

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. 97

VICTORIA, B.C.

AUGUST, 1951.

NOTES FROM A LECTURER'S LOG-BOOK

By W.N. (Rusty) Campbell

During the past winter, part of the forest conservation lecture-tour through the elementary and superior schools of the Province covered a portion of the Cariboo and Southern Interior. Although this was chiefly directed towards the schools, if requested, the lecturer attended other gatherings especially called by either community people or organizations such as service clubs. If anything, this work gives a Forest Officer a chance for full play of the versatile side of his make-up. In fact, unless he is capable of bringing this to the front quickly and often, at times he will find himself at a decided disadvantage, and his audience somewhat to be pitied.

Just a few days picked at random from a lecturer's log-book covering 145 lectures to 9,801 students during the period October 23, 1950, to June 15, 1951, will perhaps bear out this point.

"Visited Floral Creek School, spoke and showed, and same day visited Forks Ele. School. Total children both schools 24. First movie for some of the smaller children. Portable power needed.

"Visited Kamloops High School, 400 senior students. Following day Barnhartval Ele. rural school, 18 pupils. Portable power needed.

"Visited Alexis Creek Ele. school, 30 pupils, and in the same place in evening spoke and showed to 50 adults. Ranchers and cowboys chiefly, in community hall.

"Following day at Kleena Kleene in Chilcotin District. Met the total population at meeting in evening, 20 children and adults.

"On December 8, Anahim Lake Ele. school. 16 pupils, both Indian and white and in evening at school-house again, 28 adults, whites and Indians and children, about the settlement's total population. This remote point is 230 miles west of William's Lake in the Chilcotin cattle country. Practically none of the children here had ever seen movies before.

"Dec. 15. At Anahim Indian Reserve. 90 Indians and 8 Mission Sisters.

"Takla Lake Ranch, Chilcotin. 5 children and 9 adults Sunday afternoon.

"In the Clinton area, South Cariboo, drove to Big Bar School. Very isolated school in the winter. Showed and spoke to 8 children in school-teacher's house owing to extreme cold, and then returned same evening. Portable power.

"At Vernon addressed Rotary at luncheon, Senior High School in afternoon and Kinsmen in evening.

"Following day attended Okanagan Indian Ele. School with 95 pupils. First visit of Forest Service lecturer. Portable power.

"Vernon Jr. High School. 700 students addressed and shown movies in eight periods of 40 minutes each during day from 9 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.

"Following day attended rural school with 11 pupils and portable power."

Notes From a Lecturer's Log-Book (continued)

Many of the gatherings in the rural consolidated schools consisted of all ages from Grade 1 to Grade 12 High School. In such a gathering the speaker, unless he is able to move up and down the scale as it were and still keep the theme of his discourse clear and unclouded, will likely find himself groping and not making much sense to any age or grade. If any Forest Officer is assigned such work let him remember that the "Unforgivable Sin" of a speaker in front of children of any age is dullness in delivery.

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VANCOUVER DISTRICT

Presentations

To Miss Doreen Irwin and Miss Grace Wilder, on the occasion of their respective weddings, gifts of useful household articles; to Larry Cuthbertson on his resignation, a camera; to Fred O'Grady on his retirement, a kit of carpenter's tools. In every instance the presentations were accompanied by expressions of good wishes from the staff.

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Unsolicited Distinction

The District is possessor of another record - the longest forest closure - which went into effect as from midnight July 12, 1951, and showed no sign of a break at the end of the month. In this connection we received the following from Stan Phillips:-

"The current closure has apparently created a situation that warrants investigation by the S.P.C.A. From a Vancouver paper, under the headline 'Log Shortage Hits Fraser Mills', quote: Local operators said today they are definitely worried over the situation created by the long drought. We are forced to dip into our winter stockpile of dogs, which is not a very good situation as it means we'll be running short for the rest of the year. Unquote. Stan concludes by suggesting our scalers are going to be scaling a new species - Canines grades 1, 2 and 3.

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Litigation Averted

Flirting with the idea of claiming damages by reason of an unauthorized publication of his picture on page 7 of the June issue of this paper, our Mr. D.B. Taylor has mentioned bringing suit against the Editor and Publisher.

We have polled our desk neighbours (2) on the matter and suggest as settlement a year's subscription to the Newsletter with extra copy of the Christmas number buckshee - "Ho hum" -- wasn't it Confucius who said, "In the discomfiture of our friends we sometimes find that which is not displeasing to us".

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"Van" of Campbell River

We have a breezy little rundown of sidelights on the Campbell River fire from the Despatcher. He writes of a constable and a forest officer at each end of an occupied bunkhouse closing in on potential firefighters who scrambled toward the windows. (This is known as the "double squeeze" Van. You will not find it covered in the Manual). Your mention of a rush to the local doctor's office for exemption from duty on the fire-line, and Marsh Antonelli's wonderment at the capacity for sleeping on the job shown by some of the firefighters, simply points up the fact that forest officers belong to an elite organization where such behavior is unknown. Thanks for writing.

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Left to right: Mrs. L. Douglas, Miss B. Taylor, Mrs. F. Lister, Miss V. Miller, Syd Benwell, Bob O'Brien (I.B.M. Service), Bill Notation (I.B.M. Service), and the new I.B.M. Accounting Machine.

Photo by Stan Phillips.

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Vancouver District (continued)Correction

On Page 9 of the July Newsletter there appeared a photograph of J. Lloyd Van Camp of the C.F.A. presenting Junior Warden George Ryder with the Award of Merit. So far so good. However, in putting together the caption we stated, in part, "George Ryder is now employed in the Vancouver Office of the Canadian Forestry Association".

Let all take heed and note that there the Newsletter did err. George is employed in the Vancouver Office of the B.C. FOREST SERVICE!

The Editorial Board of the Newsletter has been on bread and water since the July issue was released and now begs to be let off the hook.

Thank you, Mr. Bassett!

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KAMLOOPS DISTRICTMatched

On June 2, Brian Thompson, our filing clerk, and Virginia Rodrigue, were married. Their honeymoon trip was spent at Jasper, Banff, and points East. Our very best wishes are extended to you, Brian and Virginia.

In connection with all our newly-weds, presentations were made to Rose and Albert Paulsen, who were married on May 25; Mel and Betty Kerr, married on May 21; and to Brian and Virginia Thompson. Gifts were in the nature of an electric "pop-up" toaster, a table lamp, and a Kenwood blanket, respectively.

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Hatched

Congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. A. Schutz (Al is now Ranger at Blue River) on the arrival, on June 4, of a DAUGHTER, Maureen.

A bouncing baby BOY, in the nature of an up-and-coming Silviculturist, was born to Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Grove-White on June 21. We understand they are calling him Gregory Robert.

And today (July 31) we hear the news of the arrival of a DAUGHTER, Joanne Berry, to Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Payne.

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Welcome Back, Ron

We are glad to welcome back Ron Noakes after a lengthy illness of three months, spent with the pretty nurses in the Royal Inland Hospital. Ron says the nurses up there are far superior to the stenos. in this office. (Editor's Note: That's a matter of opinion!)

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ANNUAL BEACH PARTY

July 7 was the date of the Annual Forest Service Beach Party at Silvery Beach, on Little Shuswap. We had a wonderful turnout of 56, despite the fact that, up to the last minute, the weather was threatening but the rain held off, much to the Operation fellows' chagrin, and the party was definitely a success.

The Forest Service aggregation of musicians, Stan Noakes with fiddle et cetera, Freddy White and his guitar, and John Willoughby with his clarinet and harmonica, assisted by Lil Smith and her accordion, did a lot toward the evening's entertainment. John! We want to hear "Old Smokey" again in the near future!

Keary and Betty DeBeck arrived Indian style (late and draped in blankets). The water was a bit cool but two hardy young females went swimming and some members of the Service inadvertently got their feet wet. After one such dousing, Harry Smith tried toasting his socks and ended up barefoot! All in all it was a very successful party and all who attended are awaiting the next get-together.

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Changes 'n Things

Along about this time of year when most people are thinking of changing their "long-johns", the Forest Service is thinking of changing the addresses of a number of its employees. Of course the first word of these changes are received from our friend "the man on the street" or the skid trail.

John Bruce was the first to leave our scenic valley. No doubt he is becoming accustomed to walking with web feet around Prince Rupert by now. Jack Payne came down from the Rupert Management office to bolster our staff here. Evidently he likes our company as he is a landlord in North Kamloops. Our bag-piping Silviculturist Art Waldie went to the Nelson District and was replaced by Bill Lehrle of Williams Lake fame.

We wish to welcome to our steno staff Bernadette Desharnais (Management) and Doreen Gunn (Billing). May your stay be happy and successful. Glenys Pritchett

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Changes 'n Things (continued)

came back to Operations for the summer. We hope you will come back for a longer stay next time, Glen.

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WHAT EVERY FOREST OFFICER SHOULD KNOW

PART V HOW YOU TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY

"Through obedience learn to command."

Forest Service work never has been, and it is to be hoped never will be, the same as factory production. In spite of superior officers we are on our own most of the time and this is one of the great reasons why the Forest Service is worth-while. It calls for individual responsibility under changing conditions, and that is why it is interesting. But the future of the Service depends now, as in the past, on the ability and willingness of the individual members to carry out plans and execute orders to the letter.



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The fire-fighting game, especially a big fire with lots of men, crews, and organizations, needs and demands as strict obedience to orders as is required of soldiers in battle. Without obedience no plan can be carried out, and untold harm can be done. Trace the history of the big fires and in most cases you will find that at some time someone failed to obey orders, and perhaps for no other reason than that he thought things should be done differently.

Of course, emergencies may arise to spoil any chances of obeying orders. That's different, and gives you a chance to display your headwork and enterprise. But the knowledge that you can be counted on to carry out orders as given is comforting to the men who are running the show, and does you no harm. When you obey orders you are dependable and when you're dependable you're good.

Never pass the buck. When you pass the buck, you lose an opportunity to do something for yourself. You might make a mistake, but if you are not all solid above the ears, the mistake will teach you something and you will be that much ahead. Every time you make a decision, take any action on your own responsibility, give an order and "use your bean,"

you are preparing yourself for greater opportunities. Every time you pass the buck you are getting a little lazier and a little more worthless. Know what your authority is, where it begins and where it ends, and accept your responsibilities. Stand on your own feet, attend to your job, and you won't ever pass the buck or need an alibi.

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KEY TO SUCCESS

By C.D.O.

Hotel proprietors do not like their guests to carry room keys in their pockets and go to great lengths to discourage the practice.

I do not like the idea of locking my door and then leaving the key in the possession of a Room Clerk to pass out to all comers; hence, I stubbornly insist on carrying the key in my pocket.

The Prince George Hotel tried to beat me by attaching their keys to a large tag, about four or five by six or eight inches. It fits beautifully into a hip pocket and can be carried without the least inconvenience.

In hotels I frequented some months ago, a whole series had attached their keys to a conventionalized brass hammer, weighing at least two pounds. It, too, fitted quite easily into a hip pocket, and was no particular inconvenience to one accustomed to carrying a fifty-pound pack and equipped for the moment with a good strong pair of galluses.

But the attractive new hotel at Houston finally turned the trick. Their keys are attached to a substantial brass ring, about 3/16 gauge, and just too big to go into any pocket I possessed and just too small to go over my head. I finally had to leave the hotel key with the Clerk.

This is not reported in any spirit of spleen or rancor, but solely for the reason that it suggests a solution for lost keys around District and Ranger Headquarters. There seems to be no reason why we should not copy the idea, and it certainly does discourage the stubborn and thoughtless from carrying keys away with them. If any office is inclined to take the matter up, note particularly that the ring should be too big to fit

Key to Success (continued)

in any pocket and too small to go over the head. If there is any loophole whatever, you will find your men carrying the keys away, even to the extent of half a dozen rings around the neck.

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PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

By C.P. Lyons and
S.E. Park

Here and there and most anywhere

FLY CONTROL: The awful truth that flies are to be found in several of the parks so shocked the organization that a Peculiar Park Problem Section was established by special proclamation. Result -- a spray gun attachment that can be fitted to a jeep or pickup and, depending on wind-direction, either drench the driver to the consistency of an oily rag or fog all the nasty flies within several hundred feet.

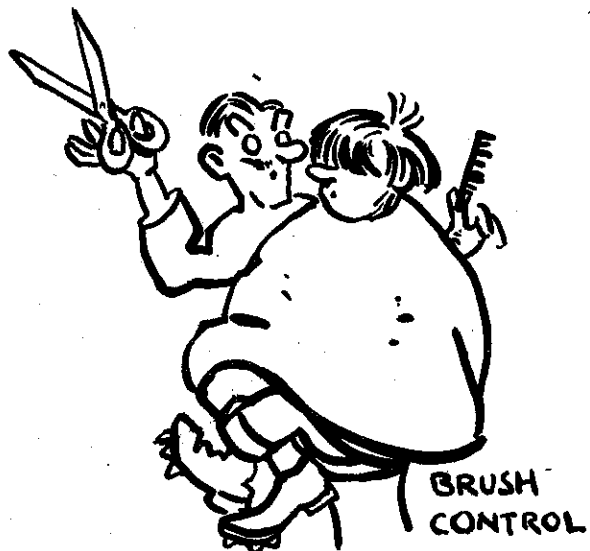


The apparatus consists of a bucket of Deisel oil and D.D.T. mixture which is fed through a copper pipe to the spray nozzle. Said nozzle screws into a fitting made on the exhaust and when a cap is screwed on the end of the exhaust pipe, the full pressure is directed through the spray pipe. The killing mixture is sucked into the air stream and blown out in a fine fog.

This looks to be the answer to a cheap and easy method of fly control over areas adjacent to roads. Further details can likely be obtained from the Mechanical Division who had a special spy, Frankenstein Snipe, ferreting out information for them.

TOURIST CONTROL: The prolonged forest closure on Vancouver Island came as a disagreeable shock to motoring visitors. However, the Island Parks remained open and welcomed thousands of grateful picnickers and campers. A sufficient number of convenient roadside camp and picnic-areas will act, during the forest closure, as a safety value for the human tide.

ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT: This development of camp and picnic sites is creating great public interest as evidenced by many enquiries for information. This very worthwhile work is being carried out by three youth crews who will fix up about 20 acres by September. The valiant efforts of the Langford Workshop crew to produce sufficient tables, fireplaces and signs can be gauged by the steady decline in Joe St. Pierre's silhouette and the increase of grey hairs on Len Shaw's head.



BRUSH CONTROL: Harold Christian, road foreman at Mt. Seymour Park, and Ole Johansen, Park Ranger, connived to get themselves out of cutting the heavy growth of alder along the road edges. The upshot was a roadside spraying of 2-4-D and like chemicals. All brush within the radius of the road was killed and will be knocked down in the Fall. Further control can be done with a back sprayer. The cost was about \$70.00 for a mile of road.

We just dare you to miss next month's issue. We are planning to publish the full, shocking inside truth concerning the Parks and Recreation Division. We are pulling no punches with these juicy disclosures, anonymously collected from behind our

Parks and Recreation Division (continued)

private Iron Curtain! Collected and compiled by the coldly efficient agents of the S.S.O. (Shrivelled Service Omission). You cannot afford to miss it -- it's Free!

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THE WELCOME MAT

The olde tattered mat is extended to welcome W.J. (Bill) Stewart as the Mechanical Section's newest Inspector. Bill comes to us via the Public Works Department at Kamloops. The Newsletter hopes you will be happy in the Service, Bill.

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OUR MASTHEAD STORY

The Masthead on this issue shows a truck-load of teen aged boys from one of our youth camps starting off for a "show" in town.

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SO-LONG AND GOOD LUCK

All the best of luck and good wishes go to those leaving to enter the Armed Services. Amongst the first to go:-

Miss Bette Keatley of Forest Draughting, Victoria, who left to join the R.C.A.F. at St. John's, Quebec. On July 5 and on behalf of her many friends in the Service, Mr. R.C. St. Clair, Assistant Chief Forester, presented Bette with a German travelling clock and a writing case.

On July 19 Mr. F.S. McKinnon made a double presentation to Miss Bonnie Stoba of Surveys Division and Mr. Pete Barry of Management on the occasion of their leaving to join the Forces. Bonnie received a pen and pencil set and a gardenia corsage and Pete was presented with a travelling bag. They are going to the R.C.A.F. at St. John's, Quebec, and the Officers' Training Camp at Camp Borden, Ontario, respectively.

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