

DEC 16 1952

Newsletter

No. 113

VICTORIA, B.C.



DECEMBER, 1952



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

SEASON'S GREETINGS

It is perhaps appropriate at this season of the year - a season of good fellowship and goodwill - that I have this first opportunity to greet all members of the Forest Service through the medium of our Newsletter.



During the relatively short period of my association with the Service, I have always been most impressed by the energetic devotion to the great task of administering our Province's forest resource manifest on all levels of the Service. I have been impressed by the general high standard of morale and the spirit of co-operation evident right from the Victoria Headquarters through the Districts and Ranger and field staffs. The accomplishments of the Service have proven that this co-operation makes the resolution of the most difficult tasks possible.

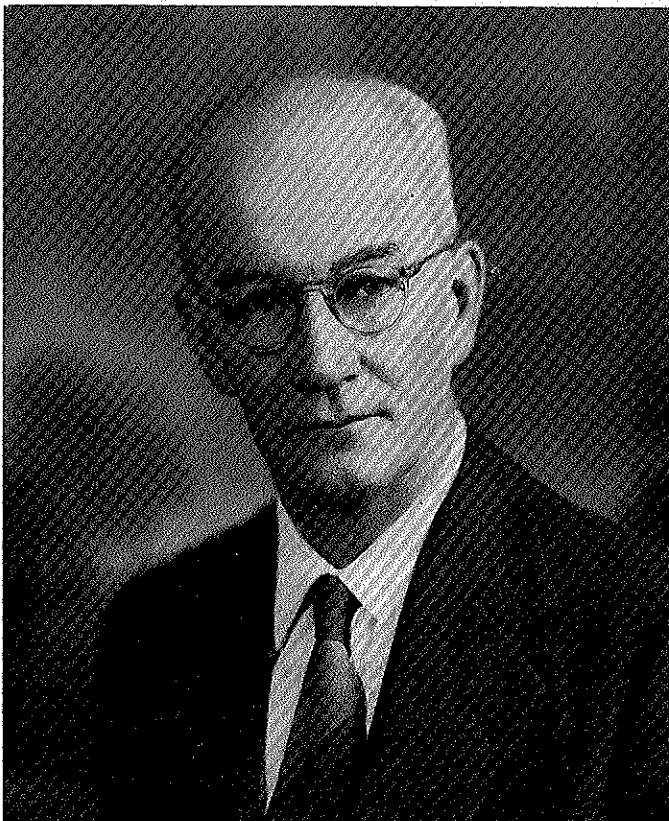
Co-operation - the living together and working together with all men - must surely be the underlying Christian philosophy behind the great festival of Christmas. The extension of this spirit through all the months of the years to come would assure, as nothing else can, our success in the future.

To all members of the B.C. Forest Service and their families, my sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

R.B. Sommers

Minister.

... ..



The past ten years have been the most difficult and, at the same time, the most fruitful of our Forest Service history. With our course more or less clearly charted we can look forward together with some confidence to a busy, satisfying and not too difficult 1953.

We couldn't ask for much more and with that prospect I wish all the staff the best of Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year.

C. J. DeLong

NELSON DISTRICT

"November 24th" the memorandum said, and the Assistant District Forester immediately cast about for volunteers to produce the Nelson epistle to the Newsletter. The volunteers were selected by the "you-and-you" method, and the Kootenay section went into production.

Did you ever try to write a Christmas Greeting when Chart "A" was still cocking its dog-ears every time the humidity dropped; when a pile of unsigned discharge cheques still faced you over the desk; and when your young-and-hopeful kept hounding you for last week's lawn-cutting fee?

To get these sincere greetings to you by the 25th of December we compose them on the 20th of November, and never has our weatherman been so unco-operative in supplying adequate seasonal weather for Christmas Greetings. Jim MacDonald, who traded his bagpipes in for a set of sewer pipes after he left Rupert, has all the neighbourhood kids panicked by telling them that he's got Santa Claus conscripted for fire-fighting. And after the fires are out, Jim tells them Santa is going to write the Annual Report.

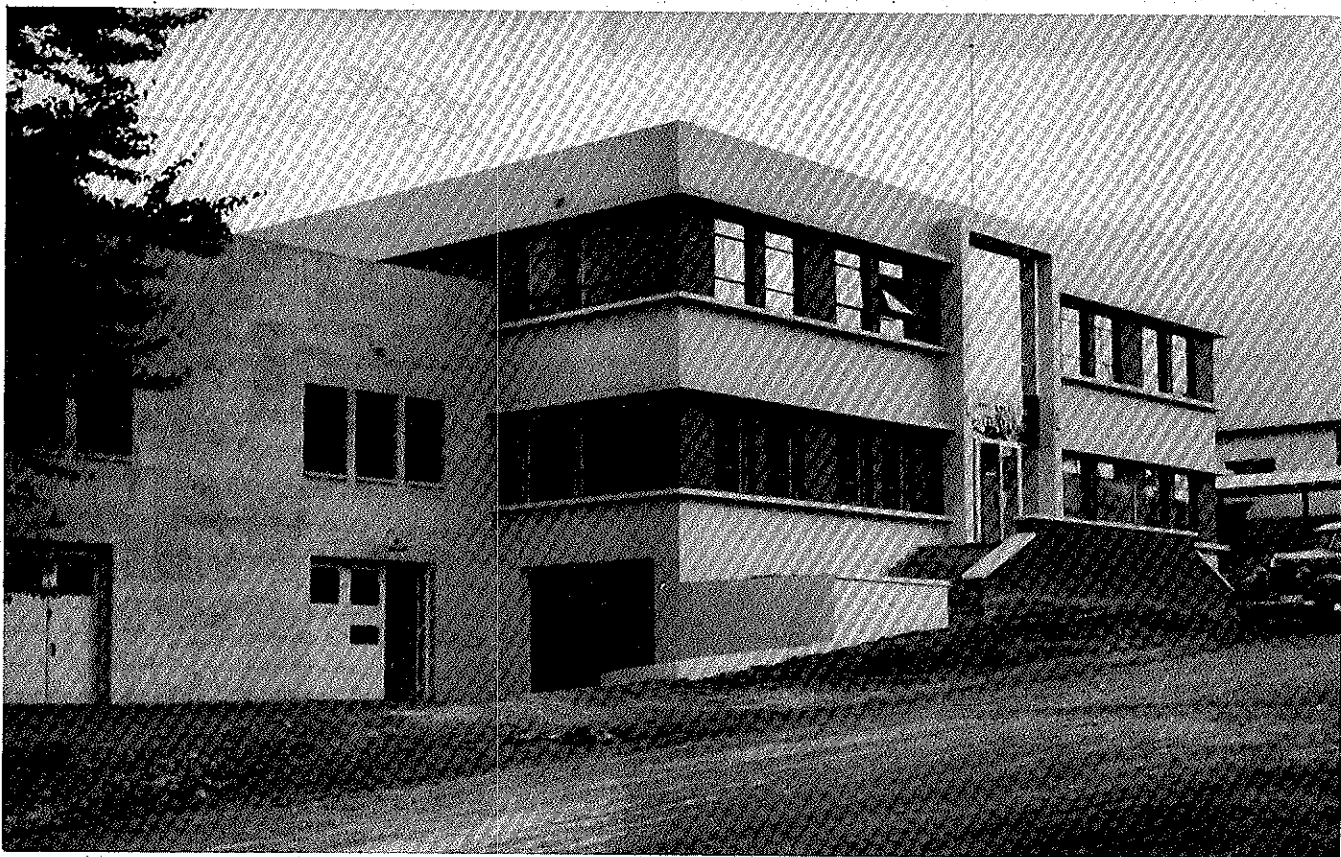
But in spite of everything pointing to a smoky Christmas, I am quite prepared to go out on a smouldering limb and say that the 25th of December will dawn bright and clear, in spirit and in fact. And for that occasion, and the forthcoming New Year, the Nelson Forest District wishes its Brother Districts and guiding Headquarters the warmest of Greetings and Best Wishes!

District Forester & Staff,
Nelson Forest District.

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OUR NEW BUILDING

The first news item from the Nelson District concerns the move to our fine new building. The move from the dungeon of the Government building was greatly appreciated. The change is amazing - all the staff have a place to sit down, the surroundings are pleasant and more conducive to concentrated study of the various problems confronting all personnel.



During the moving period, organized confusion was the watchword and everyone pitched in so that the move was completed and we were ready for the official opening Friday, October 31.

The officiating party consisted of Mr. H.B. Forse, District Forester, Mr. Mel Cameron, Construction Superintendent of Bennett and White Construction Company, Mr. J.H. Taylor, Superintendent of Construction for the B.C. Forest Service, Victoria, B.C., and Mayor J. Kary of Nelson.

Mr. Forse gave a brief recount of the Service, past and present, then called on Mr. Cameron who presented the key to Mayor Kary. Mr. Forse used a power-saw to cut out a "windfall" over the doorway. As usual, the saw quit and the old cross-cut was pressed into service.

Nelson District (continued)

Numerous guests toured the new building, after which, tea was served. Mrs. (Sid) Simpson, Mrs. (Olie) Christie, Mrs. (Irwin) Johnson, and Mrs. (Jim) Milroy poured.

Although things are not yet completely settled, the new quarters are thoroughly appreciated and a marked increase in efficiency will undoubtedly be noted.

How many transfers to Nelson are already filed?

To celebrate our move to the new building, a dance was held in our Shipping Room alias "Tamarac Terrace". "Tamarac Terrace" was decorated in very good taste complete with streamers, autumn leaves and flowers. A job well done, girls! Mr. Bill Wicken did a fine job as Master of Ceremonies, the music was good, and the liquid refreshment completed the picture.

One member of the staff, after claiming for days that he could not dance, arrived with his foot in bandages along with crutches to complete the alibi. However, as the evening became gay, said member was seen sans the encumbering alibi.

Olie Christie, the "volunteer" to make the coffee, stirred the brew with a poker - "Gives that required seasoning, you know!"

Despite a rather "worse-for-wear" (the coffee did it) crew the following day, a good time was had by all and it was generally agreed that such bigger and better parties should be a semi-annual affair.

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Good Luck, John!

The second news item from this District concerns the loss of our Supervisor of Draughtsmen, John Ingram Rogers, to the Chief Draughtsman's position in the Victoria Office.

Every member of the Nelson District staff was in the District Forester's office on Saturday, November 15, to say "good-bye" to John as he prepared to leave for Victoria.

The District Forester, Harry Forse, drew attention to John's twenty-six years of service in the Department as well as the respect and trust which John has earned during the many years at Nelson, and as a token from the entire staff presented a pen and pencil set.

The records show that John entered the Forest Service in 1926, having previously been with the Department of Finance.

Although he soon became rated as a draughtsman it seems that he also doubled as a cruiser, fire-fighter, line-locator, painter, and numerous other positions.

John is best known for his artistic abilities. Although he is a real artist and a master with oils, he was always willing to illustrate, or illuminate with pen and pencil. Many a Newsletter, presentation scroll, or even advertisement, has been brightened by the work showing the initials "J.C.I.R." For many years he illustrated the Forest Service calendars with scenes which were often a study in sylvis. One of the most memorable of these was the year he created scenes from the life of Paul Bunyan, the mythical logger of the Western Woods.

The above record does not show the reason why John will be missed by the Nelson staff. It is very doubtful if anyone who has ever worked in the Nelson office has not had occasion to appreciate the sound advice, the wise counsel, the generous contribution of time, and the courteous consideration which John Rogers always supplied.

Every member of the staff was saying "good-bye", or rather "au revoir", to a warm friend.

At this time the following poem by our poet-cruiser, John Applewhaite, seems in order.

J.C.I.R.

In the wilds of West Australia, which is overrun by rabbits,
Lived the boy, John Ingram Rogers, with his weird, artistic habits.
With his thirst for greater knowledge and his zeal for education
He dallied with the Irish and the savage Scottish nation.

Having got his fill of haggis and the noise the bagpipes make,
He found a place of hiding by the shores of Kootenay Lake.
So he finished up his schooling and essayed "Design and Art"
Which was so much to his liking that he took it to his heart.

He was not immune to women; to the altar he was called,
(At this time his hair was thinning, you would not have called him Bald)
So the second Rogers family began to grow and thrive
Until the latest census showed a count of "children five".

He's been working in the basement, "drawing things" for many years,
While with neat, corrective grammar he improves the things he hears.
He's become a "fount of knowledge" and an arbitrating Don.
And to settle any argument the staff say "Let's ask John."

Alas! We're going to lose him; but worse may be by far
For we may see no more drawings with the mark "J.C.I.R."
We're all a bit despondent as he leaves us for Victoria.
But hail his "elevation" singing "IN EXCELSIS GLORIA."

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Nelson District (continued)

Additions and Subtractions

Jim MacDonald transferred here from Prince Rupert.

Harry Potts of Victoria to replace John Rogers as Supervisor of draughting.

Frank Drew, our new assistant draughtsman.

Dawn Moat, Gertrude Wirsig, and Audrey Norgrove, all new additions to our stenographic staff.

Marie Holmberg, Management stenographer, married to Acting Ranger Mel Neidig of Cranbrook.

Barbara Perdue leaves our file room to enter the R.C.A.F. Women's Division in January, 1953.

Vivienne Monteleone married to Norm Hyssop of Trail hockey fame.

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FORT GEORGE DISTRICT

The snow-covered and frozen lands of the Fort George District are in excellent condition to speed Santa Claus and his reindeer on their way to spread joy and happiness.

Good fortune has blessed us in a number of ways. After a delay of 38 years, the P.G.E. has reached Prince George. The Hart Highway, although not completely finished, has been opened for traffic to the Peace River. A considerable mileage both south and west from Prince George has been paved or black-topped.

These are but a few of our developments and we can therefore feel free to send Santa on his way south to convey our wishes for a Merry Christmas and leave the spirit for a Happy New Year with the other District staffs and Headquarters too.

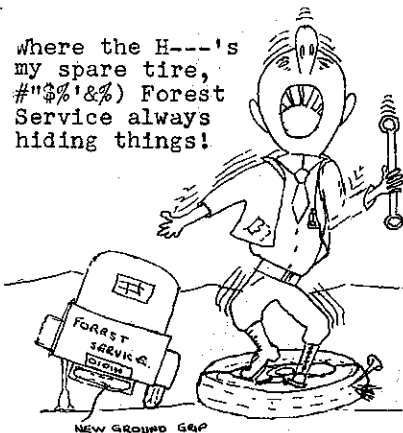
W.C. Phillips

W.C. Phillips

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Case of the Hidden Tire

Where the H---'s my spare tire, #"%&'&% Forest Service always hiding things!



We hope that Assistant Ranger Wilson, of Canyon Creek, can now laugh at the series of annoyances recently experienced in driving an old model Light Delivery. The gremlins were really busy with the ignition system, fuel line, and finally, a flat tire. He had never driven this type of vehicle before and looked in vain for a spare. Finally, he gave up and walked back to Headquarters in a fighting mood. We cannot print the exact words when he was informed that the spare was there alright but hidden almost amidst ships and, in this case, well covered with mud.

*** **

Saved by Your Pants

What could have been a tragedy was narrowly averted when Assistant Ranger Ronald M. Hawkins lost his pants.

Early in November, Ronald was walking along the Roush River shore-line en route to a cruising job. He was making good time on the river bars when, suddenly, the ground gave way, and only by throwing out his arms did he save himself from going under in a quicksand pot-hole. He was with Garry Ward at the time and the situation looked pretty grim until he loosened his belt and wiggled out of his pants (standard issue) and finally made terra firma. Later, he and Garry Ward, the Dispatcher at McBride, returned to the scene to either recover the pants or make out a property loss. They found the hole was over fourteen feet deep. According to his personal file, Ronald Hawkins is only 5 feet 11 inches tall. The pants were recovered from the ten-foot level. It was very fortunate that Garry Ward found a plank not too far away.

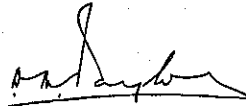
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VANCOUVER DISTRICT

Winter is once more upon us and, judging from the number of Christmas cards on display in many of the stores, this is the appropriate time for well-wishing and subsequent merry-making. To this end, messages from various Divisions of the Office have come to hand, and are hereunder reproduced in full.

Vancouver District (continued)From Our District Forester's Office

To all members of the Forest Service and particularly my friends and associates in the Vancouver Forest District I extend sincere good wishes for Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy 1953.



D.B. Taylor.

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From Our Supervisor of Scalers' Office

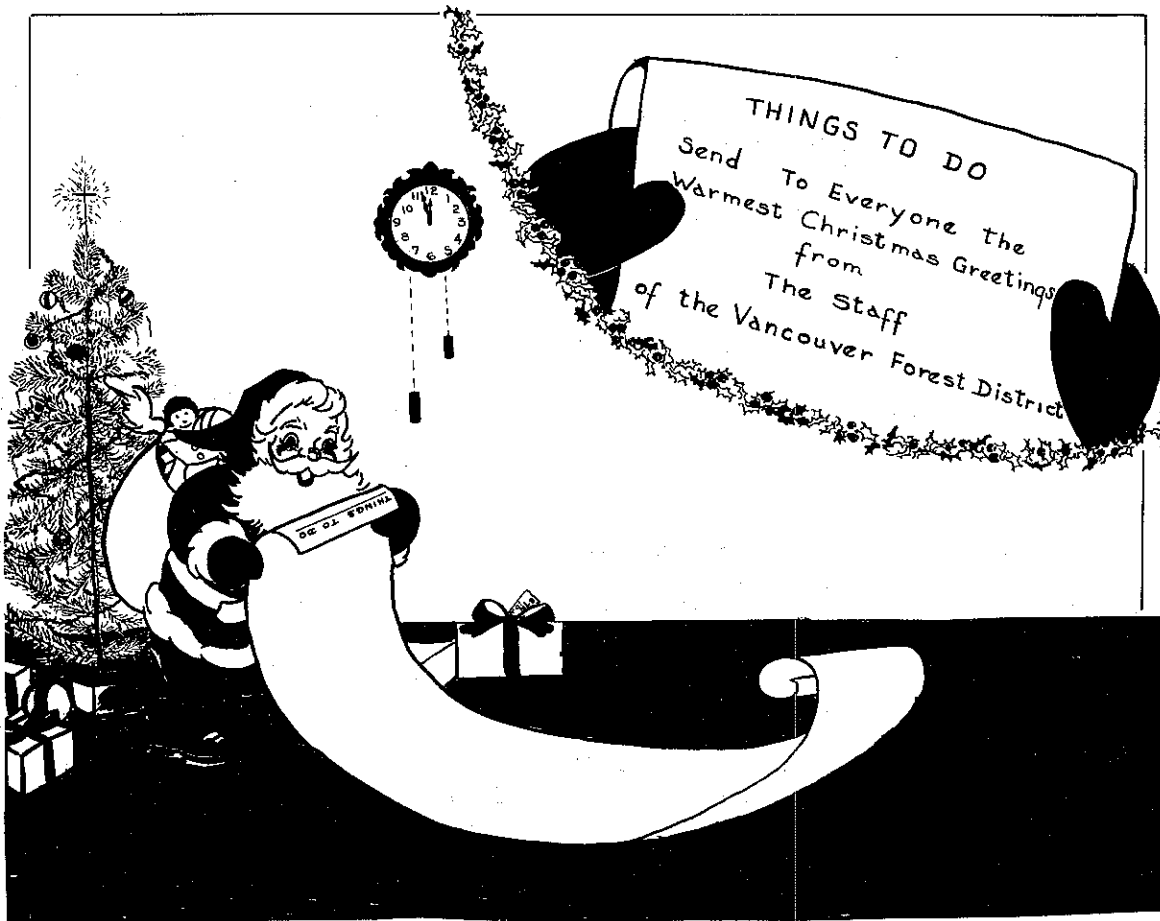
To the members of the Forest Service in general and to the men and women of the Scaling and Accounting Staff in particular, I wish to give my thanks for a year of pleasant associations and friendly co-operation.

It is with real pleasure that I now extend to all the very Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you a full (cubic) measure of health and happiness.



C. L. Armstrong.

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From Our Slash Disposal DesksUnder New Management

The Season ends and the Festive Season is upon us and it is with some trepidation that we, who have been in the field for so long, pass along our good wishes. We have just been through a most trying and successful season in slash burning. We, who have been transplanted to the District Office, now with a larger view of the over-all picture, realize that all the troubles are not in one's own back yard. The other fellow is also plagued with problems, with those in the District Office not the least so. Therefore, with a special wish to our retiring chief, Mr. C.F. Holmes, whose guiding hand and sage advice will be sadly missed, and hoping that all your snags are felled and slash burned, we wish you all the Compliments of the Season.

"P. Sweatman"
"C.D. Haddon"

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Vancouver District (continued)
From Our Tabulating Division

We in Billing and Tabulation, being situated several floors below the Hastings Street level, are somewhat like the mole. You seldom see us but we keep burrowing at the endless pile of paper that finds its way to us with clock-like precision. However, we do breathe, eat, and occasionally laugh, just like any other of the human species. In fact, we consider ourselves quite an amicable and friendly lot.

Once each year at a given signal we appear in a body at the festive board of the annual Christmas "do" and let our hair down along with those who live upstairs and those of the great outdoors.

In anticipation of this event we join in wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year. We'll see you on the 24th for a short respite to renew old and make new acquaintances and then, like the groundhog, go below for another year.

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An Illness

Don Power, Headquarters Cruiser, was victimized by polio while recently working in our Squamish Ranger District. Don entered hospital there on November 7 and, on the 9th, was moved by aircraft and ambulance to Vancouver, via Horseshoe Bay. Dan McIvor of Central B.C. Airways did a good job of bringing Don from Squamish under very adverse conditions. Don had a very bad time from the 11th to the 15th, and is now showing improvement. We all extend best wishes for his speedy and complete recovery.

*** **

Matched

On Thursday, November 6, Mr. Ian Cameron, Asst. District Forester, on behalf of and with the very best wishes of the Vancouver Office staff, presented to Miss Violet Miller, Key-Punch-Operator, and Mr. Bill Willoughby, Clerk, a wedding gift of a pair of blankets and a linen tablecloth.

The ceremony was held in the evening of November 8, at St. Mary's Church. After a "Southern" honeymoon, both Vi and Bill will be returning to work with us.

Best of luck, Vi and Bill!

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Another of our men to get married during the past little while was Acting Ranger Bill Howard, of the Port Moody District. However, owing to our "usually reliable source" supplying only a rather sketchy report, further details are lacking. Best wishes to you both, Bill.

*** **

New Arrivals

This month the Welcome Carpet is rolled out for Mrs. Kay Macintyre, Accounts Clerk, who has been transferred from the Operations Division of the Nelson Office; for Pat Nash, stenographer and teletype operator, who was formerly with the Civil Service Commission, Victoria; for Eddie Burns, our new compassman; and for Bill Kinlock and Jack Pendency, who have brought our filing staff back up to strength. We hope that all will enjoy their work with us.

*** **

JAMES GRANT MacDONALD

1887 - 1952

Our sincere sympathy and condolences go out to Mrs. MacDonald and the family in the sudden passing of James Grant MacDonald in his 66th year on November 14, 1952.

"Jim" as he was widely and affectionately known, came to Canada from his native Scotland and commenced work for the Forest Branch in 1912. He saw service as cook, packer, ranger, supervisor, and was for a time District Forester at Prince George. Returning to the Coast, he was fire-inspector at Vancouver for many years, and as the first Superintendent of the Forest Service Marine Station on the Fraser River until his superannuation, was responsible for much of its early planning and present efficiency.

His character was marked by integrity and loyalty to duty at all times, while the resourcefulness and unfailing cheerfulness of pioneer days in the Service, remained with him always.

The funeral at New Westminster on November 17 was followed by interment at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Burnaby, and was attended by a large number of members and ex-members of the Forest Service.

"James"
 "MacDonald" *** **

Vancouver District (continued)To Vancouver District Readers

Your former representative (note the past tense) has now completed a "term of office" and I wish to announce that henceforth our Reg Court, of the Draughting Office, will be in charge of compiling the data submitted for inclusion as Vancouver "copy" in the Newsletter. I also wish to take this opportunity of thanking all of you who submitted items for your co-operation, Stan Phillips for photographs that have been used during the past year, Miss Nancy Barr for her enlightening cartoons, and Miss Claudine Briggs for her typing. I feel sure that Reg may count on your continued support, and all items of interest, stories, statistics, et cetera, should now be addressed "Newsletter - Attn. Reg. Court". (ED. Note.- Our sincere thanks to you, Frank Williams. You did a fine job.)

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KAMLOOPS DISTRICT

The District Forester and the staff of the Kamloops Forest District take this opportunity of wishing all of their associates in the Forest Service A MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS AND FIRE-FREE 1953



District Forester.

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Return to Normal

After a big upheaval of our office arrangement due to the completion of the new building adjacent to us, and the subsequent moving thereto of the Welfare Branch, we are once more back in the old routine and can once more find our way around. In fact, we have even found most of the Foresters-in-Training who became lost in the shuffle. Of course there is still a little beefing about the new arrangement. Draughting section is at the extreme west end of the building, the rest of us at the east. It has been rumoured that Harry McDougall has requisitioned a pair of roller skates and requested a travelling allowance, but we have no confirmation of this to date.

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Hatched

Sincere congratulations of all the staff go to Ranger Bob and Kathleen Hewlett of Merritt....Arrived at Kamloops, October 20, a new little bundle of happiness, Katherine Anne....This makes five for Bob and Kathleen now, perhaps some thought should be given to enlarging R.D.17.

... ..

Matched

Congratulations to Acting Ranger Jack St. Laurent and his new bride, Mary. Jack received the permanent appointment and regrading to married status at Clinton, on October 8.

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JOHN LAFORGE
1892 - 1952

We all most deeply regret the passing away of one of our most liked and respected associates, Johnnie LaForge, on November 9. John was Assistant Ranger at Enderby where he has faithfully served this Department since 1936. He was born in Michigan, U.S.A., on November 28, 1892, and came to Canada and B.C. in 1911. He started his career with the Forest Service as a Patrolman at Enderby, and for a long time has been considered one of our experts on poles and piling.

Johnnie was highly respected and loved by all who knew him and will be sadly missed. Words seem so inadequate at such a time, but we do convey to Mrs. LaForge our deepest sympathy.

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So Long

We are sorry to be saying farewell to stenographer Iris Wilson. Iris has been with us a little over a year, fresh out from "Blighty" to see Canada. Having spent one winter in the invigorating west winds (at zero and minus) of the Kamloops District, she has decided to try Toronto for a little while enroute back to England. We wish you lots of luck and happiness in the future, Iris.

8.

Kamloops District (continued)

So Long (cont'd)

It is regretted that a newcomer to our ranks, Forester-in-Training John K. Robinson, has found it necessary to hand in his resignation. Due to a severe illness of his father, he has to return to Fredericton, N.B. We wish you luck in any new venture, Robby.

Mrs. Tomilson, Management stenographer who was here barely long enough for us to get acquainted, left on October 31 to accompany her husband who was transferred to Jasper by the C.N. Rly. Co.

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How Dee Doo!

We welcome to the ranks, Mrs. Jean Duncan, who replaces Mrs. Tomilson. We hope that you will be happy with us and that hubby (also C.N.R.) has enough whiskers to hold down the job in Kamloops for a long time.

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It's In The Bag!

It is rumoured that our District Forester and Assistant bagged themselves a nice bull moose a few days ago, (your correspondent, anonymous) not yet having received a roast, cannot confirm this.

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PRINCE RUPERT DISTRICT

GREETINGS FROM PRINCE RUPERT

(see opposite page)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. District Forester, Percy Young. | 14. Inspectors of Scalers:
Sid Cooper
Jack Scott |
| 2. Ranger Carmen Gibson
Pat Gilgan
Bob Brooks
Jim Wilds. | 15. Project Supervisor:
Chris Dahle |
| 3. Ranger Lester Taft
Bill Benwell
Walter Robinson | 16. Ranger Supervisor
Thor Strimbold
Forest Protection Officer
Herb Couling |
| 4. Ranger Don Smith
Harold Whalen
Tom Ridler | 17. District Office Staff:
Bev Boulton
John Bruce
Hugh Bancroft
Bob Corregan
Carl Smith
Ned McLeod
Nick Pavlikis
Harvey Campbell
Eric Martin
Ike Martin
Dennis Batsford
Johnny Rutledge
Frank Longair
Bill Hepper
Evie Rivett
Evelyn Antilla
Elsie Creed
Olga Zabudney
Dorothy Edgar
Aussie Bishop
Herdis Holkestad
Janet Budnich
Margaret Harris
Joyce Strand
Pat Gurvich
Margaret Mackney
Joan Larsen
Lydia Ponich
Betty Wade. |
| 5. Ranger Wally Antilla
Skipper Dick Farmer
Engineer H. Woodcox | |
| 6. Ranger Jim Munro | |
| 7. Ranger Herb Hammer | |
| 8. Ranger Art Tourond
Ray Guss
Dereck Morris
John Ordinall | |
| 9. Ranger Jim Gilmour
Ray Poirier
Ray Morgan
Myrna Myhre | |
| 10. Ranger Charles Botham
Hector Cote
Helen White
Charles Raine | |
| 11. Ranger Jack Mould
Vicki Kryklywyj
Bill Lindstrom | |
| 12. Ranger Marv Kullander
Don Cooper
Len Ashton
Ralph Keefe | |
| 13. Cruising Party
Doc Selkirk
Ed Hlady
Vic Young
Jerry Dodds
Bob Williamson
H. Saffareck
Florian Tugnum | |

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Prince Rupert District (continued)



Prince Rupert District (continued)News from Abroad

Marc Gormely (ex Rupert District Forester), recently wrote from Kaingaroa Forest, via Rotorua, New Zealand -

"This is a grand job. Big pulp and paper project to be supplied by a plantation of exotic conifers, mostly Pinus radiata (Monterey Pine of California) Douglas fir, and Corsican pine (Pinus Laricio) with some Ponderosa pine and Lodgepole pine and a few others. The growth rates here are out of the world -- Pinus radiata, (a scrubby tree in California), grows at 350 cubic feet per year -- mean annual increment over a rotation age of 30 years. Fir does wonderfully well also. It is astounding to see hundreds of thousands of acres of man-made forests here all set out in lovely straight rows.

"Climate is cold and very damp now -- just the start of Spring -- rainfall like Vancouver -- wind like Victoria, so when it rains, like Rupert!

"Very hardy folk, New Zealanders -- no central heating. Am wearing my wool longies for first time in my adult career! Modern buildings here have heating but local Joes won't turn it on -- claim it's too hot and unhealthy!"

(Rupert ED: We knew Rupert wasn't the only place like it on this earth -- we wonder how the cruising compares in: those lovely straight rows of pine, and the Sitka spruce - hemlock - Devil's Club jungles of this region).

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Miscellaneous

Received a report on timber sale X-51257, near Telegraph Creek, issued to C. Raines of that city. The report indicates incomplete operations and recommends cancellation and forfeiture of deposit (\$78.00). It is signed by Assistant Ranger C. Raines, Telegraph Creek. (Rupert ED: Believe it or not or, if you can't beat it, join it).

Wanna buy a tractor cheap? Charlie Raines reports he sold one of two (working) tractors at Telegraph for \$75.00.

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Tintagel Fire

Costs recently added up to \$29,000.00 plus purchase of TD9 tractor, considerable flying time, burning perhaps 5 million feet of merchantable timber (of which we hope to salvage about 3 million), destruction of reproduction and immature timber on an area of 15,500 acres, death of one firefighter, and disappearance of another, and very considerable wear and tear and depreciation on equipment and F.S. personnel.

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Bowling

Betty Wade has started a 10-pin Bowling League for the Rupert office staff. After four sessions, the Maple Mashers lead the Hemlock Loopers by 3 games to 1. Percy Young appears to have high single and high average score.

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Welcome!

We welcome Betty Wade back to Operations -- knew she couldn't leave us for long.

We also welcome Margaret Harris, who must have tired of Victoria climate and came up to Rupert to breathe our clean, washed air, while helping out in the Management typing.

Vic Young of the Victoria Working Plans Division recently drove up with plans to stay a while and continue the organization of our Public Working Circles. Welcome, Vic!

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New Building?

The Honourable R.E. Sommers, and our Chief, Dick Orchard, toured this north line recently. The big question -- a new Forest Service Office Building --? After "squeezing" through our offices he agreed that we are overcrowded. We have hopes of a grand Christmas present for 1954 -- space in which to work.

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New Industry?

An enterprising individual has recently made application to cut scrub cedar for distilling purposes. He believes that 5 cubic feet of hand-pressed slash should yield one pound of oil worth approximately \$2.50 on the Eastern market.

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Cost of Living

It's easy to see why Marv. Kullander moved back to the woods. These steaks were got on Babine Lakeshore by Marv. and Len Ashton just a few minutes by boat from the station.

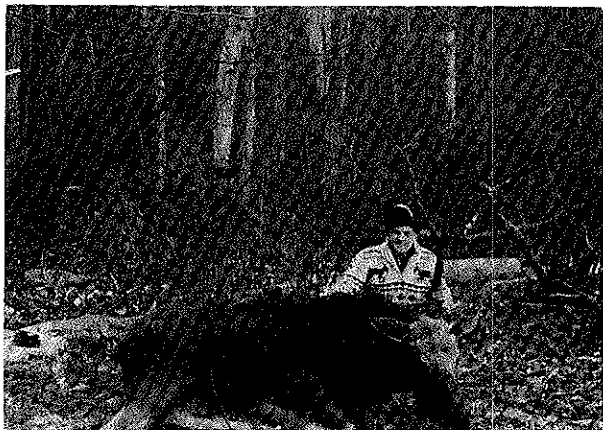
(Rupert ED: And Jay Kullander's cooking? -- m-m-- boy! Certainly must make a Christmas call).

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

To all our friends, fellow-workers in the Service, and particularly to those who have left us for other climes, (we know you'd have had a merry time up here.)

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RANGER SCHOOL GREETINGS

On glancing down the Forest Service Personnel Directory, any person having been connected with the Ranger School since its inception will be struck by the number of familiar names listed. Names will recall faces, and if the person doing the glancing is also an instructor, the faces will recall expressions; expressions that for variety and emotion would satisfy any Hollywood director. Boredom, slightly pained to acute agony. The look of despair followed, occasionally, by the beam of enlightenment. Or perhaps the sudden hopeful gleam in the eyes that denote a question coming up intended to stick the instructor ... who has been expecting the question and is therefore primed.

The thought occurs to us that a goodly portion of our field staff have met here, have mingled together, and in due course escaped from the jaundiced eye of the writer. By the very nature of our work they are now scattered throughout the Province, carrying on those important duties to which they are assigned.

We will have ex-students spending Christmas at our most northerly stations, to stations within a few miles of the International boundary due south. They will be scattered across the Province from a few miles west of the Alberta border to Captain Vancouver's Island.

No group has ever spent Christmas at the School. Christmas is, and can only be, a celebration in the home with the family and close friends. But perhaps amid the Christmas high jinks a vagrant thought may be given to other parties, the "life" of which perhaps now celebrates his Christmas some 500 miles away. Who in that particular class can forget the original five-man quartette and their fancy tailored costumes ... or THAT MAN with the pipes?

To all and each member of the one big family known as the Forest Service, we at the School send our best Seasonal Greetings; and we will, we hope, be pardoned if we reserve a special wish for those of the family somewhat closer related. To the present class, to all ex-students wherever they may be, to your families, on behalf of the staff and myself, here's wishing you a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Jim Pedley

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A MESSAGE FROM RESEARCH

Christmas, 1952, finds most of the old faces with us, plus a few new ones. The staff additions are, Win Arlidge, who originally hails from the foothills of Alberta; Sandy Benteli, newly-arrived from Switzerland (Sandy and Win are taking post-graduate training at U.B.C.); Richard Borzuchowski, formerly of the South African Forest Service; and Mike Stewart, from England via Oregon State College. We welcome them into the fold, and hope that they will find an interesting future in the Research Division.

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Cowichan Lake Station

In between visitors (very close to 100) who showed a great deal of interest in discussing various active projects, George Warrack, assisted by Ed Roberts, found sufficient time to direct the Station activities. The Boys' Camp, which was in full swing for two months, proved to be very successful (thanks to Supervisor Frank Hollins). Trails were cleared and bridges were built by the boys. In addition, they took on duties as assistants to research workers, particularly on the thinning projects. Meanwhile, Sandy Benteli, working on a chemical debarking project, was busy applying poisons to Douglas fir, alder, and hemlock; while Richard Borzuchowski studied factors affecting the production of heartwood in Douglas fir.

Working out of the Experimental Station, Mike Finnis continued his direct-seeding studies well into early winter. (One morning a very cold white-footed deermouse scampered up Mike's leg and field work was temporarily suspended -- a new approach to live trapping?).

Although the field season at Cowichan Lake officially ended soon after the visit by members of the Commonwealth Forestry Conference, Ed Roberts continues with the completion of the water system and other work aimed to increase the fire protection facilities of the Station buildings.

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Aleza Lake Station

Last summer, Tim Decie was seen heading out of Victoria, complete with family, mukluks, and elephant gun. Since he has not returned, we're quite sure that he has officially taken over the administration of "Aleza". Tim and his right-hand man, Rolf Hellenius, spent an active summer on the Station marking road and camp improvements. While working on ecological studies in several areas of the Prince George District, Win Arlidge and Art Prochnau used the Station for headquarters.

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Bickley Bay

Another scene of activity for some members of the Research Division was Bickley Bay, which fits snugly against the north shore of East Thurlow Island. 'Twas here that Chris Joergensen, assisted by Dudley Prideaux, Mike Stewart, and a camp of boys landed in early summer to develop another experimental forest area with the accent on commercial thinnings. After brand new quarters were erected, visitors increased, and it is noted that Bruce Clark, who was re-measuring sample plots in the vicinity, joined the

A Message From Research (continued)Bickley Bay (cont'd)

group for a short time.

*** **

Unattached

Alan Orr-Ewing, continuing his doctorate studies at U.B.C., made a trip to California where he studied for a time at the Placerville Tree Breeding Station. Nursery studies filled up Hal Knight's time and he found the new nursery at Cranbrook a busy spot. Coastal ecological studies, centered in the Queen Charlotte Islands and Terrace areas, were continued by Ralph Schmidt who was joined by W.R. Day, forest pathologist from Oxford and R.F. Wood, Forestry Commission silviculturist for England. Towards the end of the field season, Mike Stewart extended research activities to the Nelson District, where a new thinning project was laid out and a potential experimental tract examined.

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Headquarters

As usual, Dick Spillsbury covered many miles this summer, and managed to drop in on most of the field parties.

While the above-mentioned journeyed through the Province, John Nutt and Anita Clark maintained order in the Victoria office. Alan Fraser and Eric Garman spent most of the year in the office writing up publications and making new plans.

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Vital Statistics

Congratulations to:

Mr. & Mrs. Win Arlidge - a DAUGHTER, Mary Lee, on June 22.

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Clark - a DAUGHTER, Helen Elizabeth, on November 25,
(Quality Class I, D.B.H. 10.1":
Height 18.05" $\pm$ 3").

*** **

FOREST SURVEYS DIVISION

Comes the time of year for Surveys to make their annual contribution of wit, statistics, and nonsense. Poor field cooking and isolation has again contributed heavily to the vital statistics section heading-

Matched

W. (Bill) Bradshaw to Miss Carol Grieve, November 8, 1952.

R.E. (Bob) Breadon to Miss Beth Martin, July 25, 1952.

Gerhard H. Eichel to Miss Chris Klein, October 19, 1952.

D.M. (Doug) Fligg to Miss Norma Melville, June 21, 1952.

R.C. (Bob) Jones to Miss Ruth Veitch, October 18, 1952.

W. (Bill) Young to Miss Emily Kallenbach, October 11, 1952.

Best Wishes and Good Luck from the Surveys Division.

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A dense cloud of cigar smoke has been hanging heavily throughout the office lately. Actually 99 per cent of this smoke may be attributed to George Allison's pipe. However, the remaining "free smoke" may be traced to beaming fathers. They are -

Hatched

Mr. & Mrs. C.J. McGee - DAUGHTER, Wendy Anne - May 17, 1952.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Bradatsch - DAUGHTER, Ingrid Renata - September 9, 1952.

Mr. & Mrs. L.A. Bertsch - SON - Hendrik August - September 14, 1952.

Mr. & Mrs. N.A. Holoboff - SON - George Andrew - October 1, 1952.

Mr. & Mrs. W.R. Wright - SON - Guy David - October 20, 1952.

Congratulations from all in the Division.

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A Big Field Season

The field season this year has been one of the largest undertakings in the history of the Surveys Division. Three hundred field men, spread through the Province, completed 35 million acres of forest inventory. Students from right across Canada and a few from down south came to join the venture. Naturally, for an effort this size, there are bound to be a few stories of interest. We will pass along a few.

Bill Young, our Prince George Party Chief, attempted to navigate the Parsnip River to its upper limit. The first thrill in the journey involved going under the bridge forming part of the Hart Highway. As they were going under the bridge a miscalculated current upset the boat. Their Saturday night bath came early that day and

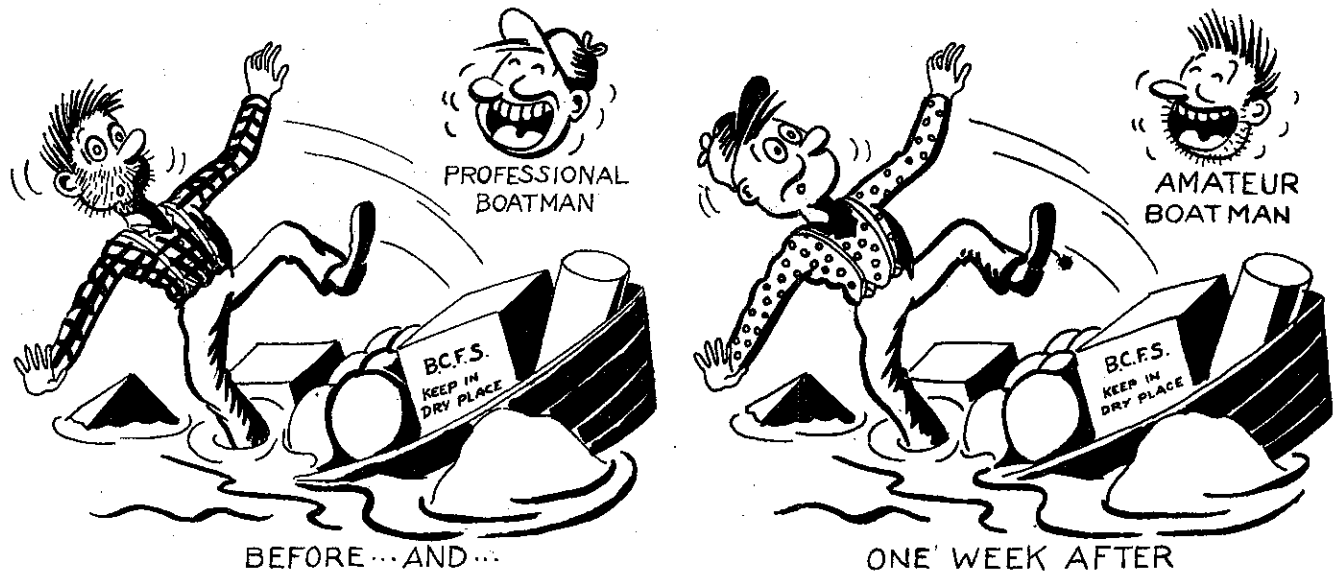
Forest Surveys Division (continued)

A Big Field Season (cont'd)

Bill ended up holding on to a bridge piling, shaking his fist in the air and shouting, "I'll lose my job over this." Fortunately, no one was injured.

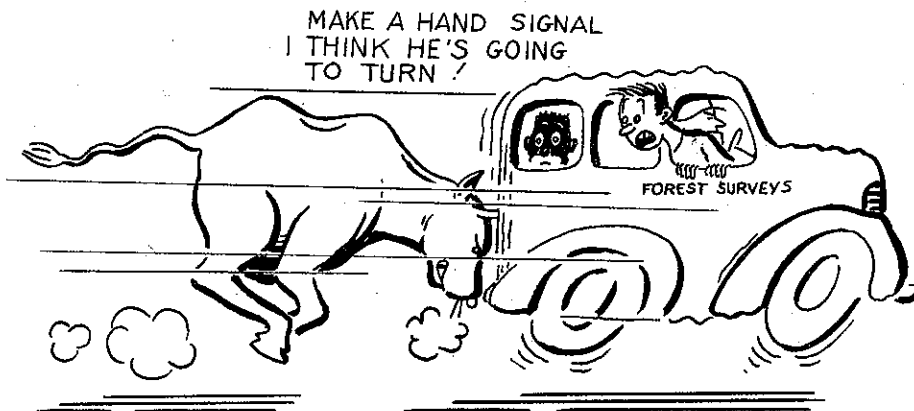
Gritting his teeth and taking no chances, Bill set out one week later with an experienced river man. The trip again involved the scenic channel beneath the Parsnip River bridge. Skipping details, where do you think Bill was two minutes later? You guessed it! Hanging on to the piling, waving his fist in the air and shouting, "I'll lose my job over this". One of the cheerful rescue party added, "You may also be assessed 25 per cent of the loss". The trip was made successfully later on the third try.

... ..



Some Bull!

Our fleet of Austins contributed a lot in the manner of duty, jokes, and jobs throughout the field season. A Cranbrook car, turned matador, came through unscathed in a match of wits and strength on one occasion. It appears two of the boys were sitting in their Austin on a country road when a big bull came charging up the road.



In what manner the Austin attracted the bull is mere idle speculation. However, with fire in his eye the bull began hooking his horns under the front bumper. Honking the car horn only served to excite the bull further and he proceeded to the rear of the car to continue his playful antics. The boys, figuring things had gone far enough, started the car, giving the bull a blast of exhaust just when his nose happened to be near the tail-pipe. From a distance all that could be seen were two rising clouds of dust travelling

in opposite directions and at approximately equal speeds.

... ..

An Alberta Missionary Helps Civilize B.C.

One student, Swede Bardock, when asked his impressions of the summer, forwarded the following letter:

"For 21 years, as far as I was concerned, the Rockies formed as formidable a barrier as the Iron Curtain. Thus, when I signed up with Forest Surveys, little did I know what was in store for me.

"I got off the bus at Cranbrook and as the bus roared away I was left alone in the long, deserted streets. Paper and dust fluttered about as a gust of wind whipped around the empty street corners and then the horrible thought struck me -- I was a little shaver, all alone and lost in the boundaries of this desolate province of bleak, snow-capped mountains and dark, gloomy forests.

"I was left little time to brood over my unhappy position for, as I cowered within the protection of a doorway, a large Forest Service suburban drove up and a tall, harsh-looking gent beckoned me.

Forest Surveys Division (continued)An Alberta Missionary Helps Civilize B.C. (cont'd)

"That night, I was introduced to the first of the comforts and privileges accompanying my job -- a sleeping bag on rocky ground under a beautiful roof of stars. The next morning or, rather, the middle of that night, a second shock came my way in the form of Ted Vaughan, who was mumbling something about getting up. Under the drastic ultimatum of cold water, no breakfast and a five-mile hike, we were yanked out of our beds.

"After burning my coffee water and taking a hatchet to two hard-boiled eggs, I eagerly looked forward to our training session where I could immerse myself in my work and forget my troubles. First, I was told to wind a chain. Two hours were then spent looking for what an Albertan would call a chain; I found, to my dismay, they meant a long, marked, steel tape. Next came the problem of determining tree ages, and since a tree is like a woman, in that age doesn't show on the outside, I was driven to the ultimate conclusion. Without hesitation I went about my task and within the hour the 4" spruce tree was down - it had needles instead of leaves so I knew it was a spruce tree.

"Other such hectic experiences followed. Nevertheless, it all added up to a memorable summer in which I made new friends, saw both civilized and virgin country and thoroughly enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the B.C. Forest Service."

::: :::

Tire Trouble

Are there any investigators in the group? Try and figure this one out. One of our party chiefs asked for a simple explanation of a tire on one of our Austin cars. The following reply was forwarded:

Dear Ted,

"I blew right rear tire -
- replaced same with spare.
- replaced spare with new tire from Anderson's.

"Arnold blew right rear tire
- replaced same with spare (new tire from Anderson's)
- replaced spare with a vulcanizing job on the blown tire (done at Nelson at Empire Motors and now unsatisfactory).

"Dick lost rear right wheel and good tire at Yahk
- wheel ruined, tire O.K.
- Dick had already had to change his right rear wheel with spare at Kitchener, because right rear tire threatened to blow. It was his spare wheel then which he lost with the good spare tire at Yahk.

"When I arrived as rescuer, Dick was without sufficient rubber to travel.

"I changed my spare Nelson vulcanized tire and wheel for his wheel and tire, which had threatened to blow at Kitchener, and Dick carried his ruined wheel and good tire back to Moyle. Both of us were then without a spare which was useable.

"Dick continued to operate without a spare, while his good tire on the ruined wheel was given a new wheel at Marysville.

"I continued to operate without a useable spare on all good rubber (all of it my own), and carrying the wheel and tire, which was not repairable and is now destined for Victoria.

"Dick, to sum it all up, got a new wheel for his good tire at Marysville, and also a new tire to replace the bad vulcanizing job, which he gave back to me.

"Dick, then, had the new tire as spare and the new wheel with the good tire back on the right rear of #1080.

"I had 4 good tires on #1081, plus the bad vulcanizing job, plus the Victoria-destined tire, which I turned over to you, plus the new tire gotten at Marysville on the 11th of August, to give #1081 some kind of useable spare.

"Technically, then, I wound up with 7 tires -
- 4 good ones on the truck
1 bad vulcanizing job not on the truck on a wheel
1 ready to blow, which I handed over to you
1 new tire, which was put on the wheel of the tire I turned over to you, going to Victoria I believe.

"As far as I can see, Ted, either my new tire or Dick's new tire is without a wheel, which is as it should be, but which one it is I don't know because I never saw the new tire I got, only the bill for it which I sent in with my August accounts.

"On the reverse of this page at the bottom I assumed that my new tire from Marysville was put on the wheel of the tire going to Victoria. This may not be true, maybe Dick's new tire went on that

Forest Surveys Division (continued)

Tire Trouble (cont'd)

wheel, anyhow, it was just to enable me to get things straightened out re tires on #1081.

"There is then one tire too many for wheels. Either my or Dick's is the extra depending on which one was mounted on the afore-mentioned wheel of the Victoria tire.

"I think things are straight now, Ted, I hope so anyway, and that you can understand my account of transfers and borrowings clearly enough. If you have time, write me again and tell me if you get it straightened out O.K."

(signed) Donald Dunlop.

... ..

Pete Small handled the party at Hazelton this year and had the odd anxious moment. On one occasion Ivan Roy, first year U.N.B. student, was badly scalded while in a remote fly camp. A rescue was arranged, a site was cleared for a helicopter landing, medical supplies were taken in. Three days later, pilot T. Sheers took Roy out in a helicopter to Hazelton. Twenty-six days later Roy was back on the job again.

Our thanks to Ranger Mould of Kitwanga and Ranger Taft of Hazelton for their assistance in making the rescue a success.

Bob Noneman passed up the chance of his lifetime when he missed a moose at 25 yards during a hunting expedition. No further comment.

The Lillooet party had two Nigerian students who are currently studying pre-med. at Winnipeg. Both were very afraid of "Jungle Beasts" and were often exposed to pranks by other members of the crew.

One day a member of the crew who was assisted by the younger and more timid African, started crashing and grunting in the bushes, then came flying down the hillside with his eyes bulging and shouting "bear". This was more than enough excuse for the lad and he took off in a black flash straight for the valley. The boys found out later that our Nigerian friend, Victoria, had charged full bore into a cabin without knocking and gasped out to the inhabitants the details of a gigantic bear closing in on him.

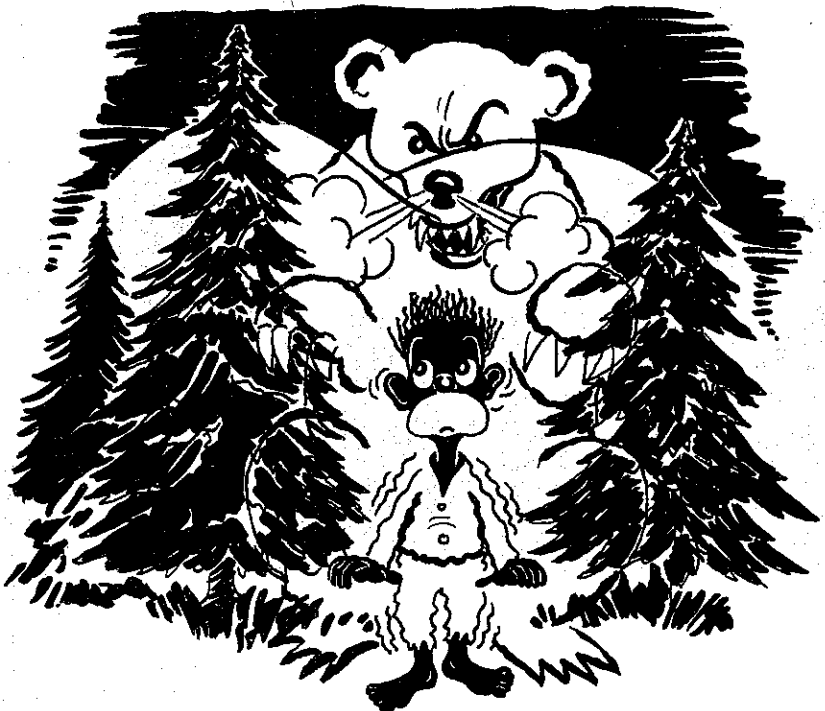
On another occasion the Nigerian student was out with a crew and a wandering bear actually stumbled on their camp during the evening. A fast retreat was in order as the flashlight uncovered two beady eyes peering at them. During the course of retreat the fellow with the flashlight shone the light up the trail behind them. In a trembling voice the African student mumbled, "Bruthuh, don't shine dat light in those trees, I don't want to see nuthin' dat's looking back at me."

... ..

Once again, we wish to extend our thanks to the personnel in the District Offices, Rangers, Despatchers, and various Divisions, who have co-operated fully with us in our year's activities -

Wishing one and all un Joyeux Noel - and a Merry Christmas too!

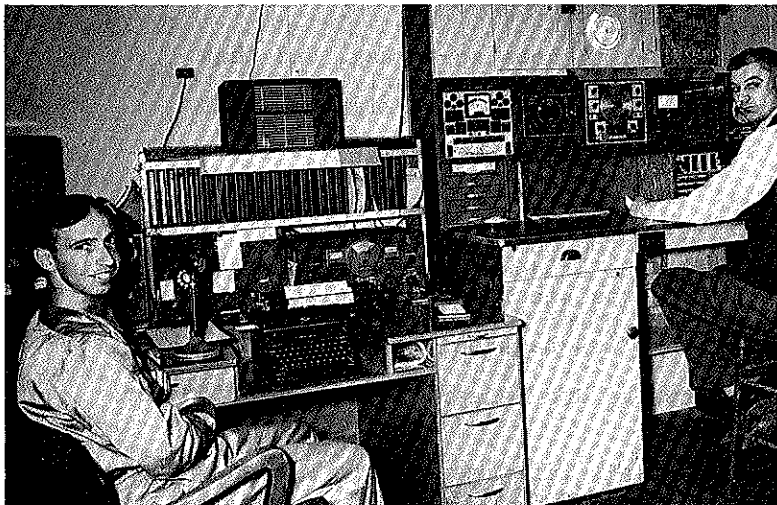
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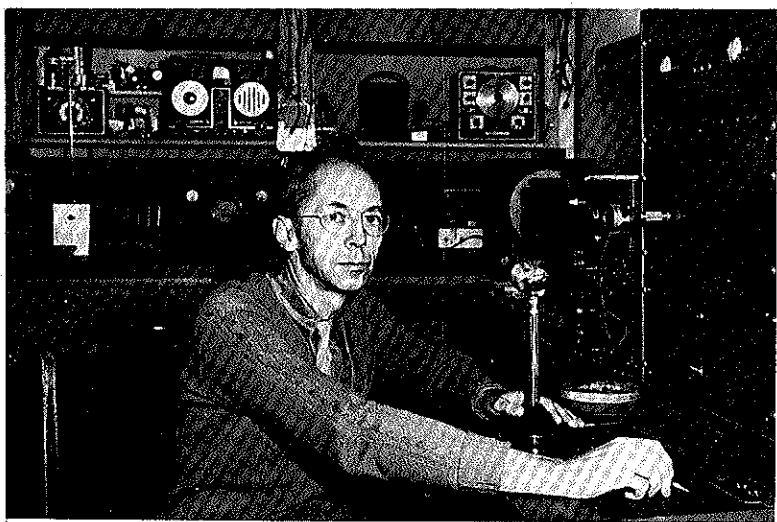
MESSAGE FROM RADIO

The Victoria Radio Section takes this opportunity to wish all and sundry the Compliments of the Season.

In particular, may we say Happy Christmas and a successful New Year to the District Radio Technicians who, like ourselves, struggle to cope with the never-ending problems of radio communications.



Eric Bowers (right) and Ken McEachern, Kamloops.



Laurence Ott, Nelson.



Steve Jones, Victoria.

None of us quite knows just how he became involved in earning a livelihood by means of an occupation so full of headaches. The problems, disappointments and the gulf that lies between theory and practice keep us guessing from January to December, year after year.

The answer, of course, is that radio in general is just plain interesting by virtue of the fact that it is a challenge to the imagination and because it has a jig-saw puzzle quality with a few pieces always waiting to be fitted into the picture.

All this leads up to the fact that we have completed another year containing some successes, some failures but, on the whole, general progress towards providing the Forest Service with better communication.

We have the greatest admiration for the work of the District Technicians and as far as our own work is concerned, we do our best. One fact that we can brag about, however, is the addition, during the year, of new members to the families of Gordon English and Don Ziegler, a boy and a girl respectively. Belatedly we offer congratulations which were omitted at the time.

We have received several excellent photographs from the Districts and expect others which have not arrived in time for this issue. In the three we print here we have Eric Bowers and Ken McEachern of Kamloops, Laurence Ott of Nelson and Steve Jones of Victoria.

We would like to congratulate Laurence and Eric on the appearance of their stations. In Victoria extreme crowding prevents us from being as neat as we would like to be, but within weeks we move into a new building and at last Steve will have sufficient room to turn around in.

... ..

WORKING PLANS DIVISION

"Management Licences", and "Sustained Yield", are not just text-book terms to at least three members of this Division. Their applications for married status have been advertised and approved, subject to submission of a satisfactory Working Plan during 1952. Those of us who know Larry

Parlow, Walt Leasing, and Nick Mason, take their wolf-to-lamb conversion as definite proof that the Sustained Yield philosophy is here to stay.

Peter Mellander and Mickey Trew are in the process of exchanging pelt for fleece and permission to advertise may be given at any moment. Our ranks have been purged recently of "cut-out-and-get-out" operators by sending Vic Young to Prince Rupert, and Amond Groner to Kamloops.

... ..

Forest Service Newsletter,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir,

After hoping vainly that there would be a change in the Forest Service uniform, I feel I must now vent the many thoughts and constructive criticisms I have held for these past years.

While touring Canada and the U.S. this summer the fact was brought home again and again that the B.C. uniform was the least practical and the least distinctive of all the uniforms of forestry men I saw.

Can not our men have a uniform which would separate them from the garbage collector? Even an insignia on the sleeves would lend an air of authority and distinction to the uniform. Must the uniforms reach the last stages of dilapidation before another one is grudgingly issued? Usually when they request a new article of clothing the field staff truly needs it. It must irk a man whose personal wardrobe is neat, smart, and well-kept to be forced to meet the public sporting a frayed collar or tattered pant cuffs.

Many problems arise from the versatility of a Ranger's work. His clothing must be able to afford warmth and protection in the woods and at the present time allow him to be comfortable in a heated office. It must be of a colour which will bear up well to the wear it gets in the woods, on the boats, in the cars, fire-fighting and mopping-up. It seems almost impossible to combine all these qualities into one uniform, doesn't it? Why should the present light uniforms be worn out prematurely by the rough wear and tear they take in the woods? A uniform such as this would do well for office work.

If a uniform of sturdy, durable, dark green material were issued for outdoor work it would fulfill the desires and needs of most of the Rangers. If a light khaki uniform for office wear were issued, it would give much longer service. If both these uniforms were made distinctively "Forest Service" with sleeve insignias and badges it would do a great deal for the prestige of the Forest Service.

Sincerely,

"A Forest Service Wife".

EDITOR'S NOTE.-

We believe in free speech. We even believe in some of the things that our "Forest Service Wife" says about our uniforms. We therefore publish with pleasure the foregoing letter. At the same time we think that, the question having been raised, it will stand some comment from the angle of Forest Service administration.

Uniforms have been a vexed subject for many years past. It is not so long ago that the whole idea met with nothing but ridicule. There definitely was a strong sentiment in the Service that Forest Officers did not want to be set aside in a special class and have attention directed to them on all occasions through the medium of a uniform. It seems equally certain today that the sentiment has changed, by and large, to a definite approval of uniforms, if the right type can be supplied.

The present-day uniform is a first attempt, which no one believed would prove to be perfect, or near perfect, and admittedly it leaves much to be desired. It must be remembered, however, that it is designed as an experiment, and exclusively as a work uniform. As such, it would be hard to improve on the quality of the cloth. This reporter has heard it stated that a better cloth can be secured at half the price in any department store in the land. This definitely is a prize exaggeration. The cloth, a very special weave developed for the United States Army, is difficult to secure, is of very high quality, and would be hard to improve on. The colour probably is too light, but, if you had searched for materials, you would doubtless have been amazed, along with us, at how little interested the factories appear to be in a piffling order of a mere \$10,000.00 worth of cloth. You take what you get and like it.

Rank and service badges on the uniform appear to be at about the same stage today as the uniform itself was a few years ago. We have no doubt that the staff will favour both rank and service badges in the course of time, but certainly we are unable to discover any great desire for them for the present.

With the dilapidation and stingy quartermaster charges, we are inclined to take issue. The present quota is four pairs of trousers, four shirts and two jackets. Personally, we have never yet been able to afford four pairs of overalls around home, and feel that, with this supply, we could manage, by using the frayed cuffs for the dirty jobs, to keep reasonably spick and span on other occasions.

One of our great difficulties is the number of "if's" that enter into the problem. If we could get all the staff to agree on the most desirable design of uniform, if we could find dealers who would supply us with what we order, if we could have all the money we would like to have at our disposal, if the staff would stand for rank and service badges, if you could make the uniform both warm in winter and cool in summer, and if you could get a uniform of a cloth that would be sturdy and durable, dainty and attractive, our difficulties doubtless would have been solved long ago. Under the circumstances, at least we have a uniform, and we think that we can look forward with some confidence to having it improved, on experience, in design, value, and presentability.

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The Public Relations Division and Editorial Staff of the Newsletter wish you all the MERRIEST OF CHRISTMASES and the HAPPIEST OF NEW YEARS!

Many thanks for your continued co-operation -

*Eric
Paul
Anna
Dick
Lance
Rex
Normie
Bob
Teg
Rusty
Mimi
David*



SEYMOUR
PARK