

Newsletter

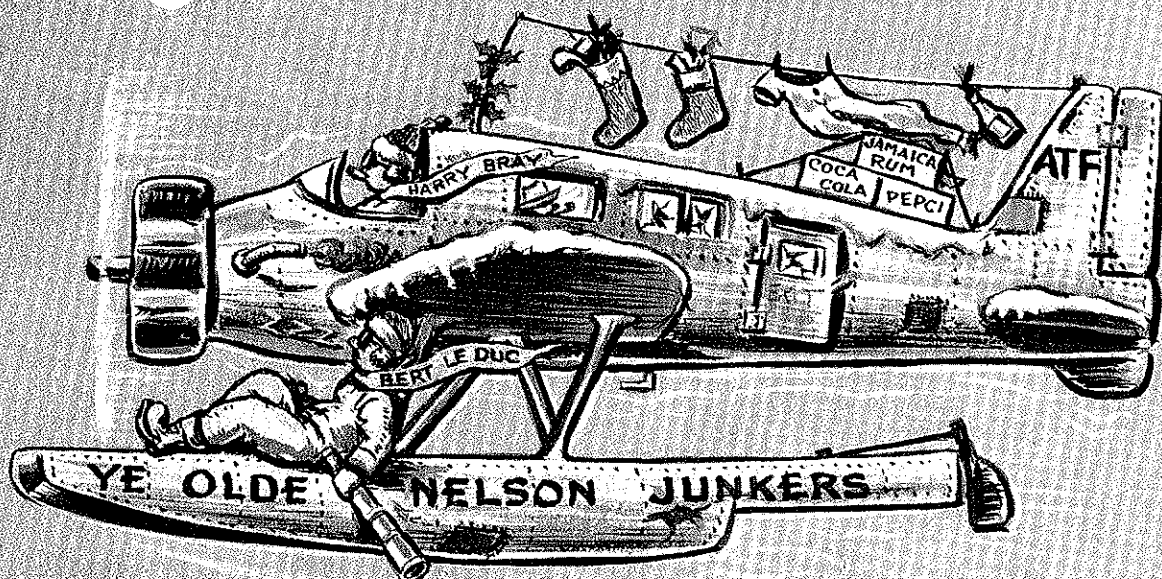
No. 101

VICTORIA, B.C.



DECEMBER, 1951

*Merry
Christmas to All*



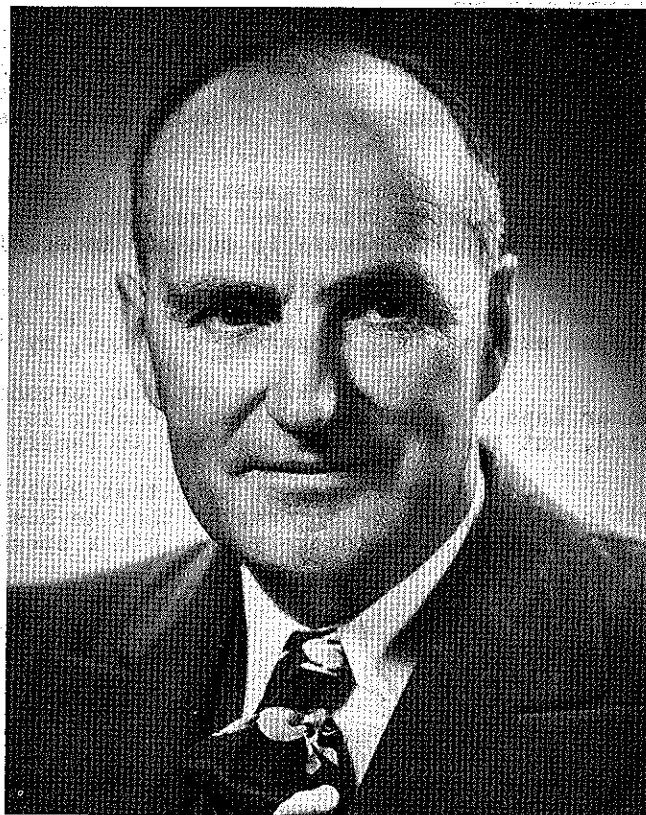
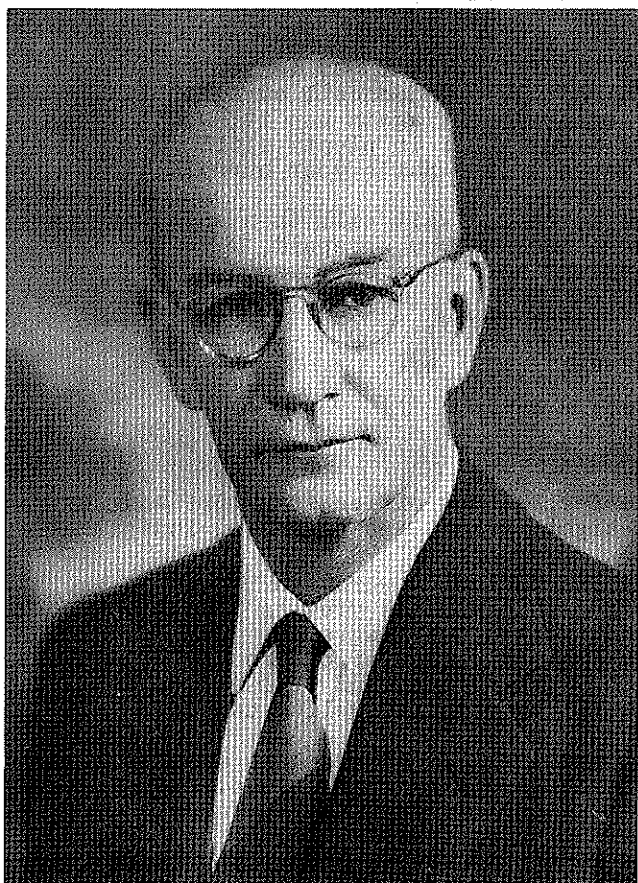
An entirely unofficial budget of news, nonsense, 'n' opinion compiled from time to time for the profit, amusement, and annoyance of the staff. ♦ ♦ ♦

"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year", - heard in all corners of the Globe, spoken in dozens of different tongues for hundreds of years --- a time-honoured and time-worn phrase embodying the principle fundamentals of our Christian society. Though worn and repetitious at this Season of the year, this phrase, expressing fellowship and hope for the future, can never fail to give us pause, however slight, in the frantic tempo of modern living. A valuable pause - a slight break for reflection - for a smile - for an exchange of simple pleasantries with our friends and those we would like to have as friends.

The simplicity, clarity, and strength of that phrase cannot, in my opinion, be improved upon, saying as it does, everything that is most important during the Yuletide Season.

So, to all members of the Forest Service, my sincere greetings and may you all enjoy - A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

E. J. Kennedy
Minister.



Once upon a time (I forget when), there was a Forester (I forget where) who was a paragon of all the virtues that a Forester should be, but is so seldom, heir to. Not only was he the outstanding Forester of the day, he was, amongst other things, a literary genius of no mean note. He even could dash off a Christmas greeting that might have moved Dickens to envy.

Unfortunately, he died (I forget when), and we are not likely to see his like again. Unfortunately, too, Foresters still are moved to write Christmas greetings, whether or not they have the gift.

If we were face to face, it would be so easy. Scattered province-wide, it is so hard to convey in cold print the pleasure of a mutual smile, a cheerful word, and a warm handshake. Nevertheless, no matter how inadequate, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you enjoy to the full the brief respite you so well deserve from your work-a-day cares, and that you store up enough of the spirit of the Season to see you well into the New Year.

Again, the Merriest and Happiest of Christmases.

G. S. Buchanan
Chief Forester.

Bits and Pieces

Nelson contributions for this number of the Newsletter have maintained the usual high standard and we are now wondering when Eric Druce will offer a stupendous award for the Poet "Super Duper" of the Forest Service. No fooling, from the stuff we've sent in this time, it would almost appear that Bobbie Burns himself was loose around this country.

There is great rejoicing among the male staff of the office at the announcement from Vivian (Red Head) Monteleone that she is staying on with us and the projected trip to Calgary is put off indefinitely.

We have little to report in the way of weddings and deaths, (both cases you meet your fate) but Jerry Cone of the Draughting Office is wearing that sort of trapped expression - "Engaged, you know, my dear."

The stork has not been around of late, except to make one delivery to Gunnar Lepsoe, another BOY too. Gunnar is quite the family man now with this, his third, but then Nelson Office runs to family men.

We regret to hear that Bill Holmgren is in hospital at the time of writing, but since he informs us that he has ordered the Christmas Turkey and other Christmas fare, we sincerely wish him a speedy recovery and a very Happy Christmas.



The sketch is of that elegant scion of the Service, John Applewhaite, who grew the beard specially to play Santa Claus, but since he frequently was confused with Frankenstein, decided to shave it off, but he still looks very dejected. Poor John.

::: ::: :::

The following letter was brought to our attention one day by a blushing file clerk as she looked for the file:

Nov. First, 1951.

"

Forestry Service,
Dept. of Lands & Forests,
Victoria, B.C.

Sirs -

Re your letter of October 26 which somehow just reached me today.

Why should you cancel Timber-mark --- covering Lot ---, Kootenay, ---? I paid for the damn hammer, didn't I? I used it while I was in health, didn't I? And once I am again in health I will again use it, won't I? I have timber in plenty still left, haven't I? What's your hurry?

Listen - have patience: in not so many years I'll be dead. Wait till then and I promise to make provision in my will to have the hammer sent back to you, prepaid, with the request that you cancel the damn number. Till then why not leave me in such possession of it as I still have? "

Yours truly,

"....."

::: ::: :::

ON THE NEW OFFICE SITE

"I have examined the proposed site for the new office structure and, by balancing insight and foresight but ignoring back-sight, submit the following indictment"

The aspect to the north is not,
(To put it mildly) very hot.
The first thing for your eyes' intrigue
Is the aged Chinese Nationalist League.
(Northwest by squinting through the hoses,
A lovely view is gained of "Rose's").

Square to the east of our new home
The Back-side of the Bowladrome.
The crash of five pins, roar of balls
Will echo well throughout the halls.
To the South the view is clear.
(A blacksmith shop is standing here)
And though the building's slightly sunk
It shades some piles of lovely junk.

Now let us look toward the West,
Facing this way the view is best.
Like Pythagorean diagram
The dwelling place of old Mo Sam
With steaming tubs and bubbling vats
And tribes of dirty yellow cats.

The site is well immersed in mud,
Gelatinous, like drying blood.
And springs of oozing yellow clay
Well up on every rainy day.
The laundry's vaporous steamy stench
Will nauseate each working wench.

No matter: to our desks we're led.
And settle down to earn our bread.
What better place our blood to shed
Then in this district coloured Red?

::: ::: :::

Nelson News (continued)TRAVEL DOES BROADEN ONE (OR DOES IT?)

Our present editor, who holds a junior but noisy position in the draughting office, is possibly the most widely-travelled member of the Nelson staff. He has an international viewpoint on all important matters.

"Franco undoubtedly benefits Spain"
 (But the women are lazy and give me a pain)
 "The Russians are looking for oil in Iraq"
 (The women are sloppy, I'm not going back)
 "England will have to get out of Sudan"
 (The younger girls dress with a certain élan)
 "The Key to the East is in Spanish Morocco"
 (They let themselves go but their shapes are rococo)
 "You may look for a rising just East of Algiers"
 (She had a nice figure but bored me to tears)
 "We must be prepared to ally with the Turks"
 (Stay out of that harem!! They'll give you the works)
 "We'll never relinquish an inch of the Nile"
 (They sharpen their teeth with a three-cornered file)
 "The large Western Powers must guard the Suez"
 (She thought me Egyptian, I wore my red fez)
 "The coffee in Persia is bitter but sweet"
 (The girls all wear bracelets right down to their feet)
 "The urge to revolt has disturbed Mozambique"
 (With only a sari they still look quite chic)
 "They're fine fighting people, the savage Tuaregs"
 (The girls are too big to have beautiful legs)
 "All roads to North Africa lead through Tangier"
 (They wear a burnoose so it covers each ear)

He wistfully said as he spooned up his boiley,
 "I wish I had stayed on the Island of Bali."
 As he sits now and thinks of those lands o'er the sea
 His roving eye sees the same sights in B.C.!!

::: ::: :::

TREE SPIRITS

Christmas Tide being the Season of High Spirits, Bottled Spirits, and Ghostly Spirits, it would seem to be a proper time to consider those benevolent to the Forest, i.e., Tree Spirits.

That trees do possess spirits will doubtless give rise to a certain amount of controversy among the less initiated, but when so many people of the world believe emphatically that this is so, the wise man will at least give it some consideration.

To give some instances of this belief I have delved into the vast work by Sir James G. Frazer, who states, "The people of Grbali in Dalmatia believe that the great beeches, oaks, and other trees there, are endowed with shades or souls, and whoever fells one of them must die on the spot, or at least live an invalid for the rest of his days. If a woodman fears that he has felled one of this sort he must cut off the head of a live hen on the stump of the tree with the same axe with which he cut down the tree.

"Among the Kangra mountains of the Punjab, a girl used to be sacrificed annually to an old cedar tree, the families of the village taking it in turn to supply the victim. The tree was cut down not many years ago.

"If trees are animate, they are necessarily sensitive and the cutting down of them becomes a delicate surgical operation which must be performed with as tender a regard as possible for the feelings of the sufferers, who otherwise may turn and rend the careless or bungling operator. In fact, it is said that when an oak is being felled it gives forth cries of lamentation that can be heard a mile off.

"The marriage of trees has, for many years, been rather more than a fanciful ceremony, since the ancients were well aware of the difference between the male and female date palm, and it is said that when two of these palms that have been wedded have been planted together, one will not survive without the other.

"Sometimes the souls of the dead are believed to animate trees. The Dieri tribe of Central Australia regard as very sacred certain trees which are supposed to be their fathers transformed; hence they speak with reverence of these trees, and are careful that they shall not be cut down or burned. If the settlers require them to cut down these trees, they earnestly protest against it, asserting that were they to do so they would have no luck, and would be punished for not protecting their ancestors.

"In Korea, the souls of people who die by the wayside invariably take up their abode in trees. To such spirits offerings of wine, cake, and pork are made under the trees on heaps of stones.

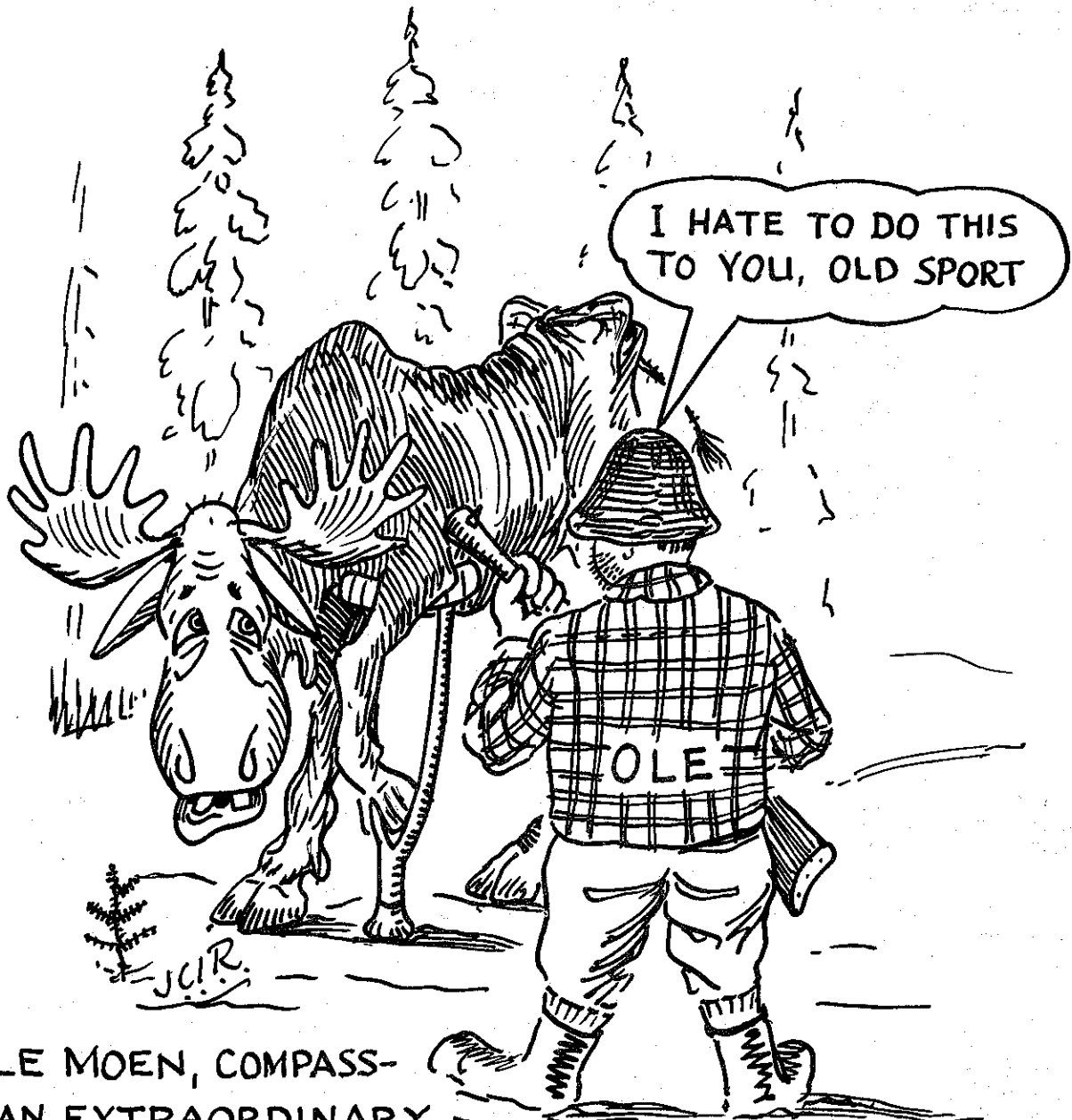
"In Borneo, carpenters are at great pains to see that timbers used in the building of a house are placed in the same vertical position as that in which they grew. Then, any spirits still dormant in the wood will pass up and so away, but should the post be positioned upside down, then the spirit would find its way into the earth beneath the house and be a trouble to the dwellers in the house until the post is reversed."

These few instances will warn loggers to beware, and all those workers in the woods who have small regard for the trees; but I can't help wondering how many

Nelson News (continued)

2" x 4" studs in my home are upside down! Maybe I should see to it that there is always a "Micky" in the basement - just in case!!

::: ::: :::



**OLE MOEN, COMPASS-
MAN EXTRAORDINARY,
NELSON DISTRICT, INTERCEPTING THE GRANDFATHER
OF ALL MOOSE, WHEN ON ITS WAY TO THE BONE YARD.**

"Ole the Hunter is out on the loose,"
He "champs at the bit" while he chews
on his snoose.
To quack like a duck or to honk like
a goose
Would be fatal, like putting your
head in a noose.

A waving white flag can be put to good use,
In the hope that he'll know this symbol
of truce.
Thank heavens, he didn't take "Kickapoo
Juice!"
"The danger is over!! He's shot an old
Moose."

..... J.H.A.A.

::: ::: :::

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

(With certain Stumpage Reservations)

'Twas the night before Christmas in an outlying District
Where a Ranger was deep in his cup of statistics;
The fire-tools were hung in the warehouse with care
In hopes they would pass I.B.'s critical stare;
The baskets were loaded with outstanding work
And he dreamed, as he dozed, of a Ranger's Clerk -
When from under the door slithered sly Supervisor;
(Though disguised as St. Nick, he was still none the wiser)
His clothes, padded full with property losses,
Were ragged and bristling with pine twigs and mosses.
O'er his back there was slung with careless abandon
A sack-full of things with instructions to hand on.
One glance at the Ranger and smiles wreathed his face,
He reached for his sack, and with effortless grace

.....cont'd.

The Christmas Story (continued)

Drew favours aplenty from the fully stocked store
Whence favours had seldom been issued before;
There were annual reports for the next two rotations,
And two yellow men for his public relations.
There were multiple forms designed to allay
The submission of forms. Then with reluctant delay
He drew from his bag the "piece de resistance"
Labelled, "Canoists - Their Habits and Means of Subsistence."
Then came Management Charts where nothing was "active",
And a new Ranger's car with fenders "retractive",
And from the last recess of gift-laden bag
Masquerading St. Nick took one last heavy drag -
Triumphantly sweeping last fly from the ointment
Drew a Clerk, for the Ranger, complete with appointment.
Then sly Supervisor with slow, normal lurch
Winked wisely, and gravely got down off his perch,
Slunk under the door while the Ranger slept on,
But his greeting was heard before he was gone
'Round the bend in the sky that went to the right -
"A Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."
"A Merry Christmas to you!", the Ranger replied.
Then awoke with a start - someone had lied,
For the gifts from St. Nick had vanished from sight
Round the bend in the sky that went to the right.

B.K.

*** **

Not to be outdone by the Ranger and Supervisor above, the Nelson D.F. also extends heartiest Season's Greetings to all.

*** **

PRINCE RUPERT DISTRICT

Although this issue of the Newsletter was intended to contain the Yuletide spirit, poems about snow and Christmas trees and good cheer in general, it is too early to be able to pluck up any Yuletide spirit and "we don't have enough snow in Prince Rupert" to write poems about (direct quote from Famous Last Words). The result is we only have the usual local scandal.

*** **

Departures

To the following we extend our good wishes on seeking greener fields: Olga Hayduk, Billing; Jackie Ratchford, Typist; Asst. Ranger Bill McFadzean. We hope to see Bill now and then as the freight train goes thundering by.

*** **

Arrivals

Len Ashton - a very welcome assistance to the Management clerical staff; John Rutledge and Mike Craszuk have joined Ike Martin to help him wrestle with the maps. Bill Hepper is our new Recreation Officer. Does this mean more play and less work? Eric Martin, after listening to continual demands from the head-office staff over the radio at Smithers, decided to "have a go" himself and is now busy demanding things as Operations Clerk. However, the radio is remaining in the family and his daughter, Betty, has taken over his chair in Smithers.

To Ranger Charlie Botham of Smithers we extend a special welcome, for Charlie can be classified as a "Back-slider who has returned to the fold", since he is by no means new to the Forest Service.

*** **

Matched

On November 21 Lucille Steffens (Billing) to Russell Davis. The office presented them with an eiderdown and a mirror, both of which, the District Forester pointed out, might tend to make Lucille late for work. Lucille is staying with us, we understand, until a house can be found. Then she will start cooking food instead of mill returns.

*** **

The Diplomat

Sawyer Hope paid us a visit recently and we noticed he was carrying a raincoat. We were very intrigued and asked him what it was for. His prompt reply was that he knew it would be raining in Vancouver on the way through. Anything to say, Vancouver?

*** **

HOUSTON, B.C.

Editor,
Newsletter,
B.C. Forest Service,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir,

Time seems to have rolled around once more for our semi-annual dispatch to your publication and, since the express rider is standing by the door nervously scuffing the linoleum with his spurs, I will dash off a brief note to the outside world. Mind you, this is the last intelligence (good word, very descriptive) that you may expect to receive from the frontier colonies until the Wells-Fargo coach returns in the spring. I might explain that the latter term refers to the brief period between nights of 60 below and the first major holocaust of the fire season, a period extending up to 24 hours at most.

Prince Rupert District (continued)

Firstly, I am pleased to announce that the "Munro theory of molecular activity and its relation to temperature, as compared to the head office 'Brass'" seems to be establishing itself to the point that it may be submitted to the Chalk River physicists for their approval. As we all know, when heat is applied to an object, the molecules composing its structure undergo movement in direct relation to the amount of heat applied. Now, in the case of Head Office officials, the same appears to apply. In the dead of winter, little movement may be observed amongst these officials; but, comes the warmer weather of Spring, and a definite agitation reveals itself. Some official feels the urge to move and makes a trip from Victoria to Green Timbers; Kamloops to Chase; Prince George to Aleza Lake; Nelson to the nearest lightning strike; and from Vancouver's Marine Building to Shaughnessy Heights. This increases with on-coming Summer so that we find, in the hottest week of that season, high officials prowling about the furthest reaches of the Prince Rupert District. An indirect affect, which may be observed by the more alert, is the "Brownian Movement" - a reaction set up by the movement of these larger "Molecules" throughout the Ranger Districts. As a case in point I would have you study the actions of a Ranger upon hearing of an impending visit by some higher official. Does he sit resignedly awaiting said official? No, he scrabbles madly through his files in an effort to find some timber sale in a practically inaccessible portion of his district and high-tails it out to said sale until the official has gone on to another district.

With the first cool breeze whistling off a nearby mountain you will note the larger head-office molecules slow perceptibly in their tracks and turn their sun-bronzed features towards their respective stamping grounds; and, as the cool weather gets cooler, so does the return of the "Brass" to the home fold increase until, as the first snow-fall flutters gently to the ground with a resounding crash, there is such a dearth of "Brass" up here that even the proverbial brass monkey can ill-afford to have his tail frozen for fear that there will be none of that precious metal left for replacement of said appendage.

Enough on my theory, as it does not seem to do justice to my record of being a loyal employee and smacks of a cynicism ill-befitting my cherubic countenance and sweet nature. (My name is Munro, what's your hobby?)

Noting that other Districts always have a column headed "Hatched, Matched and Detached" or other of a like kidney, I too have made an effort to promote the same type of column in order to present personnel statistics in this R.D. The only trouble is that there was, for a long time, little change in staff, but I am now pleased to report that I have three earth-shaking statistics, to wit:

1. BODIES STRUCK OFF STRENGTH:

Thomas Ridler Assistant Ranger throughout the summer:
Felt that, in order to work for the Service next summer, he would have to get a paying job during the winter to finance his summer "holiday".

2. BODIES TAKEN ON STRENGTH:

Bob Benson Arrived this month from Atlin where he served time as Ranger in that district during the summer. (Bob makes it a practice to come "South" for the winter.)

3. BODIES LACKING STRENGTH:

YOURS TRULY!

Well, this is about all from this territory and, barring the fact that much of it seems likely to fall under the Editor's eraser, it should help pad out the next issue of your publication.

Cheers!

Jas. F.M.
R.D. 11.

... ..

KAMLOOPS DISTRICT

The Winnah!

In the recent examination conducted for the post of Chief Clerk in the Kamloops office, W.P. (Pat) Cowan came out on top of the list. Pat took over the position on November 7, 1951. We wish him the best in his new environment.

... ..

A Moving Scene

Like most District Offices, the Kamloops office has been bursting at the seams. The much-discussed cubicles for the office staff have now been eliminated and, after moving the file cabinets out in the hall, we have re-organized our desks to look like a real office.

We might point out that we had expert advice in office re-organization from Miss Campbell of the Civil Service Commission and W.J. Williams. They made up part

A Moving Scene (continued)

of our furniture-moving work-party which carried on until 10:30 one night.

*** **

Transfers

With the retirement of Charlie Perrin, E.L. (Emory) Scott has been transferred from Revelstoke to Penticton in the sunny Okanagan. Ole Kettleson has been moved to Revelstoke as Ranger to replace Scott.

(EDITOR:- We also understand, via the grapevine, that the citizens of Revelstoke organized a sort of "So Long Emory Scott" ceremony at which they expressed their sorrow at his leaving and their sincere appreciation of the very fine forest educational work Emory has been doing amongst the youths of that City for the past few years. The whole Service benefits from such a record).

*** **

1951 - SOME YEAR

As the year 1951 draws to a close, we have numerous reminders that this has been a year that will long be remembered by the Kamloops Forest District.

The forest protection boys put on a big show for the District Forester's last fire season as Col. Parlow is due for retirement next April. The fire season was remarkable for freak lightning, prolonged dryness, and high suppression costs.

The Management Division report an all-time-high sawlog scale, and we are proud to report that the Management Engineering Division has completed the first access road near Salmon Arm.

There are numerous other accomplishments to which we can all point with pride. We trust all other Districts can look back on even more accomplishments than we, and that the New Year will bring all activities closer to a normal standard.

*** **

Forest Service Newsletter,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Editor,

I have just heard with deep regret of the death of Jack St. Claire. Jack was employed by the Forest Service as a Lookout-man for many years and I feel that it will be fitting tribute to an old and faithful servant if a little space be devoted to his memory in the Newsletter.

Jack was first employed by the Forest Service as Lookout on Bainbridge Mountain in the Alberni District. The Lookout was a very simple affair, a high spot on the mountain, a tent camp, and very sketchy telephone communication with Ranger Headquarters. The telephone line was an old Army D2 or some such type, and deer and other animals were constantly becoming entangled in it, much to the annoyance of all concerned. Jack, like so many of his ilk, had an amazing talent for picturesque language, the same being well employed and no doubt developed during his spell on Bainbridge Mountain.

After it had been discovered that high lookouts are not for the coast climate, a lookout was erected near Tebo Siding on the E. & N. and Jack carried on there. Such luxury - a tower, a cabin to live in and, of all things, a road right to the door! Furthermore, a direct connection with the B.C. Telephone Company Line! But here was a catch - a party line infested with a bunch of "old Hens", causing Jack to restrain his language, which he did nobly most of the time except when he considered his business really urgent.

Jack tidied up around the lookout site and it was not long before the site was well-visited by the public. A glance at the visitors' book will give some indication of the popularity of the lookout as a place of interest. Jack served well as a public relations contact, though somewhat of a Munchausen, he had a way with him and became very popular and a bit of an institution.

His knowledge of the country was such that he could invariably give detailed instructions as how best to get to, and attack, any fire he sighted. Furthermore, he knew the inhabitants and their peculiarities, a great asset to any lookout. One episode in particular will illustrate Jack's capabilities. He called the Assistant Ranger one day and said "that old So-and-So at such-and-such is building a rubbish pile. Has he got a permit?". "No", was the answer. "Well", said Jack, "just stand by, I'm sure the !#!#! intends to start a fire." The Assistant stood by and within a few minutes another phone call came. "He just put a match to it, go get him Boy." Sure enough the Assistant arrived at the scene of the rubbish-burning before the culprit had time to turn around. What a surprised man was he and what a boost Jack's reputation received!

I regret that I was unable to attend his funeral which was held on November 9. What Jack's age was I cannot say with truth but I do know that it was up in the seventies actually, though not officially.

I know that all who ever knew Jack hold his memory dear, and will be dismayed to hear of his death, he was a great old fellow.

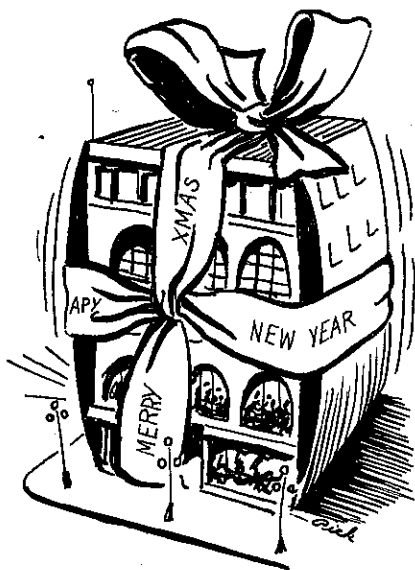
I shall greatly appreciate it if you will give this item space.

Yours truly,
"H. Stevenson", R.D.1, Chilliwack.

*** **

FOREST SURVEYS DIVISION

Comes Christmas time and we make the supreme effort to contribute to the laughs and gags of the Newsletter. We have the past events of the year to work on so let's look back and browse through the records.

Vital Stat. Section

Marriage has taken a heavy toll of the confirmed bachelors. Those who have replied in the affirmative are:

Hugh Lyons to Marguerite Butters, October 17, at Wimborne, England.
Grant Ainscough to Jacquie Cross, November 3, at Vancouver.
Nick Holoboff to Nan Verigin, December 1, at Penticton.

Family Allowance cheques are on the upswing again. I might add that the men pulled through very well and are now doing nicely. Our Growth and Yield Section issues the following progress report:

Mr. & Mrs. William Bailey - a SON - Mark Edward, August 20.
Mr. & Mrs. J.H. Frey - a SON - David Christopher, October 6.
Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Highsted - a SON - David Raymond, October 18.

Engaged:

Gordy Harris to Katherine Coombs. Don Munro to Anne Dickinson.....our congratulations and best wishes.

*** **

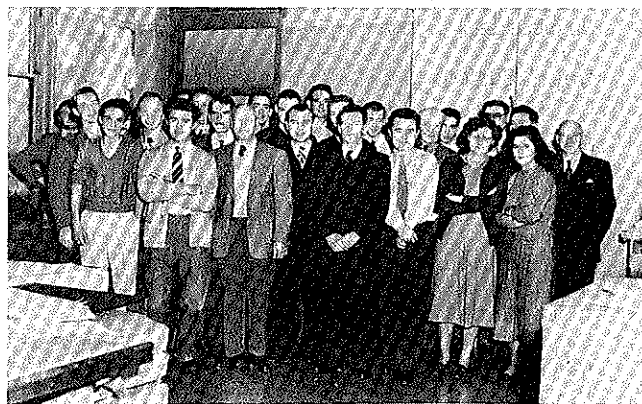
Staff

We welcome back Bob Malcolm and Bob Breadon. Bob Malcolm completed his M.F. Degree at Yale and returned to our Division in October. Bob Breadon studied for his M.F. in Silviculture at Duke. Recent grads from U.B.C. and now on staff: Bill Bradshaw, Bob Wright, Bob Darnall, Jim McLaren, Grant Ainscough, Pete Small, Fred Joyce.

Other personnel include Nick Holoboff, Aggie '51; H. Roethel, University of Munich, Forestry '47; Chris Langkilde-Lausen, University of Copenhagen; and Cy Savage, University of New Brunswick '49. Other men who have worked for us this season and now gone to Districts: Ralph Robbins, Prince George; Don Munro, Nelson; Walt Tuttle, Vancouver; J. Robinson, Kamloops.

The draughting staff has been increased with the following new members: J. Collyer, C.D. Smith, H. Freeman, R. Pethick, M. Reynolds, V. Stables, and C. Newman.

New personnel working on summarization and compilation include: D. Parker, C. Yingling (former Ranger at Blue River), G. Irvine, P. Collison, J. McKellar, H. Mechler, W. Gansen, R. Elliott, M. Jackson, and L.J. Leddy.



Surveys - Campbell Building.

*** **

Notes on Field Work

Over 100 students were employed this summer for field work. Next year, operations will be greatly increased with the objective of covering 35 million acres of forest inventory. Men employed in the past year made an excellent showing and we are looking forward to seeing you again next year.

Prince George party had several students from Eastern Canada; Don McLaurin, a U. of N.B. undergraduate, came out by motorcycle and returned in the same manner. Reported a good trip both ways. John Burch, also a U. of N.B. undergraduate, took the world by the tail and started hitch-hiking, took eight days to travel from Fredericton, N.B., to Prince George. John hitch-hiked on a ten-day trip back to St. Catharines, Ontario, via Los Angeles; total expenditure, \$22.00.

Prince Rupert: Bob Darnall set out from the Skeena River in a 30-foot river boat bound for Prince Rupert. Due to a light mist and no compass, Bob passed the outside of Digby Island and ended up in Port Simpson about 23 miles to the north. Bob's comment, "This navigating by the seat of your pants technique is strictly for the seagulls".

Vancouver District: Hope. A Bare Recollection. The case of four survey boys vs. three underfed Manning Park bears. The story goes that in the above surprise meeting and the ensuing scramble, the dust settled with two cubs up one tree and four survey boys up the next tree - all within whispering distance of each other. The mama bear evidently took a dim view of this and started up the tree after the boys. Climbing steadily, with abneys, increment borers, barometers, compasses, and broken pencils bounding off her head, she kept climbing. The leg of the low man on this totem-pole picture was the No. 1 target for the persistent, cantankerous female, and she gave it a healthy nip. Next the boys started peeling off clothes to throw at the determined intruder. Finally seeing a shirt flash by to the ground, our queen of the woods pounced on it and worked out her anger. Happy at this she climbed the tree housing the cubs and counted noses. Seeing their opportunity, four ghostly survey boys descended their protective

...
spruce tree, hastily gathered their equipment and fled in great haste to camp. The re-
treating footsteps, at fifteen-foot
intervals, are still plainly visible on
the ground.

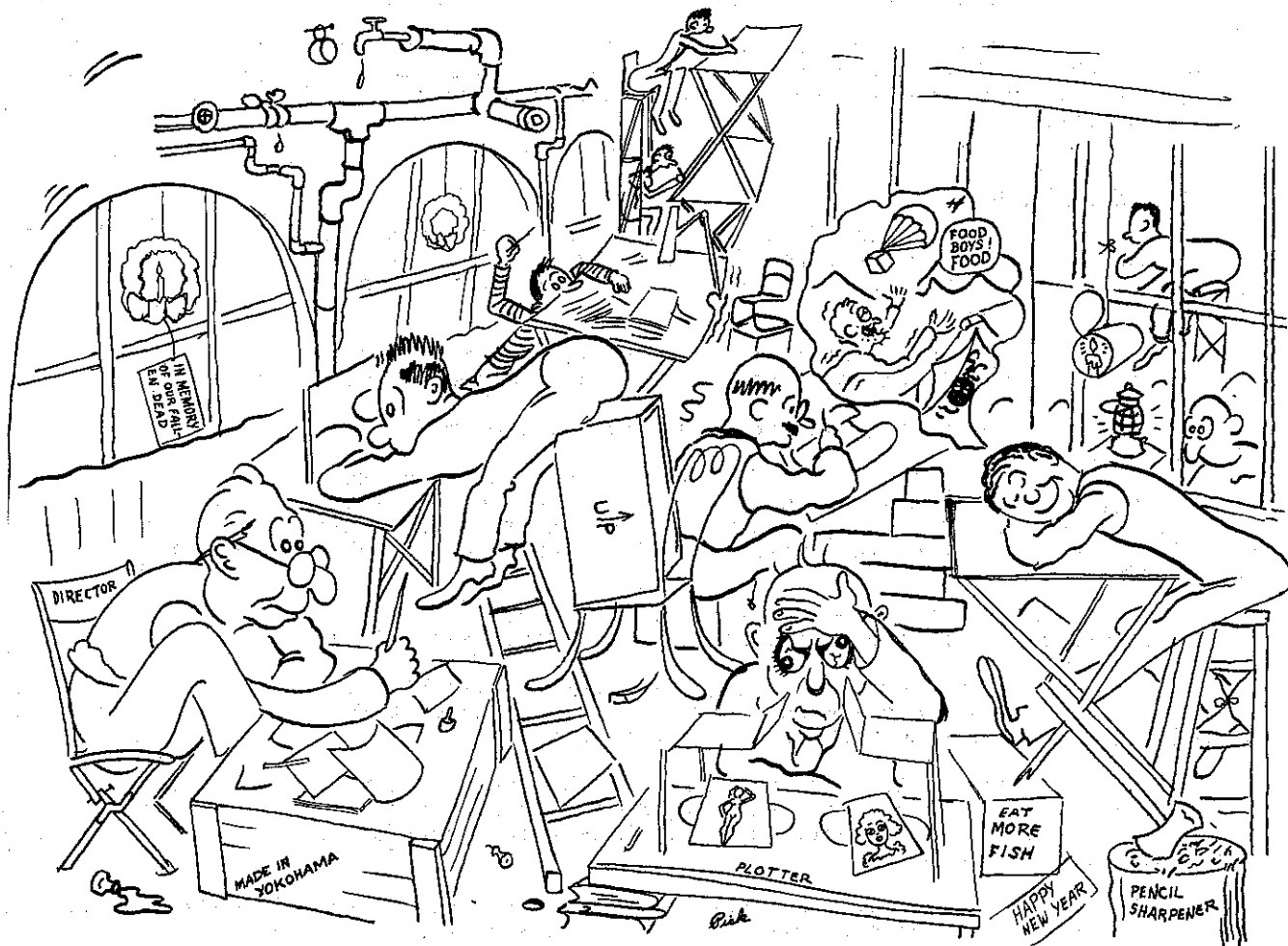


Cranbrook: Cliff Calder's party was noted for the fine food served. A standard sandwich was devised and we are passing on this select morsel to all gourmets. Known as the "Wallinger Special" - two slices of bread, butter, salmon, mustard, catsup, pickle, peanut butter, and "Prem". One sandwich may last several days, depending on the quantities used. Originality is evident in the well-known "Miller Dessert" - sardines and ice cream.

Kamloops: The month of August was a consolidated effort in timber-sale work by our field parties. Around 120 men swarmed into Nicola and were the guests of Messrs. J.H. Frey and W. Young.

Forest closures slowed down the Coast District operations considerably. However, every job was successfully completed. Approximately 400,000 acres of timber sales were cruised and typed. An experiment was carried out in pre-dropping food. Selected areas in a valley were chosen and food parachuted in advance of the cruise party. Checks were made at predetermined dates when the parties had worked to each drop. Results were very good and with a few more improvements in 'chutes and packs, it will be a method widely used in future work.

Management Engineering have registered surprise at our field camp locations. Following up our mapping with road location work they have discovered our well lived-in campsites are marked only by scattered boughs and a torn Kraft Dinner label. Guess we are too busy working to think of posterity.



Victoria office quarters are now located in the Campbell and Weiler Buildings. At the moment the Weiler office is a bit makeshift with hand-carved furniture from the field. 4' x 8' plywood sheets form the table tops with supports in the shape of butter boxes and miscellaneous books. Production, correlated with the amount of shavings in the pencil sharpener and paper in the waste baskets, indicates a large volume of work in the process of compilation.





LOST: If you get lost, keep tallying.
 ENGINES: If it has gas, spark, parts, and wheels it should run.

Fogue-isms (continued)

FLY CAMP: Nights spent in the bush by putting on a heavy sweater and leaning against a tree.

A special note of thanks to the District Offices and Victoria Offices with whom we have dealt, annoyed, imposed upon, and disrupted. Your fine co-operation has been greatly appreciated and contributed immensely to the success of our year's activities.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL.

*** **

FOREST MANAGEMENT DIVISIONEngineering Section

A comparatively new activity of this Division, this Section has just completed a busy and successful season in the field and a brief story on the subject may be of general interest throughout the Service.

A ten-mile permanent main access road climbing 3,200 feet into the Fly Hills Forest near Salmon Arm was completed (first access road built from Forest Development Fund); the Aleza Lake Experimental Station was renovated; four miles of one-and-one-half-and-single-lane permanent road was built at the Aleza Lake Experimental Station; a camp was built and two miles of clearing completed on the twelve miles of one-and-one-half-lane permanent, main access road into the Niskonlith Forest, near Chase.

Location surveys were completed on 23 miles of main access road and 10 miles of branch roads. Reconnaissance was made on several long-term sales and on 45 miles of proposed 40 m.p.h. access highway into the Morice Forest.

General engineering has involved investigation of timber sale problems, reports and assistance on bridges, building construction, marine installation, discussion of forest road policy and standards, and construction methods and materials. Policies for acquisition of rights-of-way have been clarified and arrangements for acquisition have been made on access roads and long-term sales.

In addition, the Engineering Section acquired the following equipment this year:

5 crawler tractors, 1 power shovel, 1 80-horsepower heavy-duty grader, 3 gravel trucks, 2 "Power Wagons", 4 "Jeep" trucks, power saws, 1 large truck and trailer unit, 3 28-foot bunkhouse trailers, a welder and complete shop equipment, and administration vehicles.

*** **

Public Working Circles

Public Working Circles Section of the Management Division has completed a field season covering working circles at Barkley Sound, Chilliwack, Lumby, Salmon Arm, Chase District and Sechelt north. Preliminary management plans will be completed for these areas this winter.

In the near future it is hoped to have public working circle plans prepared by officers appointed for that purpose and attached to the Districts.

Some amusing sidelights during the summer field season we consider of local interest:

In the Division of Equipment, Nick Mason made the tactical error of threatening, "I will steal everything I can lay hands on." The result was that Larry Parlow did likewise and took all the waterproof sheets to dry Salmon Arm, leaving Mason to hold the bag at soaking-wet Barkley Sound. Carey rescued sheets from Parlow and sent them to Mason.

Signs of the modern age: Two compassmen had to be shown in detail how to chop wood, having never done so before, due to having been raised on oil furnaces.

In planning the crossing of upper Shuswap River, Walter Lessing and Don Bragg decided the leaky canoe might just go across, loaded, before sinking, but the river won and Walt had to rescue Don, who could not swim.

After waiting in vain during eight weeks of sunny weather for aircraft to drop Parlow and party into Greenbush Lake, the feat was accomplished in time for the party to experience gales, rain, sleet, and snow while going over Joss Pass toward Three Valley Lakes just before Labour Day.

That same week two members of one party placed groundsheets with head-end out beyond edge of fly, with result that beds became pools.

*** **

NEWS OF RESEARCH

from Tim Decie.

Perhaps the main development at Aleza Lake this year is the start which has been made on the 7-mile access road, which runs south through the Forest to Bear Creek. Early in the Fall, the engineers had to contend with deep mud, but hard, night frosts soon cleared up matters and now they hope construction will be finished early in March.

We hear that Larry de Grace, after completing a First-Aid Course, and in partnership with Walter Cole and Mike Painter, the Ranger, entered a competition with

News of Research (continued)

several other teams, principally from nearby mills, and were placed second.

Rolf Hellenius, who joined the Research Staff early this summer, is now stationed at Aleza Lake.

Work started early this year at Cowichan Lake. Chris Joergensen was the first to break the ice when he went up early in March to supervise work on the commercial thinning experiment. Close on Chris' footsteps was George Warrack whose first task was the erection of a power-line from Mesachie Village to the camp. Now many of the buildings are lit from the outside world, and Ed. Roberts is spared many hours of cranking and maintenance on the old power plant. With the long closure this year, George's ingenuity was taxed at times in keeping 12 members of the Boys Camp fully employed and amused.

The closure wrought havoc with the work of several others too. Mike Finnis and Hal Knight both found their activities very restricted. Bruce Clark, after working for several weeks on old Growth-and-Yield plots in the Charlottes, made his way by train, plane, boat, and car, "even walked a few steps", to Nimpkish, only to be chased out by the hazard and forced to take refuge in the Arrow Lakes.

Alan Fraser spent many months at Yale and in the Okanagan remeasuring and establishing Growth-and-Yield plots.

Ralph Schmidt returned from a winter spent at one seat of learning and several of the gaily-lit capitals of Europe, and hastily buried himself on the west coast of Vancouver Island where he continued his site studies.

Alan Orr-Ewing put in a brief summer's work before settling down for another burst of University life, this time at U.B.C.

Eric Garman has just finished a revision of the "Pocket Guide to Trees and Shrubs of British Columbia" and it is expected that this manual will soon be off the press as a much improved edition.

At time of writing, John Nutt is attending the operatic season in New York - a far cry from his labours here where he and Anita Clark keep the office routine running smoothly.

... ..

ACCOUNTS' ACCOUNT

Earlier this month John Conn of Forest Accounts in company of Alf Jacklin and Daryl Prezeau of the Blueprint were invited on a fishing trip on "Skipper" Chuck Kinloch's boat. Seems that the story goes that they were out to sea for about two hours when a gale blew up and they were forced into an isolated and uninhabited bay where they rode out the rough weather for two days. One of the more poetic souls around the Buildings recognized in this experience a good theme for a poem resulting in the following:

While Fishing !

Did you ever hove-to in a sheltered cove
Just you, and the crew, and the galley stove?
While outside the spit the tempest bore
As it whipped up the sea to a deafening roar.
Then feathered the caps on the crest of each wave
While they pounded the shore, each craig and each wave
Then whistled and whined as it screamed through space
And piled up the clouds in it's maddening pace,
And the lightning flashed and the thunder roared
As it poured and it rained and it poured and poured,
As you rode out the storm in a quiet cove,
Just you and the crew and the galley stove,
While Fishing.

... ..

In a recent issue of the Newsletter, Parks and Recreation Division presented the report of one Spadeless Sam, (or some dissimilar name) a notorious and unscrupulous Private Investigator. On good authority we have been advised that Spadeless ventured into the catacombs of the Buildings and has since presented to his superiors a secret report on the operation of Forest Accounts. To counteract such erroneous information as he may have presented to his superiors, we have banded together the contents of our piggy banks and obtained the services of the noted artist Salvador Dilly. Mr. Dilly has recorded for posterity evidence of the efficiency and harmony existent in Accounts which we respectfully submit to you, knowing that it will allay any doubts as to the effective operation and integrity of the Forest Accounts staff.

Accounts' Account (continued)

Mr. Dilly's superb work leaves nothing to be desired. The people portrayed there are recognizable to all -- for those who have not visited our office recently we might introduce the two fair damsels in the foreground as recent arrivals from Ontario and new additions to the staff, Miss Donna Cunningham, wielding the broom, and Miss Pat Tallack, presiding at the desk. Their regular duties put Donna in charge of files-and-such and Pat typing the receipts. Hidden from view at the left are Mr. Fred Smail and Ted Musgrave who recently arrived here from England and California respectively.



... ..

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The following are the more recent publications issued by and available from Public Relations which have not been listed previously in the Newsletter. In the event any of these titles appeals to you but through some oversight you have not received a copy by the standard distribution procedure, so advise P.R. & E. and a copy will be forthcoming:

Research Note #19 - "Preliminary Site-Class Volume Tables by Logs as an Aid to Grade-Cruising Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock, and Western Red Cedar," by A.R. Fraser.

Technical Publication T.36 - "Experimental Thinning Operations on a Commercial Scale," by Christian Joergensen. (Reprinted from Forestry Chronicle Vol.27, No. 1, March 1951).

Illustrated Forest Activities - No. 2 - Planting the Crop. (A picture story of Reforestation techniques. Suitable for school use. Companion to No. 1 - The Harvest - issued in 1950).

... ..

WELCOME AND SO-LONG

The tattered olde Mat in Victoria is again hauled out to welcome David Smith as Operation messenger, replacing Dick Tripp who is leaving to join the United States Air Force for training in Texas. Good luck to you, Dick.

Also, a hearty welcome is extended to George Barr who is replacing Gordon Cockrell in Operation's Structural Section draughting office. Gordon (the lucky stiff) is off for a 5-month trip to England and the Continent.

... ..

LATE NELSON NEWS

Annually around this time, we can expect the Newsletter to carry one or two stories about the prowess of the Prince George and Prince Rupert District nimrods and their big-game exploits. Lest the rest of the readers come to the erroneous conclusion that big game is confined to these two Districts, we would have it known that not only has our Nelson District fine bull moose and bull elks but also some of the finest bull-shooters in the Service.

To prove our point we will pick one of the latter group at random and tell you the tale of -

Late Nelson News (continued)Moen's Moose

This tale begins early last summer when Ole, running compass for John Applewhaite in the Invermere district, came across a moose that already showed signs of an enormous spread of antlers. Carefully tying it to the nearest corner-post he spent the balance of the summer impatiently waiting for October 25th and the first day of his holidays to come up.

Finally the fateful day arrives and we find Ole carefully pacing out the distance on a compass bearing from his corner-post. Luck is with him and as he approaches the required distance he sees the bull almost in the exact spot he had left it several months earlier. Quietly dropping to one knee he fires a volley of well-placed shots, one of which accidentally strikes the animal, frightening out a cloud of moths that had been wintering in its venerable hide, and bringing it to its knees. Something that several decades of rigorous East Kootenay winters and lack of teeth had never done before.

As he gazed down at the fallen monarch, Ole could not restrain a feeling of sadness; however, this quickly passed with the realization that the poor old fellow would have been unable to compete with the younger bulls anyway and was probably better off dead.

When the news of the passing of the "Old One" spread through the Invermere District there was a wail of indignation unheard since the painting of White Rock, and talk of lynching quickly spread. However, some of the older residents pointed out that the old bull could never have survived another winter and the shooting could really be termed a mercy killing. In appreciation of this deed the "Invermere Historical Society" presented Ole with a framed photo of the "Old One" taken several years earlier which our artist has so carefully reproduced. (See page 4).

Ole stayed on for a few days getting a younger moose lined up for the 1952 season. He had spotted the same one last year but it was too small at that time; however, by next year he figures it will have a very fine spread.

... ..

AN OFFICE TRAGEDY

They found his body there next day when they unlocked the door. His gun - and the bloodstained MANUAL - beside him on the floor.

.....

The Ranger's brow was furrowed, his eyes had a glassy look,
His hands were trembling visibly as he turned the leaves of the book.
Amendments to amendments, and amendments to those again,
I'll never keep abreast of them all, I try, but it's all in vain.
Yellow page after yellow page, arriving each day in the mail,
I try to remember each order new lest I at my job should fail.
Grazing and Management Licence, F.P.F. and Op,
All of them changed from day to day, my God will it ever stop!
The further I go the less I know, you'll get me in the end,
You Book of Books - the Manual - the Ranger's trusty friend.
With a horrible scream, and a fearful oath, he hurled the book
to the floor
As with palsied hand, and an insane glare, he grabbed his gun
from his drawer.

.....

Ponder, ye Powers who wear the brass, lest others share his fate.
Amend your ways, not the Manual, before it is too late.

... ..

SURVEYS CONT'D.

The little sketch to the left is of the four survey boys and the three bears mentioned on page 8. Unfortunately the sketch arrived nearly a week late and thus we were not able to place it with the story.

... ..

VANCOUVER DISTRICT

Saturday, Dec. 1, 1951.

We could hear a familiar voice in the office speaking to Victoria - "Hello, Dave - Charlie Holmes here - when does that Newsletter of yours go to press? - on Monday! - great Scott it looks as though we've missed the boat! hmmm, Oh yes, hmmm."

"You got much stuff, Dave? Fourteen pages! - Oh, well then, we won't mind too much stepping aside with our usual grace and letting the other Districts do the heavy contributing for this issue. What are you laughing about? Hmmm."

"Now look, Dave, the Vancouver District certainly does want to express sincere Seasons Greetings to all other Districts and the Victoria H.Q. We hope each and every member of the Service has a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

"Do you think you could get that in? That would be splendid, David. Thanks and good luck."

... ..





Mt. Seymour Park

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Parks and Recreation Division / Christmas '51

BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST SERVICE



SEYMOUR PARK '51