (Continued)

Above left -
Management - (l. to r.)
W.W. Stevens, M. Kerr,
and J. Bruce.



Above right -
Grazing again - (l. to r.)
B. Neighbour, J. Maxwell,
J. Pinder-Moss, and
Dorothy Hapgood.



Left -
Receptionist Shirley
Farrish flanked by Prov.
Gov. League Bowling Trophy
and First Prize Ribbon for
1950 Parade Float.

... : : :

KAMLOOPS DISTRICT NEWS

Staff changes and switches have left us in a fog. To clarify the picture for ourselves we will have to start back a month or two.

A.R. Waldie, formerly of the Dominion Pathology Laboratory, Victoria, reported some time ago as assistant silviculturist and T.R. Broadland, who has been working for the Park division out of Victoria, is now stationed at Kamloops as Park and Recreation officer.

M.L. Kerr after a number of years as assistant ranger, war service, and a U.B.C. degree, has reported as Forester-in-Training in our management section.

Grazing has added to its strength in the acquisition of B. Neighbor. Bruce graduated this year in forestry and is taking a whirl at grazing.

In operation, Ralph Johnston has been acquired from Nelson to head up our operation section. To round out our staff Ranger Stan Noakes is leaving Williams Lake to fill the position of acting fire inspector. K. Petersen vacates his ranger-grade-one position at Barriere to take over Noakes' ranger district at Williams Lake.

We are helping out the Nelson district by loaning J.L. Humphrey. He has been ranger grade one at Salmon Arm and we extend best wishes to him in his new ranger district in the Kootenay.

Flash

With our augmented staff, our long-awaited P.B.X. board is finally a reality. Outside callers can now reach us by phone when they wish and there are less jangled nerves amongst the staff over repeated busy phones.

District Forester Parlow had his first ride in the helicopter. He flew from the airport to town and viewed Kamloops from tree top height. Unfortunately, a heavy wind was blowing and the pilot was unable to do precision flying.

The plane is a Hiller 360 produced in California. It is very similar to the other helicopter - the Bell type - which has been flying in B.C. for the past two years. The Hiller will carry two passengers or a load of 580 pounds with full gas tanks at sea level.

6.
Kamloops District News (Continued)

The helicopter, while owned by the same company from which we charter our planes, is not under charter to the Forest Service but we hope to make use of it occasionally if circumstances will allow.

Ranger Campbell, Birch Island, took delivery of a late model SON on June 2.

... ..

PARKS AND RECREATION CHATTER

By Seymour E. Park

We have always had a soft spot in our hearts for those big St. Bernard dogs. These convivial critters wander amiably through howling Alpine blizzards carrying a neat little flask of Three Star firewater which they insist upon sharing with someone. This sort of thing is, of course, a great incentive to being rescued and statistics show more people are lost and found in the Alps than anywhere else in the world.

Now, up there in Mt. Seymour Park, we have no good-natured St. Bernard dogs wandering round with flasks of aqua vitea but hopeful or thirsty members of the public continue to get lost - and Ole Johansen and his hardy crew continue to rescue them.

The last incident of this sort took place on the twenty-first of June when snow still blanketed the upper slopes. On this particular morning our boy Cliff Fenner was chased out of his nice, cozy bed, at the cheerless hour of six, by the ever efficient constabulary. They explained that a hiker had been reported missing on the mountain all night.

Cliff and the "cops" left immediately and punched a number of aimless holes in the fog. This preliminary effort proved fruitless. Ole, who had been absent from the mountain during the search, now arrived back and with him, more searchers. Ole and the gang worked out a new plan and re-organized the whole group. Four parties were formed, each of which contained one Park employee with a good knowledge of the mountain. To each party there was allocated a particular area of search.



Ole Johansen

Ole set off into the fog in an attempt to track down the missing person. Carefully following the tracks through a criss-crossing maze of trails left by other hikers, Ole finally entered an area already being searched by one of the other parties. The trail led on to an isolated cabin. Here he found his man - but Andy Heatherington's group had beaten him to the rescue by a matter of minutes. The lost hiker was safe and sound. A very creditable show all round. So along with the fine commendation received from the B.C. Police we would like to congratulate Ole Johansen, Cliff Fenner, Andy Heatherington, Norm Sawyer, John Maniak, and Gordie Knight.

Nice show, fellows - pity your requisition for six St. Bernards (complete with brandy flasks) has been turned down.

... ..

OUR MASTHEAD STORY

The masthead on this issue of the Newsletter is the third in a series of pen-and-ink sketches of various parts of the Nelson Forest District, by John Ingram Rogers of Nelson. This time John's subject is Creston Flats, looking north towards Kootenay Lake. The mountains retreating into the distance rise from the west shore of the lake.

Mr. Rogers' covering memorandum points out, "The small black blobs in the middle distance are cows - my apologies to (the Grazing Division).

... ..

NEW FOREST SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

Since the July issue of the Newsletter, the following publications have been received from the Printers and distributed according to the standard procedure adopted for these types of publications:-

Report of The Forest Service, Year Ending December 31st, 1949.

B.42 - Farm Woodlot Licences.

T.34 - Life History of the Deer Mouse, by Alan Orr-Ewing.

Additional copies of these publications are available from the P.R. & E. Division.

... ..

The sympathy of his fellow-members in the Service is extended to Marc and Mrs. Gormely in the loss of their son, Eddie, following a brief illness.

... ..

ASSISTANT RANGER WALTER DODDS

November 14, 1911 - June 30, 1950

The Newsletter sincerely regrets to report the death, on June 30, 1950, of Assistant Ranger Walter (Laddie) Dodds of the Yahk Assistant Ranger District, Nelson Forest District. Assistant Ranger Dodds was travelling from Yahk to Creston on Highway No. 3 when he apparently lost control of his vehicle which plunged off the road and down into the Goat River, approximately 400 feet below.



Laddie worked out of the Creston Ranger Office under Ranger A.I. Ross, but was in the habit of spending a full week at the Yahk Station, doing his field work, and would bring his files and reports into Creston on Saturdays. It was for this purpose that he was coming into Creston on the night of the fatal accident.

Laddie was very well known throughout the Kootenays. Before he joined the Forest Service as a regular employee, in 1944, he had owned and operated, with his brothers, a small sawmill near Creston. He then moved to the Upper Kootenays where he worked as sawyer in a number of portable mills. He was regarded as a top flight woodsman and ardent hunter.

The heartfelt sympathies of all Laddie's fellow-members of the Forest Service are extended to his wife and family in their bereavement.

... ..



The much-discussed "Gallows" on Hope-Princeton Highway, Manning Park.