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FOREST BRANCH NEWS LETTER

No. 7

Victoria, B. C., December 25, 1935

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We thought we had safeguarded ourselves completely against any nuisance obligation in connection with this letter in our first number--no publication date, no particular object, just a news letter once in a while. And now they say we've got to get out a Christmas number. "Oh, sure, you've got to have a Christmas number." Well--Merry Christmas, and may your turkey give you a tummy ache. We hope you get everything you want this festive season, and when you find after you've got it, that you didn't want it after all--don't blame the editor. We'll be too busy surreptitiously disposing of red ties and pink shirts, and nursing our own indigestion to be very much interested anyway. Perhaps next year we'll get at it in time to write a Christmas number. In the meantime we'll sign ourselves, - Yours truly, Scrooge.

You can't put a roll of films in a camera and go out and just "take a snapshot" with any hope of getting a good picture. Moreover, you can, if you know how to do it, take just as good a picture under ordinary circumstances with a \$25 camera as you can with a \$200 camera. We have a notion that this, very distinctly, will be news to a large part of the Forest Branch staff and that is our justification for including this little dissertation in the News Letter. If it wasn't altogether news to us, we were rather chagrined on reading a little on the subject recently to find out how little we had learned about picture-taking in the course of 25 years of active experience--or at least how much remained to be learned.

We have been taking pictures in the Forest Branch ever since we were organized in 1912 and a few of these have found their way in to the library for filing. A year ago those few numbered some 5,000 negatives. In view of their quality perhaps it is a good thing that we can't arrive at their cost. Last winter we went through the picture files and threw away about 2,000 of them and of the remainder another 1,000 might reasonably suffer the same fate. In other words, when it comes to pictures the average Forest officer isn't so hot.

In recent years the manufacturers have made great strides in the development of films. You've got to know which of the various grades you want for your purpose and how to use it.

The funny scale of figures around the lens-casing proves on investigation to be highly important. You must appreciate how it is derived, what it means, and how to use it.

Correct exposure varies from hour to hour, month to month, and place to place; also from subject to subject, and with the various film emulsions. If you just guess that this picture should have 1/25 exposure the chances are your guess is wrong.

The light and colour you see in a subject is not the light and colour your camera sees. You must have some appreciation of what your camera will see before you open the shutter.

Perhaps we have said enough to indicate that if you are going to get good pictures you must know something about the camera and the materials and subjects you are working with. Picture making is a fascinating hobby and in addition we need good (note the good--we now have more than enough poor ones) pictures in our collection. If you are at all interested it is worth doing a little studying.

Any number of books on the subject are available. For the average dabbler in our own class we recommend:

- "How to Take Good Pictures."
- "The Fundamentals of Photography."
- "The Photography of Coloured Subjects."

These are published by the Eastman Kodak Company and can be secured through any dealer. They are also available in the Forest Branch Library.

How would you like to have a reading course on the subject of Photography added to our list? If we get enough "Ayes" to indicate that it is worth while we will try to find someone at once competent and willing to prepare it.

Speaking of photographs, we publish in this number a photograph of the District Foresters, recently in Conference in Vancouver, about to return to their respective flocks. We think our readers will appreciate both the picture, which is of historical value in Forest Branch affairs, and the departure of occasionally illustrating features in the Letter. Our inspiration was a combination of the valuable photograph and a new system--the "offset system"--whatever that means--of reproduction recently installed in the Mimeograph Plant, which we are anxious to try out. By this offset system the cost of cuts is so far reduced that illustration becomes a possibility in a great number of cases where previously the cost was prohibitive.

The paint-brush discussion apparently is not dead yet. Waddington (Prince Rupert) submits the following as having some bearing on the subject. It appears that a couple of men were sent out on a maintenance job. When they came to the painting stage they found they had no brushes and wired for some. The reply came back to the effect that the inventory showed two brushes in stock where they were at work and that these should be used. The men replied, "Handles O.K. Please send two bottles hair restorer."

A little booklet entitled "The A, B, C, of Driving" published for free distribution by the General Motors Corporation found its way into the office a few days ago. It repeats what most of us have known but often forget. We have asked General Motors for enough of these to accompany our News Letter but cannot say at this date whether they will be supplied or not. If you do not receive a copy herewith we suggest you ask a local dealer for one. The booklet is full of valuable dope on driving, can be read in a few minutes. It doesn't preach and it doesn't advertise.

We have the following from Ranger Sweatman (Duncan):

"I have noticed in two recent News Letters, one might say almost a heated discussion on old and dilapidated paint brushes. May I add my voice to the chorus? I have found that if one washes them--and it doesn't matter how old and stiff they are--you can make them quite serviceable by washing them in a mixture of one tablespoon of water glass, what the wife uses to put eggs down with, with about one pint of warm water. This mixture I believe is used by professional painters and you will have old brushes for now, and do the Fuller Brush man out of a job.

"And talking of Eggs! especially in these days of their high cost, reminds me of the engineer who was my travellin' companion, who pitched through the porthole all eggs that were too small to fit the egg cups on board. Believe it or not, but that was in the days before the Depression.

"Reminiscing (hope that's spelt right) a little further, did you hear of the man who put out a deserted campfire with the baby's milk and 2 bottles of pop, and cursed the man who lit it because it spoilt his picnic!

"May I add a word of appreciation of the News Letter and hope it will continue."

The following from an unnamed correspondent:

"Rusty Campbell (Dome Creek) recently talked out of turn, although he thought he was taking due precautions.

"Rusty was on the C.N. train bound for his country seat at Dome Creek. The train stumbled to an abrupt stop. About the time Rusty and his fellow-passengers were regaining their decorum the Conductor and Brakemen were busy shaking down the passengers for an axe. No one had an axe. After the fact was firmly established that no one had an axe, big-hearted, husky Rusty became helpful and said if he only had an AXE he would chop the tree off the track. Charlie Yost, the Conductor, being an old-timer, was wise to such bravado and promptly broke the glass and handed our gallant Rusty the \$500 weapon with which all cars are supplied. Too bad our Bull-of-the-Woods had not thought of this. He was so mad he blasted the bally tree from the right-of-way with an artistic display that severed everything but his foot. Eye-witnesses say he was so agitated he hit almost no times in the same place. As the chops and chips flew his disappointment in his inopportune tongue waxed so great that on the final mighty stroke the tree left the railway property completely and the axe disappeared forever in the Fraser River.

"Rusty is now saving up to pay Charlie Yost for the axe in an endeavour to avoid the life-long penalty inscribed on the tool case.

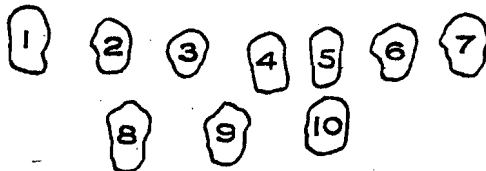
"The train arrived in Dome Creek 3 hr. 50 min. late."

Taken from personal report on one of the Y.M.F.T.P. boys.
Was he conscientious and a good worker? - Not too bad for a kid.
Did he develop physically during his employment? - Got pretty fat.



MEETING
OF
DISTRICT FORESTERS
VANCOUVER
1935

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In our letter of September 20th we noted the trend of the fire season. Chart "A" totals for the Province recently completed carry the record to its conclusion. The summary of the more important items following speaks for itself. For comparative purposes, we set opposite some of these figures, date and record of the last preceding year on which they were bettered. In connection with these comparative figures the years 1932 and 1933 are overlooked. As the Forest Protection Fund was not operative these two years are not comparable.

FOREST FIRE SUMMARY

Total number of fires	1,111	910/1918
Cost to Forest Branch	\$24,453.00	\$19,450/1915
Cost to other parties	\$46,917.00	
Total area burned over	48,870 acres	10,270/1913
Total damage done	\$289,619.00	198,500/1928
Area merchantable timber killed	1,778 acres	(smallest on record)
Area valuable reproduction killed	11,108 "	8912/1921
Cut-over, old burn not restocking, etc.		
Area burned over	22,548 acres	2535/1913
Area stock range burned over	1,203 acres	
Area slash burned	12,233 acres	

Other forms of Property

Forest products cut, logs, lumber, etc.	\$72,036.00
Buildings	15,220.00
Railway, logging and sawmill equipment	129,138.00
Miscellaneous	4,825.00
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	\$221,219.00

Causes of forest fires

Lightning	173	15.5%
Campers and travellers	217	19.5
Railways operating	65	5.8
Smokers	289	26.0
Brush burning	127	11.4
Road, power, telephone, etc. construction	11	1.0
Industrial operations	45	4.4
Incendiarism	72	6.4
Miscellaneous known causes	98	8.8
Unknown causes	14	1.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,111	100.0%

Jack (G.F.) Frost (Prince Rupert) suffered injuries to his head from a fall early in November which put him in the hospital for two or three weeks. He is back on the job now, located at Francois Lake.

We are pleased to join with John (A.E.) Collins (Surveys) in welcoming a young daughter, Patricia Joanne--arrived November 10th. We had a fine announcement handed to us by some helpful individual involving this "serious father bizz" and "gin-fizz", but having no libel insurance we prefer our own version.

W.E. Noble (Birch Island) is absent from duty on sick leave. C. L. Gibson is acting for him during his absence.

John Jardine (Prince George) has put his intention into effect and is now holidaying in Scotland. Alex Chisholm is relieving him.

H. M. Dronsfield (Nelson) and J. L. Atkins (Kamloops) are absent on sick leave.

Selection from Publications Received in the Forest Branch Library, November 4th to December 6th, 1935.

- .5 Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., U.S. Dept. of Agr. Forest Service, 1935.
- .05 Loggers' Daily - Pacific Logging Congress, Oct. 23-24-25-26, 1935.
- .941 British Columbia's Forest Resources, - F.D. Mulholland - P. 27.
- .05 American Forests - Nov. 1935.
- .943 The Forests of British Guiana - K. H. Grogan - P. 626.
B.C. Plan for Training Unemployed in Forestry - P. 652.
- .05 Canada Lumberman - Nov. 1, 1935.
Hardwood Resources of Canada - P. 10.
- .477 Paper-using Industries in Canada, 1933.
- .05 B.C. Lumberman - Nov. 1935.
- .05 Forest Research Activities - Sept. 1935.
- .514 Wood Fuel Burning Tests - E.S. Malloch & C.E. Baltzer - Dom. Dept. of Mines, No. 761 - 1935.
- .0 How to Make Good Pictures - Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.
- .93 National Pulp & Paper Requirements in Relation to Forest Conservation - Curran, C.E. & Behre, C.E. - U.S. Senate Document No. 115 - 1935.

Report of the Forest Products Research Board for the Year 1934 - London, 1935.

Summary of the Trade of Canada, Sept. 1935.

.05 Quarterly Journal of Forestry - Oct. 1935.

.7 Demonstration Forests - W.E. Hiley - P. 239.

.163 New Forests in East Anglia - W.L. Taylor - P. 245.

.216 Pruning - C.H. Thompson - P. 256.

.05 Canada Lumberman - Nov. 15/35.

Wheels of New Housing Now in Operation - P. 12.

Failure of Timber Distributors, London, to Cope with the "Fall Clause" - P. 14 & 17.

.05 Monthly Weather Review - Aug. 1935.

.0 The Fundamentals of Photography - C.E.K. Mees - Eastman Kodak Co. 1934.

.0 The Photography of Coloured Objects - Eastman Kodak Co. - 1935.

.0 Wratten light filters - Eastman Kodak Co., 1934.

.7218 Forest Taxation in the United States. F.R. Fairchild and Associates.

U.S. Dept. of Agr. Misc. Publication No. 218.

.05 News Bulletin - Canadian Society of Forest Engineers - Nov. 1935.

.08 The Design of Experiments - R.A. Fisher - Oliver & Boyd, Publishers, Edinburgh & London - 250 pages.

.05 The Timberman - Nov. 1935.

Proceedings of the Pacific Logging Congress, Vancouver, Oct. 23-24-25- P. 13.

.464 Marginal Utility of Lumber and Lumber Substitutes - Chap. 2 - J.P. Barry - P. 40.

.454 To Compute Weight of Floating Logs in Either Fresh or Salt Water - Bernard Brereton - P. 54.

For Safety Build with Wood - Helena Earthquake Views - P. 58.

.08 Conference on Forestry Research - Fundamental Cause of Our Failure in Forestry and the Remedy - A. Koreleff - Mimeo - 35 pages.

.31 The Character of the 1935 Fire Season in Region One - H.T. Gisborne - Applied Forestry Notes - Northern Rocky Mountain Forest & Range Experiment Station, Nov 1935.

.05 Forestry - Current Literature - U.S. Forest Service Library - Sept. - Oct. 1935.

.32 Timber Seasoning - (British) Forest Products Research Records - No. 4 - (Seasoning Series No. 1).

.05 Journal of Forestry - Dec. 1935.

Dominion Water Resources, Paper No. 67, 1935.

.05 American Forests - Christmas 1935.

.08 The Forest Industries Look Ahead - C.P. Winslow - P. 676.
Forest Credits and Sustained Yield - Ed. - 689.

.9442 Some Notes on Japanese Forestry - Ellwood Wilson - P. 617.

.431 Pulpwood in America - A. Review of the Situation in the United States that Affects Canada - C.W. Boyce - P. 624.

.05 Canada Lumberman - Dec. 1/35.

Canadian Lumber Trade and Reciprocity - Editorial - P. 11.