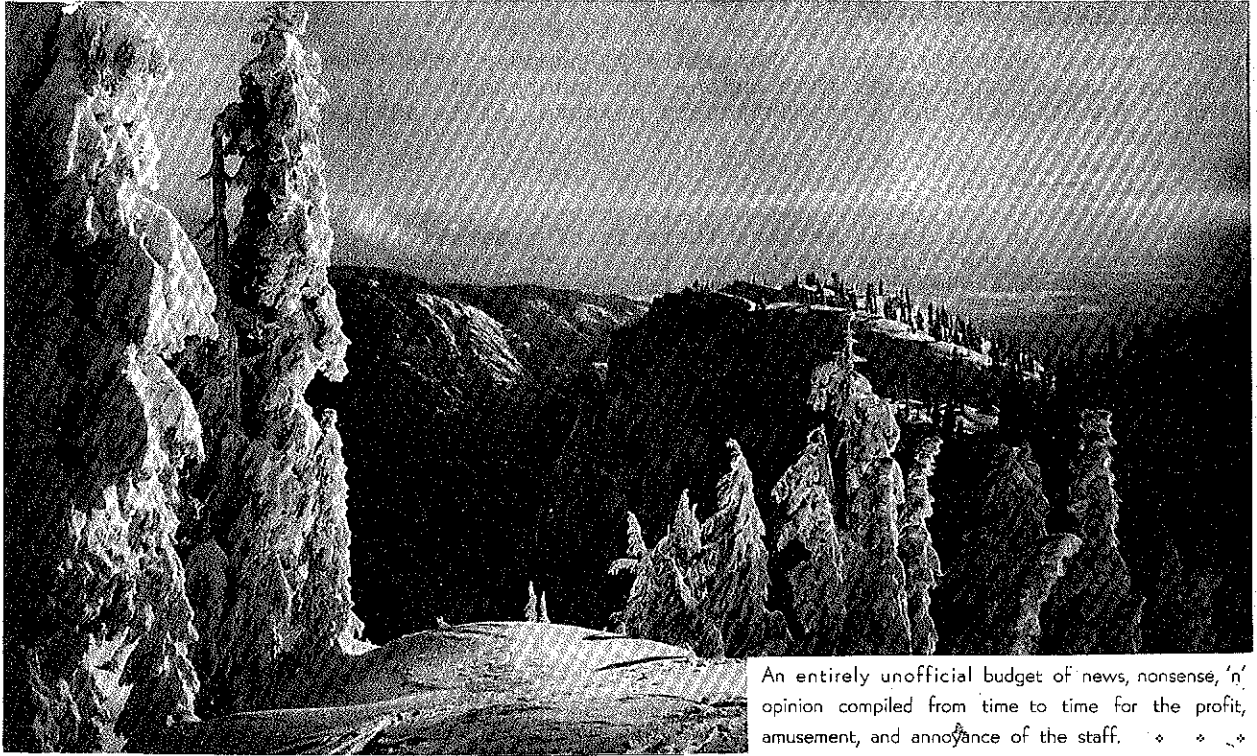


JAN 23 1953

FOREST SERVICE NEWSLETTER



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

No. 114

VICTORIA, B.C.

JANUARY, 1953.

THE FOREST COUNSEL

by Clarence Cooper

Our Public Relations Division initiated the programme of asking each Division to supply an article on the function and work of that Division. In due course, such a request was received with the suggested title of, "The Work of the Forest Counsel". As this title was ambiguous in that it could be interpreted as something vague, derogatory, sarcastic, contemptuous, or laudatory, it was deemed advisable to entitle this opus with the neutral title as now appears.

For those who are unaware of the geographical position of the Forest Counsel's office, you can find it by entering on the blind corridor that leads to the front door that is perpetually locked on the main floor at the front of the Buildings. The office itself is noted for the arch across one end. This "Hall of Fame" overlooks the wide front steps and, along with such annoyances as tourists yelling through the window their inquiry of how to get into the Buildings, provides an excellent view of all the great events which occur on the front steps.

Now that you have read this far, you should be warned that the reading from now on is going to be very dry, so that you can stop now if you wish.

The functions of the Forest Counsel are as varied as the activities of the Forest Service. There is nothing of a routine nature and every problem is different so that, in short, everything has to be dealt with on its own merits. That is the reason why the answer you receive to your inquiry may seem inconsistent with a previous one on what appears to be similar facts.

Primarily the Forest Counsel's function is that of advising on the legal situation of every problem of the Forest Service and, when occasion demands, to consult with the Solicitors of the Attorney-General's Department.

There are three types of problems:

- (a) Those which involve policy only.
- (b) Those which are of a strictly legal nature.
- (c) Those of mixed policy and law.

Matters which involve policy only should be answered by the head of the Division concerned and on all others the Forest Counsel should be consulted. However, if there is any doubt, the Forest Counsel should be consulted anyway.

To give you some conception of the specific matters dealt with by the Forest Counsel, these can be divided into four categories.

- (a) Legal interpretations.

The majority of inquiries are questions on the interpretation of sections of the "Forest Act", other statutes and regulations. Legal wording is rather difficult for the ordinary person to understand. The words used in the sections of an Act are selected to capture a certain legal thought, and their arrangement compounds the legal thoughts to convey the meanings intended legally. That is why they have to be interpreted in ordinary language. Conversely, the preparation of amendments to the "Forest Act" and regulations entails compounding the intended meanings into legal phraseology. At this point the combined knowledge of forestry and law can be used to advantage as the

The Forest Counsel (continued)

medium of mutual understanding. Fortunately, however, the "Forest Act" on the whole is written in simple language so that anyone can understand it if you can find what you are seeking. Nonetheless, as a precautionary measure, it is advisable to have a legal interpretation.

(b) Legal procedures.

In all legal matters there is of necessity procedures to be followed, and in the case of the "Forest Act", and the Forest Service, there are also such things. The "Forest Act" has numerous provisions for seizures which may be invoked to insure the collection of the Crown revenue. The situations arising from seizures are very diverse and each one requires a different technique in handling the same. At this point, legal training is very useful as it enables one to know how to proceed from every situation. Usually seizures are tied in with the bankruptcy of the company involved and sometimes results in a very intricate legal situation. However, most of these situations take time to work out and eventually do so on the long-term basis.

Prosecutions and lawsuits are sometimes encountered with their interesting details and events. Other than routine prosecutions, there have not been any major lawsuits of any consequence. There have been, however, various types of claims such as damage by our boats, loss of goods and the like. These have been the subject of settlements. In many instances claims have been made in which the party attempts to claim more than that to which he is legally entitled, but has settled on a proper basis. On the whole, one finds that people are usually reasonable in their claims so that no difficulty is encountered.

Another item of interest is the procedures of assignment. The matter of assignments is usually of a routine nature; however, occasionally certain assignment documents have to be perused to determine if they are sufficient. Quite frequently an assignment document will be submitted which is not legally effective even though on reading it a layman would think so.

(c) Documentation.

Another major part of the Forest Counsel's work is the drawing of various documents. This entails drafting of documents of an original nature down to minor changes in existing forms. The slogan should be "documents for every purpose." However, it is trusted that no such advertisement is necessary. Documents are needed to evidence all the details of the particular transaction. Also they form a good reference in case of any dispute, as it enables one to give the pat answer, "read your contract, it says" Documents are required in such matters as the purchase of property and rights concerning lands. Also various forms of contracts are required such as for the construction of buildings and other works, road construction, reforestation, permits, licences, et cetera. Fundamental to all documents is the question of authority to make and execute the same. In this connection, some section of the "Forest Act" is sought as the basis of the statutory authority. In other cases, the Department of Lands and Forest Act is relied on or, finally, the Grace of the Crown.

(d) Miscellaneous.

The heading "Miscellaneous" is used as the catchall for all those subjects which a Forest Counsel encounters. It covers a wide variety of things such as the problem in escheat, writing circular letters, reading the antiquated law on commons, and considering the latest regulation.

Concurrent with the daily work, the development of Forest Law is being given some thought. Naturally, precedents have to be noted for future reference, as well as back-tracking on reported legal decisions. In this way all the legal decisions will be available from which forestry jurisprudence could be evolved. Maybe twenty-five years hence the science of forest jurisprudence will be a topic appearing in the Newsletter.

... ..

FOREST SURVEYS DIVISION

SLEEPING BAG TO DITTY BOX

(A sequel to "Gauntlet to Overlord" with apologies to Matthew Halton).

The boys came from the far and the near, combining brains, brawn, experience, inexperience, interest, apathy, and appetite. Assembly day in British Columbia's fruit basket, Vernon, poignantly reminded one of recruiting days in the Army. The training period brought a strange metamorphosis from suits, strides, and oxfords, to torn denims, caulked boots, and a business-like approach to "the weeds".

"D Day" saw the boys spread out in their Churchill tanks (commonly known as "A4O Countrymen") to begin the assault on two million acres of the dogs' best friend. Some casualties were incurred. A side thrust removed John Klassen from action with appendicitis. David Glutek and Albert Cohen were attacked by vicious hunting knives and axes, sustaining minor cuts to knees and thumbs. A carefully-prepared swamp trap nearly swallowed up Coder Reinweber, but prompt supporting action by the platoon reserves aided in the withdrawal to safer ground.

The assault on the National Cafe occurred daily at 0700 and 1700 hours causing severe internal injuries to some troops. Charges of germ warfare were dropped after some prisoners were taken and briefly held by H. Freeman and T. Dupley. The battle came to a successful conclusion with an all-out assault on the Yahk Forest, in which all troops conducted themselves with conspicuous gallantry and disregard for

Sleeping Bag to Ditty Box (continued)

sidehills. Lau Wing Lau, missing in action on the Sundown Creek sector, was the object of a vigorous search by M. Zacharkiw and company and was later found reclining in rear echelon, having fought his way out alone.

Riley's rearguard action with the "Zulu Crew" brought tallying action to a close on all sectors.

Despite the heavy going of the campaign, the boys were mustered out to University Street and office duty with no little regret.

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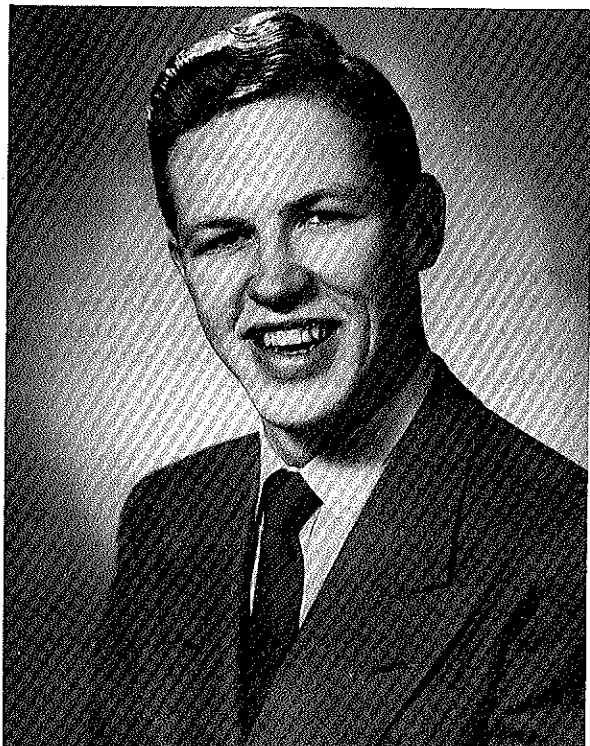


Crowded Quarters?No-o-o-o-o-o! All the room in the world! A homey little scene in a corner of Forest Surveys' quarters in Victoria. It takes a lot of people to translate the field notes on the 35,000,000 acres covered during the past summer season.

*** **

JIM McWILLIAMS - RHODES SCHOLAR

All members of the Forest Service were much pleased to learn of the great honour that has come to James Frederick McWilliams, only son of Harold McWilliams, Forester-in-Charge of our Reforestation Division, in his selection as a Rhodes Scholar.



Jim McWilliams

Jim McWilliams really qualifies for the "local boy makes good" story because not only was he born, brought up, and educated in British Columbia, but he also has worked each summer for the Forest Service in various capacities.

Jim was born in Vancouver on December 9, 1930. He attended Sir James Douglas School, Victoria High School, and Victoria College, entering the University of British Columbia in 1949 from where he will graduate in Forestry in May of this year. He will be the only Canadian Forestry graduate in history to be selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

While at University, Jim has not only been an outstanding student but also a participant in many other school activities, being a member of the U.B.C. Thunderbird Rugby Team and President of the Forest Club.

During the school holiday periods, Jim has held a number of jobs with the Forest Service over the past few years, doing everything from bull-cooking at the Cowichan Lake Experiment Station to working as a planter on various reforestation projects during his Easter holidays. For the last two summers he was in the field with Forest Surveys' crews.

Jim intends to work in the woods again this summer before leaving for England in September. He has applied for entry to St. John's College, Oxford, which is closely

NEWSLETTER

4.

Jim McWilliams - Rhodes Scholar (continued)

associated with the Imperial Forestry Institute.

We're proud of you, Jim McWilliams. We congratulate you, Harold and Mrs. McWilliams, for your part in bringing this great honour to British Columbia and the Forestry Profession.

*** **

VANCOUVER DISTRICT

An Idea

Following is an idea, discovered while thumbing through the accumulation of contributed data on our Newsletter file - as good at one time of the year as it may or may not be at another, but brought to attention by the "spirited" season just past.

If you cannot refrain from drinking, why not start a saloon in your own home? Be the only customer and you will not have to buy a licence. Give your wife \$55.00 to buy a case of whisky. There are 240 snorts in a case. Buy all of your drinks from your wife at 60¢ a snort and, in 12 days, when the case is gone, your wife will have \$89.00 to put in the bank and will have \$55.00 to start in business again.

If you live 10 years and continue to buy all your liquor from your wife, and then die in your boots from the snakes, your widow will have \$27,085.37 on deposit, enough to bury you respectfully, bring up your children, pay off the mortgage on the house, marry a decent man, and forget she ever knew you.

*** **

Hatched

To Acting Ranger R.J. Bob Rourke and Mrs. Rourke, of Powell River, a SON, Wayne Robert, on September 20, 1952.

To Ranger K.A. McKenzie and Mrs. McKenzie, of Thurston Bay, a DAUGHTER, Mary Elizabeth, in St. Joseph's Hospital, Victoria, on November 19, 1952.

To Ranger J.H. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson, of Mission, a SON, Jon James, on December 18, 1952.

To Assistant Ranger S.B. Hollinshead and Mrs. Hollinshead, a DAUGHTER, Joyce Ellen, on October 18, 1952.

*** **

Matched

On Wednesday, December 3, 1952, Harley Norbing, Acting Ranger, Powell River, B.C., and Alice Oeuvray, of Langley Prairie, B.C., were married in Vancouver.

The very best of luck, Alice and Harley.

*** **

Parting

The closing of 1952 marks the resigning from the Scaling Department of Mrs. D.E. Sanderson (Deena Gyves). Deena is moving to Duncan where she will begin working for the National Employment Service immediately after the New Year holidays, and where she will be much closer to her "hubby" scaler. The very best wishes for good fortune to you, Deena.

*** **

Illness

We report, regretfully, that several staff members have had the brightness of the Christmas festive season dimmed by illness; Jim Atkins is confined to his home; Herb. Eliason, incapacitated in St. Paul's Hospital; and Bill Crassweller, forced away from work through injury. All, we understand, are recuperating satisfactorily. Gifts from the staff were made, with the hope that their mood might be brightened and period of sickness shortened.

Also, on the pleasant note of satisfactory convalescence, we are extremely pleased to report that Don Power of headquarters cruising party, a victim of polio last November, as reported in our December issue, although still a pretty sick lad, was well enough to leave the hospital for a few hours and spend Christmas Day appropriately at home with his family. Nice going, Don, keep up the good work.

*** **

As things are at the present time, the 65-year-mile-post along the road of life presents to us, as government employees, the opportunity, other conditions permitting, to pause, adjust, and adapt ourselves to a manner of living that can be the most enjoyable of any.

During the forthcoming year, some of the real veterans of the Forest Service will be retiring from their present positions in the Vancouver District Office. The retirement of Mr. Charles F. Holmes might be thought of as the first in this group. On this occasion a farewell party for Mr. Holmes was held at Green Timbers Ranger School on November 28, 1952.

It is not always the case that the splendour of an event is a true reflection of the importance and dignity of the occasion. However, such was the case this time. All those who are in a position to appreciate Charlie Holmes' devoted and valuable service and who were present at the farewell party given in his honour are, we believe, satisfied that the admiration and respect due to him were well voiced in the enthusiasm of the party, highlighted by Mr. Holmes' farewell address.

Vancouver District (continued)

FAREWELL PARTY FOR CHARLIE HOLMES

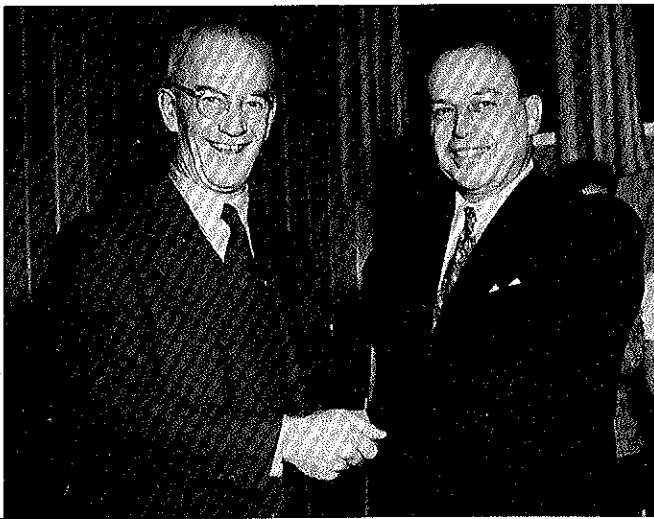
It was a nice party. Doug Taylor thought it up. Jim Pedley was the gracious host. A committee, which included Doreen Weller, Sheila Mitchell, Terry Foster, Archie Robb, and Ray Wilson helped prepare a buffet supper. Two chartered buses rounded out the transportation, and the attendance was 100 or thereabout, when friends and associates gathered for a presentation of mementos by the Chief Forester to lower-Coast members of the Forest Service, and to spend a social hour.

In addition to members of Victoria and Vancouver offices, Ranger staff, Marine Station, Radio, and Ranger School, some ex-members of the Forest Service were present - Mr. C.J. Haddon and Mrs. Haddon, Mr. E.E. (Mike) Gregg and Mrs. Gregg, Cecil Frampton, and Jack Fetherstonhaugh. Others, who were unable to attend, sent messages of good wishes.

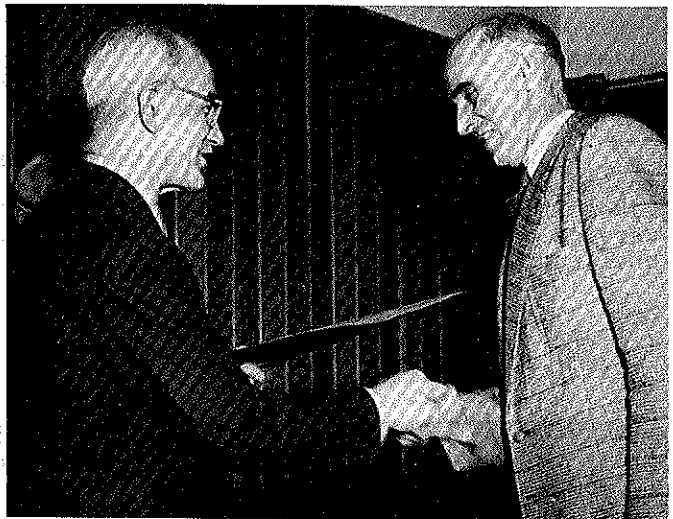
Art Stringer, of the golden voice, sang two old favourites when called upon by the Master of Ceremonies, Doug Taylor. It was noticed at this time that Doug had a bell, (the sort of hand-bell used at town meetings) but the gathering was so orderly that it apparently occurred to somebody that he could get along quite well without it.

25-Year Pin Awards

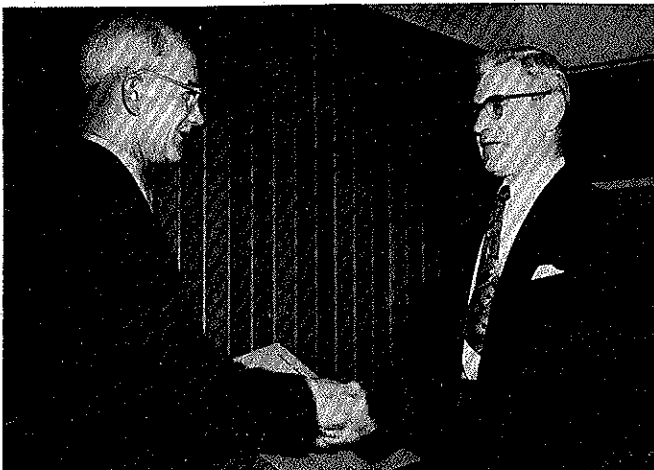
The next order of business was the presentation by Dr. Orchard of the emblematic pin and certificate in testimony of 25 years honourable service to each of the following:- Miss Gladys Gammon, Art Stringer, Jim Atkins, Bert Dunn, Jack Templeman, and (in absentia) Bob Little. In his opening remarks the Chief stressed the point that although the awards were only worth \$1.75 each on today's market, they could only be earned by 25 years of faithful work, and their possession by members of the Forest Service so honoured was valued highly. He congratulated the recipients accordingly.



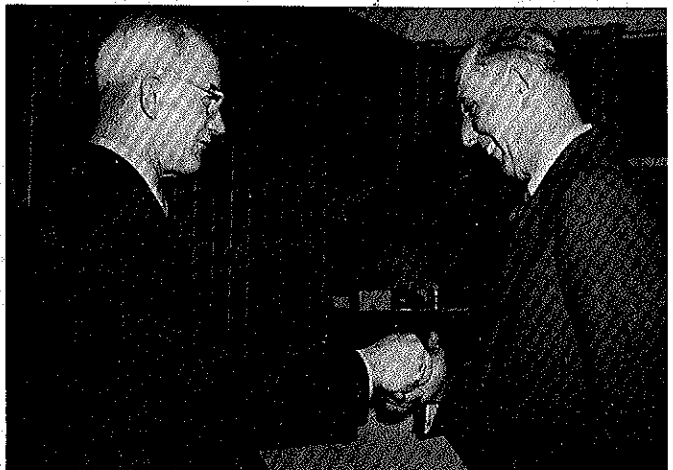
Dr. Orchard and Art Stringer



..... Jim Atkins



..... Bert Dunn



..... Jack Templeman

Presentation to Charlie Holmes

At this stage of the evening's programme, Dr. Orchard announced that it gave him great pleasure, acting on behalf of those present and numerous other friends who were unable to attend, to offer best wishes to C.F. (Charlie) Holmes on his retirement after nearly 29 years' service. As tangible evidence of their feelings, he then presented on their behalf to Charlie a monogrammed gold watch, and a Book of Remembrance containing an illuminated title page and 156 autographs of his friends. The Chief also presented to Charlie and Mrs. Holmes an electric mantel clock suitably inscribed. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes expressed their deep appreciation and thanks for the kindness shown to them, in fact Charlie spoke for about ten minutes, and as his remarks were in the nature of a valediction we have secured a draft and include the gist thereof in this issue.

For the Record

Pictures of all presentations made during the evening were taken by Mr. Bob Golding of Public Relations.

Happy Ending

Refreshments, dancing, and just old-fashioned, neighbourly talking, brought a very pleasant evening to a close, after which everybody was happy to find that the fog which had pestered Vancouver and district on and off for a week, had cleared quite a bit, so that they could get home without too much bother.

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Over 100 years of Service.

From Left to Right - Misses Gladys Gammon who received her 25-year pin at the Holmes farewell party; and Della Drummond, Ena Bruce, and Dorothy Trapp, all holders of 25-year pins.

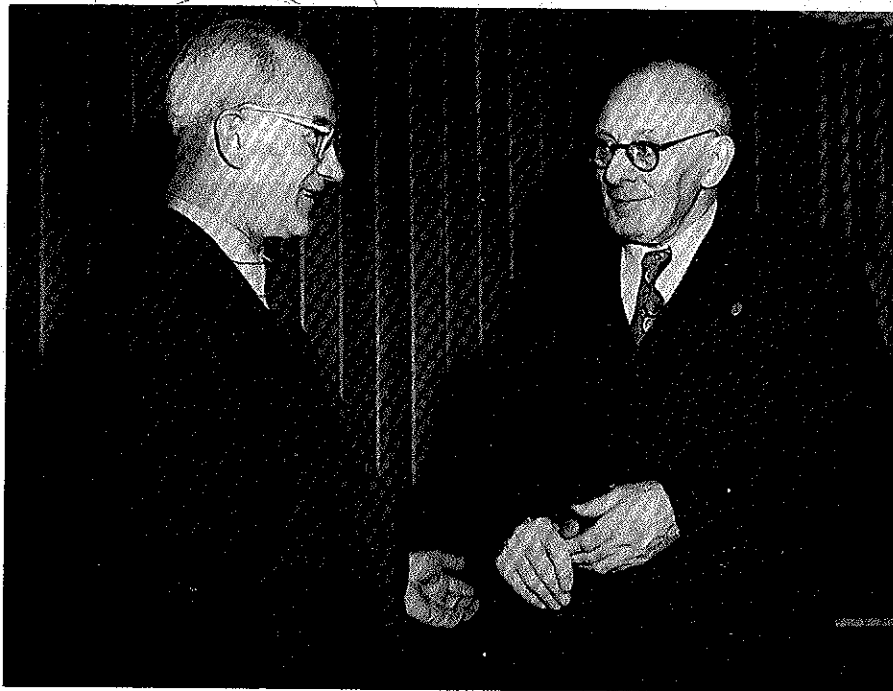
CHARLIE HOLMES' FAREWELL ADDRESS

"It usually comes as a wrench on both sides when an old employee, by the passage of time or otherwise, has to pull out. Rudyard Kipling perhaps had something of the sort in mind when he wrote the closing couplet of 'The Last Department' which reads, 'Trust me, Today's Most Indispensables, Five hundred men can take your place or mine'.

"My feelings and thoughts at this moment are those of a woodsman who has topped his last ridge, and pauses there to look back over ground traversed which he likens to the Forest Branch of yesterday, at conditions surrounding him, to the Forest Service of today, and ahead to rolling country with distant and higher elevations challenging the Forest Service of tomorrow.

Yesterday.

"As one who was a member of the ranger staff for nineteen years, it



will be understood and forgiven if my thoughts turn to the part played by the fieldmen in those early days. Many had served their country under arms, and as N.C.O.'s or officers had carried responsibility under fire. Fighting forest fires was but another phase of a war against the forces of destruction, ---.

" ---- but fire has other uses than that of destruction. In the crucible of the refiner, gold is separated from dross. Under the skill of the armourer, steel is tempered to the blue of old Damascus. Fire to the welder is an essential element. So it was - 'refined, tempered, welded' - the old Forest Branch was shaped and dedicated to the work entrusted to it.

Dr. Orchard chats with C.F. (Charlie) Holmes on the occasion of the latter's retirement after 29 years of service.

"These men were few in number, their equipment sketchy, transportation primitive, means of

detection limited, meteorological aids slight, but their spirit and fidelity in the public service, unmatched to their day, stands as an example to all who shall come after. However, and this is most important to remember, that ranger staff wouldn't have been nearly so effective, in many cases the men wouldn't have got to first base, if it hadn't been for their wives and other members of the family who, before the day of the Dispatcher, accepted and relayed messages; got meals ready at all hours, and sometimes saw them spoil because he didn't come in; accompanied him on night patrol; attended faithfully to domestic duty; and took it all in stride without expense to the public. Mr. Taylor, Dr. Orchard, I know whereof I speak, and would not have been so happy to accept your kind invitation to be here tonight, if in addition to my wife, I had not been permitted to bring along our daughter, Connie, and our son, David.

Charlie Holmes' Farewell Address (continued)

Today.

"Any attempt to enumerate the added responsibilities accepted by the Forest Service, and measures taken to meet them during the past few years, would be far too lengthy an undertaking to attempt at this time. From topmost executive to the outer marches, the work grows daily more scientific and exacting. The office work, particularly, has mushroomed out of all proportion to that which we once thought ample.

"The Forest Service is now a large organization of men and women, and it is no longer possible to hail everybody in it by his or her first name. If, as a result of this striking growth, the tendency presents itself for members to think of themselves as merely small cogs in a vast machine, enlightened self interest should prompt them to think that one out again. Every job is important, and it is important that every job be performed in good spirit and at top-level efficiency.

"What would happen, for instance, in the District Office, if documents were mis-filed, timber-sale contracts prepared without benefit of commas, or payrolls and accounts vouchered with decimal points used at random? The answer is 'Chaos' - not only annoying Mr. Fox, but probably coming to the attention of the District Forester, and possibly provoking a letter from Victoria ---.

Tomorrow.

"--- Standing in the forefront of the industrial and economic life of British Columbia, its forests and its Forest Service will be here for a long, long, time. As an organization, you will be expected to carry increasing responsibility, you will be criticized from time to time, and will continue to run into frustration. These go with the job.

"Responsibilities show themselves as a challenge to measure up to them.

"Criticism is an indication, at least, that you are being noticed and, if constructive, is a most salutary deterrent at such time when, otherwise, the danger of complacency might overcome you. Unfair criticism, or that based on ignorance, should not drive you from a sound position taken in the public interest. Your recourse in this event should be an increased effort along the line of Public Relations and Education.

"Frustration is not an affliction peculiar to the Forest Service. All humans have it, those who function as a link in a chain of responsibility are beguiling themselves if they waste time blaming their next higher in the scale when a recommendation is disallowed. Rather they should re-examine their own work, and make an effort to so present their case on all future occasions that the officer making the decision sees eye to eye with them, unless circumstances unknown to the applicant order otherwise.

"--- As of December 31 you lose an employee, and gain one more friend on the outside, one who, when restraint is off, will be very happy to act as your advocate as opportunity offers.

"That about wraps it up, but if I were allowed to use another quotation it would be this, 'God gave us memories that we might have roses in December'. It's been nice to know you and work with you. Thank you again for your kindness, and for your patience in listening to me this evening."

PARKS' PATTERN

No one can say that we are not versatile. The other day we came upon another new and interesting facet of our varied activities. Under a programme fostered by the Vancouver Mountain Emergency Squad, as part of its Educational Programme, our boy "Cliff" Fenner, has delivered a series of lectures to the High Schools of West and North Vancouver.



Some fifteen hundred persons in groups of three to four hundred for each lecture attended this series given by Cliff. The subject-matter would appear to be most interesting and timely covering, as it did, the precautions to be taken by those entering the rugged terrain of the North Shore mountains, useful tips from an expert mountaineer, and some valuable information on what to do when one becomes lost.

Incidentally, friend Fenner is one of our better human blood-hounds and is very expert at extricating poor, bewildered city slickers who have gone adrift far from the street signs in the wild woods yonder. Cliff was recently flown into Sechart to take part in the much-publicized search for Tom McLaughlin, the missing Q.C.A. official.

Continuing our untiring efforts to give credit where credit is due - we publicize this month, that monument to

Parks' Patter (continued)

man's genius, the little house at the end of the garden. Our picture shows a truck-load of these great little buildings leaving our Langford Workshop on their way to campsites, pushing back the frontiers of civilization.

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A CHRISTMAS CARD

The Chief received a Christmas card from Mr. & Mrs. Stewart W. Willis, Winnipeg, Manitoba. It was a very nice card indeed, but what was particularly gratifying was the following note inside the card -

"Gentlemen:

At this happy time of the year our thoughts return to the wonderful vacation we spent in B.C. where we visited many of your well-kept, clean, and beautiful parks.

My wife, three children, and I camped in several of these and were impressed with the courteous and helpful assistance of all caretakers as well as the adequate and substantial facilities always clean and ready for use in such parks as Englishmans River Falls, John Dean Park, Little Qualicum Falls and Manning Park.

Please convey our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all your personnel. "

Our thanks for the expression of good wishes and a feather in the cap of Parks & Recreation.

*** **

HATCHED

LONG - To Bob, of Forest Accounts, and Agnes Long, a DAUGHTER, Judith Ann, on January 3, 1953, at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria.

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MATCHED

On Saturday, December 22, 1952, Mr. D.M. (Mickey) Trew of the Working Plans Division, Victoria, and Miss Florence Hayward, were married in Vancouver.

Mickey and Florence spent their honeymoon in California and will make their home in Victoria.

Congratulations, Mickey, and the best of luck and good health to you both.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

T.37 - "Comparative Observations of the Changes in Classes in a Thinned and Natural Stand of Immature Douglas Fir", by George Warrack. (Reprinted from Forestry Chronicle, Vol.28, No. 2, June 1952).

"Mount Seymour Park in Winter" - (Second edition, Revised, 1952).

"Catalogue of Motion Picture Films" - available from B.C. Forest Service. (Third Edition, Revised, 1952).

Copies of these publications are available from Public Relations and Education, Victoria.

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MASTHEAD STORY

The Masthead on this issue shows De Pencier Bluffs in beautiful winter garb. If you're thinking you've seen this picture before - you probably have. It's the December illustration on the 1953 Forest Service Calendar.

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