

DEC 29 1949

Newsletter

No. 77

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VICTORIA, B.C.

DECEMBER, 1949



1949

1950



MARINE
STATION FIRE



NEW
GRAZING
DIVISION



1680 FIRES



ALEZA LAKE
S-BUILDING



2 NEW BOATS



PEACE ARCH
TEA ROOMS



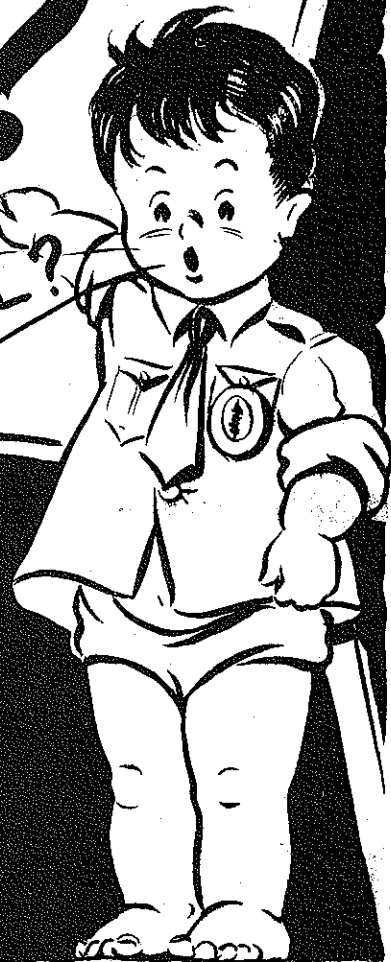
NEW SCHOOL
OPENS



PRE-ORGANIZATION
• 1950 •

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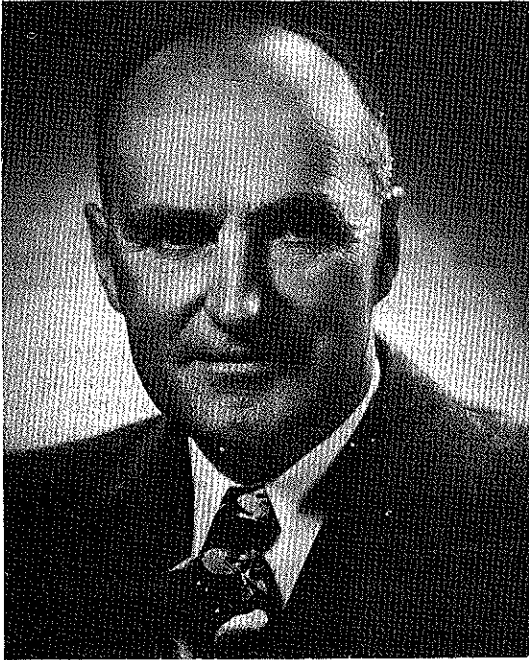
WELL?



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

THE NEW YEAR - 1950

There is something about the New Year's season that always seems to hold a challenge for each individual. All are prone to the making of comparisons with the past and to the projecting of aspirations into the future at this time of year. From this has grown the traditional "New Year's Resolution", which so many of us make, so fervently, at midnight, December 31, and not infrequently break, so unconsciously, too soon thereafter. Nevertheless, the fact that these resolutions are made in the first place show that there must be an underlying challenge to improve in each new year, and this applies not only to individuals but also to businesses, both large and small, and to government services such as our own Forest Service.



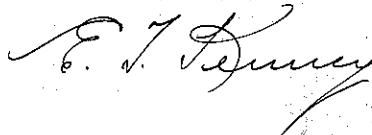
On occasions, it is of little comfort to review the happenings of a past year. At other times we can gain considerable satisfaction from looking back on our accomplishments. If we were to total up the accomplishments of the Forest Service for 1949 on one side of the "balance sheet" and the failures and mishaps on the other, there is little doubt that the final total would show a credit of real accomplishment during that period.

Selecting, at random, a few of the accomplishments of the year, with no attempt made to list them in order of relative importance, we find many things of which we can all be justly proud. The attractive new Ranger School was opened; the Aleza Lake Experiment Station reopened and is now undergoing considerable development; forest research and surveys carried on apace with great strides being evident in certain fields; our rapidly-improving protection facilities began to pay off with a considerable reduction being shown in the average fire size; the new experimental nurseries in the yellow pine belt points towards greater advances in the realm of reforestation; a self-contained Grazing Division was formed last January 1; Park and Recreation administration is now on a sound and workable basis; and expanded activities in the public relation and education field should produce good results.

Possibly the outstanding occurrence which could be listed on the other side of the "ledger" would be the very serious fire at the Forest Service Marine Station. However, even this has its brighter side as the new Station, now nearing completion, will contain expanded facilities and improved working conditions, thus permitting the Station to be of even greater value to the Service.

So, with a new year in front of us and a year of accomplishment behind, I feel that our best attitude should be one of determination, tempered with patience, with each one of us pressing towards bringing our plans for 1950 to a successful conclusion.

Again, for the fourth time in as many years, I am pleased to utilize the Newsletter in wishing every member of the B.C. Forest Service a happy, healthful, and prosperous New Year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. J. Diney".

Minister.

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The New Year is traditionally a time to count our blessings, balance accounts, and make laudable resolutions to govern our conduct for the succeeding twelve months. Looking back over the record of 1949, I seem to find that we have made more substantial progress than in any similar period in our history. No new records have been established in scale, or revenue, or fire occurrence, or by any of our usual measuring sticks, but throughout the Service there is new and gratifying evidence of recovery from the hampering drag of nearly twenty long years of depression and war.

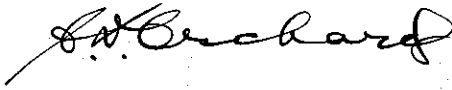
On the physical side, new, commodious, and well-equipped Ranger Stations, garages, warehouses, and lookouts, are dotted Province-wide, while the new boat plant and machine shop (following a new kind of fire in our experience), and the new Ranger School, deserve special mention; and new equipment beyond the rosiest dreams of ten years ago has found its way out to the Districts in something better than a dribble.

On the administrative side, we have come to grips with a number of problems that have been sneaking up on us by almost imperceptible degrees for the past fifteen years and have found solutions for some, and promise of early solutions for others.

By and large, 1949 has been a gratifying year and in the substantial rewards each of us can take personal credit and satisfaction in direct proportion to the interest and effort expended. What we have accomplished was not done by a Chief Forester, or any individual or group, but by the Service as a whole.



As for resolutions for 1950, I propose to keep my own a strictly confidential secret and accord the same privilege to you. Too many of them "last too quick," and it's a lot easier to rationalize excuses to yourself than to live down your weaknesses before the general public; but that still leaves me free to hope you enjoyed the pleasantest of all Christmases and to wish you the happiest of New Year's.



Chief Forester.

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J.J.K. "JACK" FROST RETIRES

On last December 14, Jack Frost reached the age of sixty-five and, as is the way with Civil Servants, he was notified by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission that, as of December 31, 1949, he would be retired from "active duty". That may be true as far as the Forest Service is officially concerned, but those of us who have worked with Jack cannot imagine him being inactive for very long.

The files tell us that Jack Frost was born in London, England, and, in 1907, emigrated to Canada. He first worked on a farm in Manitoba but, during the following winter, got his start in forestry by swamping and falling at English River, Ontario. For the next two years he worked on farms, in sawmills, and logging camps in Ontario, Manitoba, and North Dakota. Then, in 1910, he came west and went on land surveys with the late A.W. Harvey, B.C.L.S. on the Skeena, Kispiox, and Naas Rivers. Later, he worked around the Silver Standard Mine and, in 1913, pre-empted near Hazelton. Subsequently, while resting from his stump ranching labours, Jack appears to have worked at a number of things including clerking and bookkeeping, carpentering, and trail-construction.



During 1915 and 1916 Jack was overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and was wounded rather severely. Returning to British Columbia early in 1917 he worked for the following two years with the Collector of Customs at Prince Rupert and it was there he submitted an application for employment as an assistant ranger. So, in the summer of 1920, we find him stationed at Francois Lake as assistant ranger under the late Mr. E.C. Manning, then District Forester at Prince Rupert. In the fall of that year he was appointed supervisor's clerk at Hazelton which position he filled until the spring of 1922, when he remustered as assistant ranger, being stationed in succession at Francois Lake, Burns Lake, and Terrace.

In February, 1924, Mr. Frost was appointed as ranger in the Prince Rupert Forest District under Mr. P.S. Bonney. He continued in this capacity until January 31, 1927, when he resigned to go into the lumber business in Greenville, South Carolina.

The next chapter in Jack Frost's history with the Forest Service opens in June, 1928 when he was employed in connection with a land classification survey at Vanderhoof. This was followed by further land classification in connection with the boundaries of the Provincial Forests in the Okanagan Drainage. In 1930 Jack was appointed Ranger at Aleza Lake where he was stationed until 1934, when he was transferred to Vanderhoof. Finally, in October 1942, he was

transferred to the Economics Division, Victoria as a senior clerk and general factotum.

As Jack Frost retires from active duty with us we will all remember his great loyalty to and untiring efforts on behalf of the Forest Service. Also, those of us who have had the privilege of calling on the Frost's, whether it was at Aleza Lake, Vanderhoof, or Victoria, will remember that the latch string was always out and a sincere welcome awaited you.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Frost we extend our best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

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FOREST MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Looking back over 1949, the Management Division has been equally occupied, as during 1948, in selling Crown timber--at the rate of 215 timber sales per month. However, volume of timber sold and estimated stumpage value are each down approximately 30 per cent from 1948 figures. At the same time, we have been closing out completed contracts at the rate of 185 per month.

Silvicultural crews have been engaged in sale area betterment during the year in the Nelson, Kamloops, and Prince Rupert Forest Districts. As projects are planned, this phase of forest management activity will be extended and the projects varied.

Provision for more intensive forest management made in the past few years has considerably enlarged the scope of Management Division activities. Among these, working plans will form an important part. In addition to review of plans submitted by industrial foresters in connection with Management Licenses, Forest Service plans are called

for in connection with public working circles to be set up in certain key areas of the Province, or to be developed in connection with Forest Access Roads. On a smaller scale working plans will be required for farm woodlots, in addition to development work on this important phase of Forestry which is new to B.C. The technical staff of the Division has been enlarged to care for this work by the assignment of Assistant Foresters D.M. Carey and W.G. Hughes (formerly of Economics) and Foresters-in-Training N.V. Mason and A.L. Parlow.

Dave Carey, assisted by Nick Mason and Larry Parlow, is in charge of field surveys in connection with Forest Service Working Plans. They are at present in the field on the Sayward Working Circle (part of the Sayward Provincial Forest) and will undertake similar work on the Sechelt Forest and possibly one Interior working circle during 1950. Wally Hughes is laying the ground work for farm woodlot management. He will be working up procedure, using one or two sample applications in the Vancouver District during the winter, and plans to assist District officers with similar samples in the other Districts during 1950.

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1949 ACTIVITIES IN THE ECONOMICS DIVISION

With the creation of the Reforestation and Parks Division, the activities in "Economics" are confined to Surveys and Research and each year finds the volume of work increasing. During the 1949 field season, there were sixty men on forest surveys and thirty on various research projects. This is a sharp increase over 1946 when there were but ten employed on forest surveys and ten on research.

In surveys there were five parties in the field, two working from the launches, B.C. Forester and Forest Surveyor, and three using light trucks or river boats for transportation. A total of 6,500 square miles, or 4,189,000 acres, was examined during the summer and the reports and maps are now in the process of compilation. This is a big step toward our objective of 9,000 square miles per year as the standard yearly programme for forest surveys. Finished maps are now coming out at the rate of about 500,000 acres per month, which ought to please the boys in the field.

The research men had a big season with the major efforts being the gathering of data for working plans for the experiment stations at Aleza Lake and Cowichan Lake. After a number of years of inactivity the Aleza Lake station again has been put in operation and a resident research forester appointed in the person of Larry deGrace. The growth and yield staff remeasured the permanent plots due for re-examination in 1949 and also put in 146 new plots in the Kamloops Forest District. Perhaps the outstanding event in research has been the thorough study and analysis that has been made of past activities resulting in the publication of a number of technical articles and research notes. On the basis of this study, it is planned to design the programme of studies that will be initiated in the next few years.

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NOTES FROM THE MECHANICAL SECTION

The Districts will have noticed the presence of new faces in the mechanical inspector category this year. There are now five inspectors apart from the Old Maestro, W.C. Spouse, himself. Fred Donaghy, who used to be the clerk in the general office, has been absorbed by the mechanical department and now sits astride all mechanical records, riding herd on inventories, listings, numberings, property receipts, and property losses, and such like clerical intricacies. Yours truly is around at times also.

Bob Baker is presently gambolling around the Nelson District. (Doubtless he will object to the choice of the verb in that sentence!) Bob spent the summer months in the Kamloops area and will no doubt be a familiar figure to Kamloops Rangers by this time; which area is now being given "da woiks" by Jack Smythe, who is no stranger to that fair city and its environs. Jack had previously been around Vancouver Island stirring up recalcitrant garage men.

Frank Gilbert, who started out early this year in the Nelson District, has spent the last two months in the Fort George and Prince Rupert Districts. It is reported that he knows every little intimate part of every speeder from Penny to McBride. Frank has now been just about everywhere but in the Kamloops District.

Harry Hill did a "storm trooper" trip to the Peace River early in the year; then, later, a quick run through the Fort George and Prince Rupert Districts, so the north country should not complain of being neglected this year. Harry now is busy on the Island looking after Reforestation and Victoria H.Q. needs.

The last addition to our nut and bolt division is Frank Hollinger. Frank had a long spell at the Marine Station and has since been busy in the Vancouver area, dashing briskly back and forth between tractors, trucks, cars, yarders, light plants, et cetera. If you meet him, don't be lulled into a sense of complacency by his mild exterior.

The Maestro took a quick flip by car and plane around the Districts in September and October, but is no longer to be seen protruding from underneath automobiles. Mostly he is concerned with such details as buying tractors in job lots, town sized lighting plants, and snow ploughs, whilst in between times, he belabours the heads of automobile manufacturers for turning out products that won't stand the strain you guys give them....

Incidentally, we are in the process of being handed the inspection of cars for the Departments of Mines, Finance, and Lands.

Tell you more next month.

Yours truly,

A.B. Crowe.

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ACCOUNTS DIVISION

It is difficult to assess the efforts of this Division on the basis of any tangible accomplishments, dealing as we do solely with figures, records, and services.

As the year 1949 draws to a close, however, we look back on a year in which the volume of work in every phase of our endeavour has continued undiminished.

During the year about to commence, it is hoped, through closer contact with all Districts, to bring about a greater standardization of work-methods in order that the continuing volume of work, both in Victoria and throughout the Districts, may be handled more effectively.

May we all in Accounts take this opportunity of extending the Compliments of the Season to all our colleagues throughout the Service, with the special wish that 1950 will be a year of happiness, good health, and success for everyone.

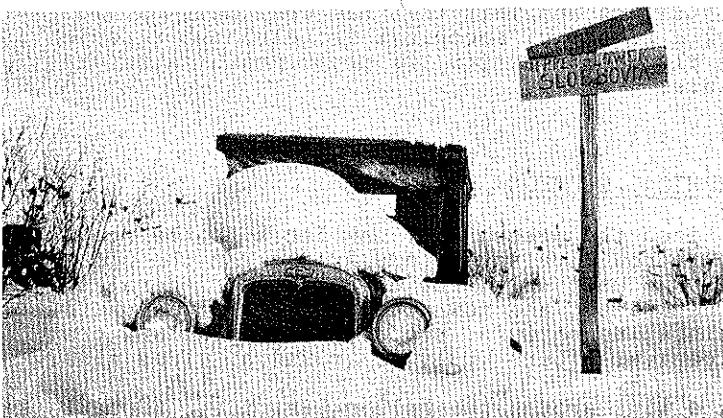
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REFORESTATION DIVISION

The year 1949 has passed by very quickly for those on reforestation work but we did find time to add another nine thousand acres to our young forests which now have a total area of 83,000 acres. During the year snag-falling and road-construction projects were carried on in preparation for planting in the Spring of 1950 and 1951.

The snag-falling crews had a fairly grim time of it as a result of "unusual" snowfall in the "lush, semi-tropical" regions of Vancouver Island, as witness the accompanying pix.

The severe winter also caused losses in our forest nurseries so that we will probably be a little below our ten million objective for 1950. A nursery site has been chosen in the Yellow Pine Region of the Southern Interior and experimental work will be carried on for a few years before expanding in that area.



One car that "wintered out" when caught by early and heavy snowfall in the Hillcrest District.



Contract snag-fallers improvised snowshoes and finished up the job. Pictured here they are hauling out their equipment and supplies on a home-made sled.

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NELSON DISTRICT'S KOOTENAY COMMENTS

No news, no nonsense, no poetry - I guess the field staff just haven't yet completely settled down to the business of emptying their lockers. At least the business of filling them is over with now, as the season draws to a close. The field-work season, that is. So, maybe the flood of contributions will arrive for the Newsletter following this one. Because that doesn't help this news collector and because we believe that everyone reads the Newsletter, here is an appeal to all of you who do read it - start a stockpile of items for the Newsletter. Add to it as things happen and always have something to send in. Your contribution is not another tax - it's a share; and it is bound to interest or amuse or enlighten someone, even if only yourself.

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Desperation in a Basement

Someone's loss is usually someone else's gain and the Grazing Staff in Nelson should know when they have gained. In an exemplary gesture of consideration and generosity, the District Forester has relinquished his office and his privacy to the Grazing Staff. Mr. Forse is now sharing an office with Assistant District Forester Ian Cameron. We wonder if we are yet finished seeking desk-space in the crannies of the basement for our growing staff. It looks as though a constructive approach to the problem will soon be necessary.

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Ott Takes Issue

Lawrence Ott, our Radio Technician at Nelson, has something more to say about the effects of a lightning strike on the Ranger Station at Invermere as reported

Ott Takes Issue (Continued)

in October's Newsletter. It was said that the lightning strike "danced across" the S.P.F. set. "A pretty hot dance," says Lawrence. "It knocked hell out of the set". Though we couldn't comprehend the full technical appraisal of the damage we could see most of it. The speaker was fragmented, the metal in switches melted and fused like butter, bakelite and insulation smeared around. In the midst of the wreckage, Lawrence found what just couldn't happen - three of the most delicate components of a radio, two tubes and the volt milliammeter, escaped the searing jolt that blasted the rest of the set, and they are still operating.

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Able Queen William Signs Out

We are glad to quote a farewell message from Chuck Wilson, able and amiable pilot of the Junkers which served Nelson District so well this summer:



Chuck Wilson at Controls of "A.Q.W."

"Able Queen William has left for Kamloops to have his face lifted and his bottom patched." Before he left, Chuck said that he never enjoyed a nicer summer in his life. He wants to thank everyone in the Nelson District for the fine co-operation and assistance he received. He could not have done the job half so well without your help.

He apologized for scaring Ralph Johnston, Arvid Moen, and Dennis Crowther (and the pilot) out of their skins over Grohman Creek, and promises to remember never to catch another parachute again.

There were some worried people on the mountain too, Chuck. Applewhaite says he heard a couple of his partners Grohman.

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Success

The grazing division in Nelson is now assured that last year's wild horse disposal programme in the East Kootenay did get rid of some horses, whether wild or not. In witness whereof they quote a man who was there: "In reply to your letter ----- about horses I used to have, I have been out this Spring and I can't see any left after your hired riders rustled them last fall. So by the look of it I don't seem to have any left ----- to bother you people."

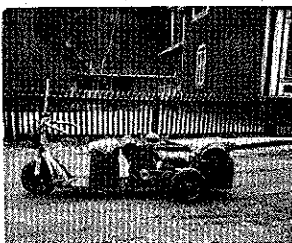
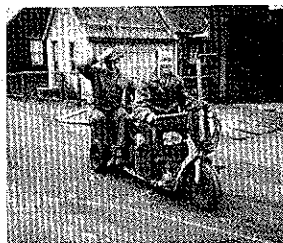
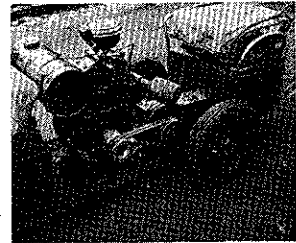
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The Wheels of Progress Roll in New Denver

By C.R. Tippie

Although some districts are classed as back in the bush, from these come many queer machines. From our proud district we wish to introduce to you a piece of machinery designed and built by a local trapper from Sandon. This, although a queer looking contraption, has proved to be of much more value than the old pack horse or pack board. This little piece of machinery is called a Trailmobile and has to be licensed like any other motor vehicle.

It is a three-wheeled vehicle, the wheels of which are rubber wheelbarrow wheels. It is approximately 6 feet long and 30 inches wide. It is powered by a Briggs and Stratton air-cooled motor and is belt driven. It has two speeds and is capable of taking a 200 pound load plus the driver up a 20 to 25 percent grade. The trails used by this machine are the old pack trails and although at one time in good shape they have had little or no work done on them the last few years. The rear and power axle is one piece with the drive gear keyed on. This gives better service than with a differential because in a case where one wheel goes off the trail the other one is still driving. Two belts are used in both the low and high gear and one set must be taken off as this is the only way to change gears. The speed of this machine is from 3 to 5 M.P.H. in low gear and from 9 to 12 M.P.H. in high gear. The weight is about 400 pounds and the cost estimated at \$500.00



Some may think this is just another useless contraption and would like to call our bluff but the owner is willing to take you for a ride that will really open your eyes. The machine shown in the attached prints is the original model built four years ago. Little has been spent on upkeep and the machine has been used winter and summer. No estimate of mileage can be given but it must be considerable as every mining magnate that has come to Sandon during the present lead-zinc boom has made the trial run and probably several more trips to old properties for sampling of ore. All have the same remarks to pass - "The poorest of riding beats the best of walking."

For servicing lookouts and to convert the hay-burner on patrol districts to gas, this unit should be well worth investigating. What the bears will say about a gas buggy out ridge-running after they have vacated the valleys to them, is hard to say but

The Wheels of Progress Roll in New Denver (Continued)

progress is being made. The trappers and prospectors are discarding the pack boards - the Forest Service soon the packhorse.

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PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
ANNUAL SOCIAL EVENING AT NELSON

On Wednesday, November 30, more than a hundred members and guests of the Nelson Branch, Provincial Government Employees' Association, gathered at the Canadian Legion Hall in Nelson for their annual social evening. Sparked as it was by the contagious enthusiasm of Bill Wicken and Bert Ramsden, the party could only be a rousing success. Congratulations go also to Miss Florence Jeffries for her large share in that success.

The fun started with cards at which some grand prizes were shared by winners and winners in reverse. Dances, both normal and novel, and more prizes followed, interspersed with delicious refreshments. Our thanks and those of all other partakers of the merriment go to the willing workers who carry on these occasions so well. We are sure that the next one will be bigger and better when people hear what they missed this time.

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WESTBANK RANGER STATION

As a point of interest and a sign of progress, Mr. P.M. "Phil" Monckton, of the Lands Department, has donated the accompanying "pic" of our new Ranger Station at Westbank, just across Okanagan Lake from Kelowna. From the appearance of the new building, the Newsletter would hazard the opinion that Ass't. Ranger P. Bell should be quite cosy this winter.

No, that is not Paul Robeson "lifting the bale" in the foreground, but a very suntanned Bud Temple, assistant to Surveyor Monckton.



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HATCHED

To Mr. and Mrs. Stan Lawrence (nee Mollie Mitchell) on November 24, 1949, twin boys: Johnny, born at 3:58 p.m., weight 4 lbs. 15 ozs; Jimmy, born at 4:06 p.m. weight, 5 lbs. 10 ozs; at St. Joseph's Hospital. Mollie was formerly with the Management Office in Victoria, for several years.

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VANCOUVER DISTRICT



Mount Benson Lookout near Nanaimo, which was built in 1923, was destroyed by fire on December 5, 1949, by persons unknown.

This photo was taken on July 10, 1923 by Ranger (now Assistant Forester) A.H. Waddington.

The man on the right is the late F.A. MacDonald who was in Operations, Victoria, at that time. The other man was the first lookoutman, Tommy Russell, who now lives at Departure Bay. The boy and dog in foreground were just tagging along.

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HATCHED AND MATCHED

The many friends of Bert Dunn will be glad to hear that he is well on the way to a restoration of full health.

Our congratulations go out to Mr. and Mrs. Les. Chamberlin who were made happy for Christmas by the arrival of a baby girl on December 5. "Dawn Louise" weighed in at 7 pounds 10 ounces. Her brothers Lanny 6, and Dick 3, gave her a hearty welcome.

We welcome to the Vancouver Office, Miss Irene Reid who comes to us from the Operations Division, Victoria, to replace Mrs. Olive McMillan (nee Shields) as clerk on Records.

Wedding bells rang for Miss Bliss Cassidy and Mr. Al Pottage of the R.C.A.F. on December 3rd. Miss Cassidy was presented with a coffee table in a modern design by the District Forester on behalf of the staff. Mr. and Mrs. Pottage are honeymooning in Calif-

Vancouver District (Continued)

ornia at present but will return to live in Vancouver.

By the courtesy of Mr. Bassett and the willing hands of the feminine staff, a shower was given for Miss Joyce Stevens in the Board Room on Wednesday, December 7, at noon. Arrangements were made to have coffee, tea, and cake served. Miss Stevens will become the bride of Mr. Geoffrey Hyde on December 15 in St. Mary's Church. Our very best wishes go out to Joyce and Geoff.

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CAPTAIN, THE REVEREND JOHN ANTLE, D.D.

1865 - 1949

"Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep,
Turns again home."

As a sturdy representative of the Anglican Ministry John Antle rounded out a life of usefulness in medical missionary work on the British Columbia coast. He founded the Columbia Coast Mission, acquired a succession of boats, was largely instrumental in building four hospitals, and took his healing services to men, women, and children in lonely and remote places as far north as Seymour Inlet.

At an age when most men have retired, Mr. Antle commanded the M.V. "Syrene" from Cannes on the French Riviera, across the Atlantic, through the Panama Canal, and up the Pacific Coast to the port of Vancouver. The Syrene has since become the headquarters vessel of the Vancouver Forest District.

Having passed the three score and ten mark he made another trip to Europe and brought out the auxiliary yawl "Reverie" travelling most of the way under canvas; setting out with a one man crew and picking up a second crewman in the Madeiras. Once again he made harbour in safety at Vancouver.

The Forest Service has a number of launches, and over the past 30 years our field men in those districts have bucked the same tides, groped their way through the same fogs, and battled the same winds that Captain John Antle knew so well. In the brotherhood of those who go down to the sea in ships we salute his passing, and to his son, Senior Scaler Ernie Antle we extend our sincere sympathy.

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OUR NEW YEAR MESSAGE

If this be libel, make the most of it. Imprimis it was the District Forester who was responsible. Fixing me with his sternest mien he said, "Better include a New Year's Message in the next Newsletter".

Willing to share -- or even give away the honor -- I looked around -- "Not me," said the Assistant District Forester, "I'm on my way to Portland to a convention". "Management" was busy; I gathered it was something about a timber sale. "Slash and Snags" were thumbing over a collection of files in pursuit of matter for an annual report. "The Inspectors" -- Fire and Technical -- were dashing off to catch a boat. "Scaling" was sympathetic and stood ready to read the proof.

I turned by instinct to our Mr. Fox. In vain I assured him that he was the logical man. Who knew the Forest Service so well as he? Who could explain to the staff the mysteries of rote and promise card, and the subsequent lightening of work by reduction to an orderly process? Profound as always; the Chief Clerk gave me his answer -- "You do it".

Hardly had Mr. Fox gone back to his own office when a clerk announced that a Mr. Smith was at the counter to see me by appointment and I asked that he be shown in. The gentleman appeared. I asked him to be seated, realizing at once that a mistake had occurred. This was not the Mr. Smith I had expected.

My visitor seemed to be a breezy, genial sort of a person and something possessed me to show him the last issue of the Newsletter and mention my problem to him. Mr. Smith talked on. The object of his visit was to look for a job. He wanted to be a "Forester chap, or a logging person, something in the Forest, you know". By this time I was grasping at straws. "Mr. Smith", I said, "How would you like to write a New Year's message to our fellows", and his reply - taken down faithfully, and as near as I could follow him was:-

Vancouver District (Continued)

"I say, by Jove, fancy you asking me to write something for the Newsletter, jolly good idea, I mean to say, sporting of you, what?"

"New Year's message, sort of hands across the sea, I see what you mean, yes, of course."

"Well, fellows, good luck to you, socks up, chins up, cheerio, and all that sort of rot."

"Toil you know, teamwork no end, and tolerance all round, and best of health and a spot of kindly humour to the whole service in 1950."

We were interrupted at that moment by an announcement, "Mr. Smith is at the counter, Sir". An interview ended, another commenced, and gold is where you find it.

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Stop the Press!

To Mr. and Mrs. R.L. (Bob) Fielder of the Operations Division on December 8, a Daughter, Ann Marie, 7 lbs. 15½oz. Congratulations!

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