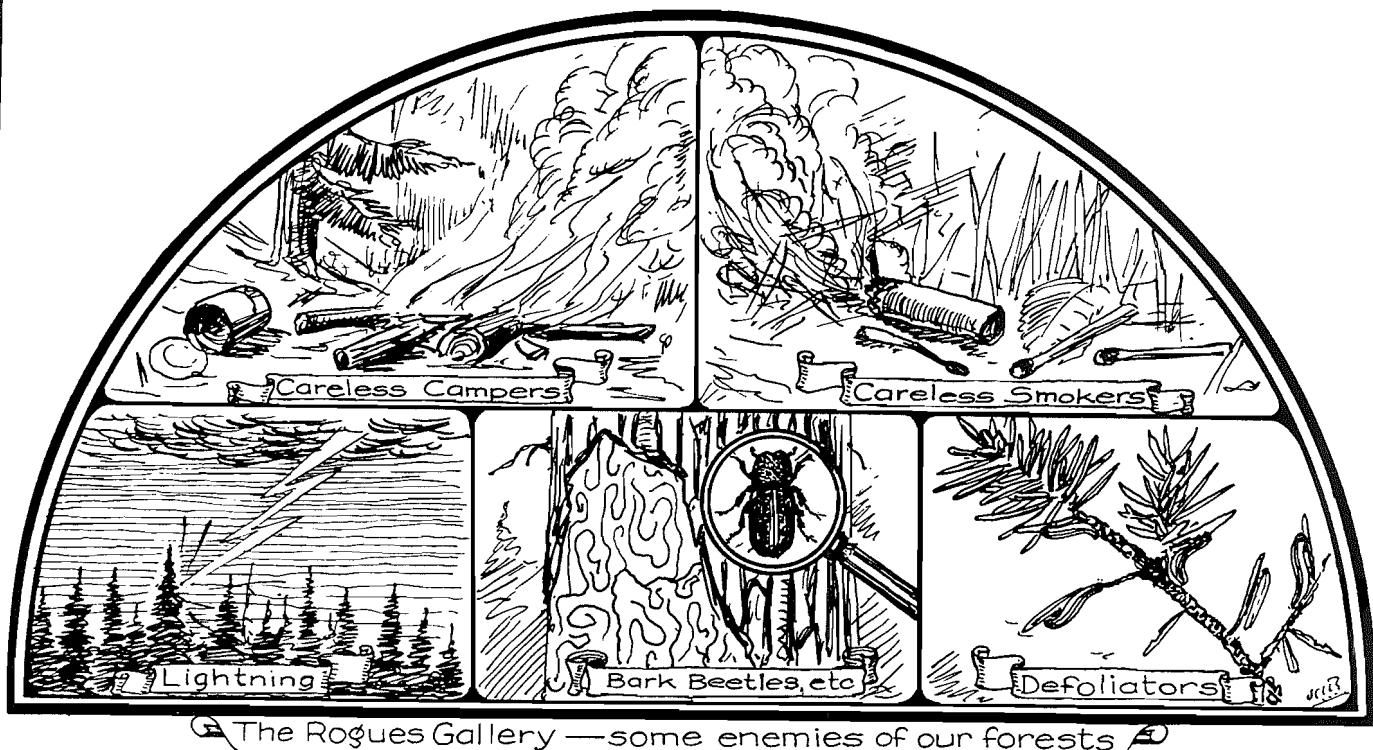




FOREST BRANCH NEWS LETTER

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

No. 18

Victoria, B.C., July 12, 1937.

08581

The 1931 fire season was terrible. We still have the odd hang-over nightmare. The most favourable fire season within the memory of the Branch was 1932. The 1933 season was better. The seasons of 1934, 1935 and 1936 weren't bad at all. With five favourable years since 1931 it seems logical to conclude that we are just five years closer to the next hot spot which we suppose is inevitably in the making for us.

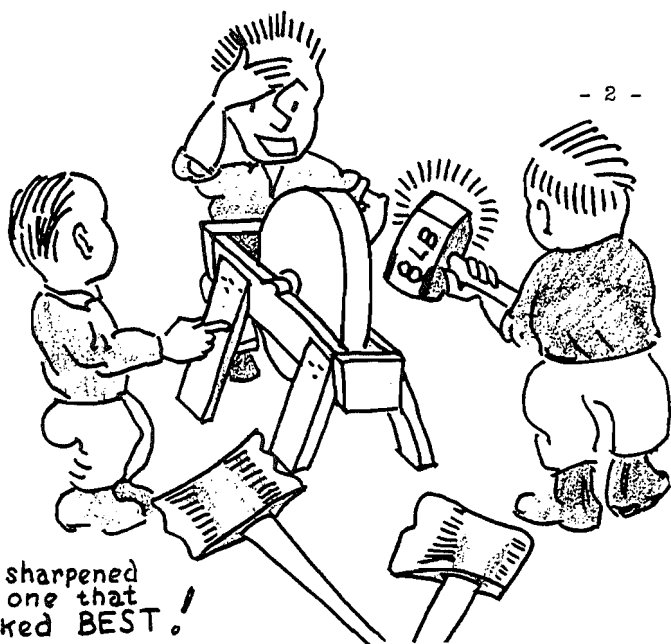
This annual postponement gets us sort of jittery, but perhaps we can survive another easy season this year if such is in store for us. Number of fires at date of writing is in excess of last year and we note that occurrence during the early season has been on the increase for many years. At the same date we had had in 1933, 100 fires; 1934, 277 fires; 1935, 352 fires; 1936, 386 fires, and today, 402. Costs have mounted in much the same proportion but we have had nothing to occasion much concern to date. Recent heavy rains throughout the province have given us a welcome fresh start from scratch and we shall be better able to tell you what is in store for July and August about the end of September. Incidentally (taking a firm grip on the wooden desk), we are advised on the very best authority that 1938 will be one of the wettest years ever experienced in B.C. and one of the most favourable fire seasons.

Snooping around amongst the equipment which turned up at the Ranger Meetings reported in our last letter to see in what shape it was being kept we were impressed with the box arrangement Jack Coles (Fernie) had installed in his car. This is about the best layout we have seen in a long time and sketches are accordingly included with this letter for the benefit of anyone who would like to duplicate them. The boxes are neat, will hold a good supply of tools, and are easily removed after the fire season. Incidentally, they make excellent seats for a few men in the back of the car. We think our artist has passed up a spreader brace between the ends of the side boxes on the floor of the car just inside the tail board.

One of our budding hopefuls, aged 9, showing some aptitude for printing, we started on a search for some text which would supplement our own knowledge and skill in the subject, but without any marked success. Appealing to K.G. Gilchrist (Vancouver) we were told that what we wanted didn't exist but he undertook to prepare for us a few notes on the subject. We think Gil's "few notes" may be of considerable interest to many in the Service. The first instalment is included with this letter. We expect to publish the remainder in due course.

These pages are printed as a supplement in order that they may be detached and preserved separately.

The "Idaho Forester" prints a tree picture against which is—"Giant Engelmann Spruce, located near forks of Bloomington Canyon, Bear Lake County Idaho. Diameter 78 inches, height 120 feet. The largest tree of this species on record." This reminds us of the time we paid 50 cents, down in the Redwood country, to see the "Biggest Tree in the World" and a few miles further down the road saw half a dozen bigger in a public park. It is quite a while since we cruised spruce but we seem to remember bigger Engelmann Spruce in the Prince George and Rupert Districts. If anyone can send us dope on a bigger one, duly authenticated and witnessed, we shall proceed to educate the "Idaho Forester".



We sharpened
the one that
looked BEST!

The Y.M.F.T.P. should be in full swing before this number reaches you. Ranger Assistants have been on for some time and improvement crews will be organized within the next few days. It is expected that about 500 men will be enrolled.

Early reports on activities of the Ranger Assistants include the accompanying self-explanatory sketch by our own artist. We have been privately requested to withhold the names of the men involved.

JACK (H.J.) COLES

Born in London,
England, within
range of the sound

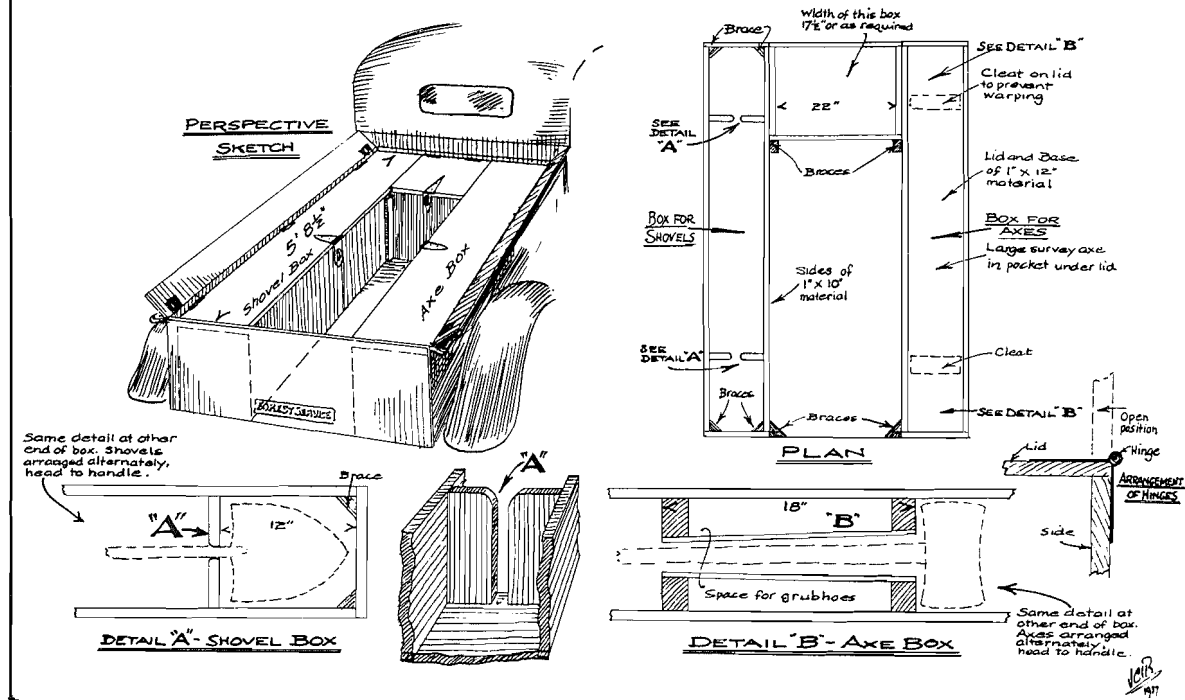


of the Bow bells and thus, we suppose, a Cockney. After finishing school was apprenticed to an artist and designer and worked at those trades until 1908, when he left for Canada, coming to Manitoba where he worked at farming for a couple of years. Apparently did not consider farmwork as giving sufficient scope for his talents, so removed to the Coast in 1910 or 1911 and worked at various jobs there, mostly surveying, until the War broke out, when he enlisted and went overseas with the first Canadian contingent. Returned in 1919 and after trying various jobs on the Coast, stumbled into the patrol ranks in 1923. Ranger in 1926 on the Coast, he moved to Fernie in 1932, where he has made himself a pillar of the community.

A Rotarian. Hobby--singing--holds the non-stop record for the Kootenays.

COLES' CAR BOXES

SKETCH OF TOOL-BOXES IN TRUCK OF RANGER COLES, FERNIE, B.C.



Following the District Foresters' Conference last spring, we understand the Districts, at their own request, are hot on the trail of small and difficult accounts without the necessity for follow-ups from Victoria. It appears, however, that one of these annoying reminders did get out recently and in the private correspondence which followed the guilty Party of the First Part appealed to the District Forester for sympathy and forbearance in the following words:-

"Here's an imaginary conversation that I'm anxious to avoid:-

Inspector (waving Seizure Report): "Say, X!! @ X!! (unprintable expletives) you're falling down on your job. Why will you let these small fellows go to work, sell their cut, and then land me with your mess? Here's stumpage, royalty, wage liens, Workmen's Compensation!! X !! I say--why don't you chase up these arrears before they get cold?"

Culprit: "Surely you know that the district offices have undertaken to do the chasing without any reminder from me. Therefore, why should I pile them up with follow-ups?"

Inspector: "Yes, but--X !! XX !! You must use your judgment. Anyone could see which way this fellow was going to go. Say, if the Minister gets to hear.....(so on far into the night!)"

One of the crack pilots of the Pan-American Airways stopped off at Prince George for weather reports before proceeding southward to Seattle with a full list of passengers from Alaskan points. Radio reports from several Coast cities, including Victoria, indicated blue skies and unlimited visibility. Failing to contact Seattle, the local weather man, a native of Victoria, explained that the report from his home town was sufficient warranty for a take-off. Then the pilot asked, "And where is VICTORIA?"

The hazard sticks at Prince George were placed in a neat enclosure, suitably fenced and protected from stray canines, the ground denuded of all vegetable life and the sticks left to their own peculiar devices for indicating "fire days". June rains brought forth many choice seedlings in ever-increasing numbers and it was then discovered that the inmates of the local jail had been planting seeds of the more delicate blooms in the sacred plot, thinking that such fertile soil should produce luxuriant foliage and rare perfume. The nearby sign denoting the presence of "Forest Branch Hazard Sticks" has been amended to read, "Keep off."

Camper (to Issuer of Camp Fire Permits): "I want a permit to light a Forest Fire!"
What's the use?



Announcing Mike McCannel (Michael Kenneth), who arrived late in the evening of June 25th for a protracted visit with his parents, K.C. and Mrs. McCannel, at Victoria.



And speaking of visiting children, R.E. Allen (Nelson) and Mrs. Allen, in company with a complete family circle of six children and seven grandchildren, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 16th. Bob sends us a picture of the assembly-- "Just as a mark for some of the young foresters to shoot at. It took 40 years to accumulate." And if we could bank on having as fine a following ourselves at the end of 40 years we wouldn't call the King our brother.

Harold MacWilliams recently returned to Victoria to join the Research Division, having completed his studies at the University of Washington.

Returning from a two weeks' round of the Nelson District, Ed Bassett reports everybody down there wearing contented grins while sloshing around in mud following two weeks of rain which definitely settled a serious early June fire hazard. As a result of the rain undergrowth is particularly green for this time of year and should act as an effective deterrent, as far as fires are concerned, for several weeks to come.

Management activity is brisk and Sam Marling has his hands full keeping up with current sales. Pole prices are holding up particularly well and there is generally a good demand for all products throughout the District.

Bill Holmgren is busy organizing Y.M.F.T.P. projects and Frank Pym is temporarily acting as an oculist testing lookoutmen's eyesight. Incidentally, Bob Cameron took the eye test and after successfully reaching the 600-yard mark refused to walk further, claiming it was too easy. And if you think that's easy just try it some sunny day at about 1.00 p.m. facing south and with a nice breeze blowing in your eyes!

Col. Allen is conducting a protection lecture-tour of all schools in the District with particularly fine results, judging by all comments heard. You should get the Colonel to tell you that story he gives the lower grade classes about the time he met the bear and how his hair stood straight up and he couldn't get his hat on!

Dear Editor:

We are in trouble. If you had Dorothy Dix on your staff we might get some help from her. Fortunately, our troubles are only monetary, but we do hope that Eric Fox in Vancouver may be afflicted with some sort of inside ailment. Our own particular difficulty is to pay an account just now received. I guess Eric will have to cure his own indigestion which he should have.

Some time ago a "Trespasser" from Quesnel moved to Vancouver, owing us \$5.25. The best information we had was that he had gone to Vancouver and opened a sausage shop on Robson Street.

Those of us who used to lunch in the former Wireless Room upstairs in the Vancouver Office well remember the familiarity of one Eric Fox with all such shops in that locality. It was then rumoured that Eric made huge profits, profiteering on ten of us who daily paid him 15 cents, with which he purchased our lunch. He did this in two ways: He practically starved us, and he beat the Robson Street sausage men into submission. Who better could we get to collect for us our \$5.25 from a Robson Street sausage man?

It is too bad but Eric is losing his grip--that is on the Robson Street sausagemen--and the result is our impasse, so we have come to you for advice. The erstwhile racketeer not only cannot collect for us, but now reports that he has eaten sausages all the way from Cambie Bridge to Stanley Park, and bills us for \$5.25 for sausages eaten. It's nothing but a rotten racket and I now have to agree with Birkenhead and Costello that the big rogue of a Fox is in truth a Fox or a Capone and the sooner he is working in the laundry of Alcatraz the better I'll like it.

If you'll only tell us we don't have to pay him we'll just say to Fox--"Hot Dog."

Signed "Gypped A. Gain"

(Our Domestic and Business Relations editor is on extended leave of absence. If anyone has any advice to offer Gypped we'll be glad to pass it on.)

Publications Received in the Forest Branch Library, May 17-June 26, 1937.

Summary of the Trade of Canada - Dept. of Trade & Commerce.

Notes on Soil Erosion in the U.S.

Wood-Burning Stoves-- National Research Council.

Forestry Current Literature - U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

The Abstracting of World Literature on Forestry - Imperial Forestry Institute.

Annual Report of the Dept. of Lands, Alberta, 1936.

Termites (White Ants) - Trade Circular No. 36, Commonwealth of Australia.

The Utilization of Sawmill Waste and Sawdust for Fuel - J.H. Jenkins &

F.W. Guernsey - Dominion Forest Service, Circular 48 - 1937.

.02 Grazing Manual - for the general information and guidance of forest officers. B.C. Forest Service.

.02 Forest Conservation - A Series of Units for High School Social Studies Teachers. Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1937.

A PRIMER for the student OF LETTERING

FOREWORD

When one is cursed with the ability to form letters slightly more pleasing to the eye than the average letterer he, or she, is frequently asked: "What book would you suggest as a guide for one who **APPEARS** to have a natural aptitude for **LETTERING**?"

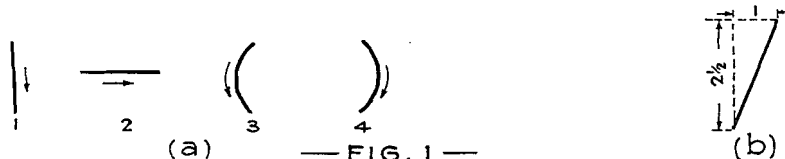
This question is, more often than not, what may be termed—A **FACER**. The individual to whom the question is put, is usually caught napping, for, as a rule, he, or she, has consulted so many authors in the course of his, or her, experience, that confusion is usually the result.

Strictly speaking, there is probably No One Author who could be referred to as covering the ground thoroughly, since, like most subjects, Lettering, covers a fairly large territory and, like most man-made things, is subject to change from time to time to time, i.e., style varies with locality.

In submitting the following the writer has used, with some few original variations, or adaptations, the system of strokes as introduced by Mr. Charles W. Reinhardt. While this system was originally designed for use in engineering lettering—it may be applied with very gratifying results, to lettering in general.

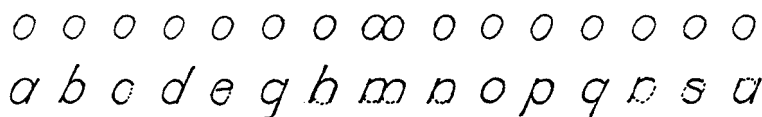
We may begin by assuring the student that there is nothing difficult about lettering. It is considered, by some authors, an art. The writer, however, is more in favor of classing it with common labor, which form of endeavour, as is generally known, requires as its prime factors two things, viz., A **STRONG BACK** AND A **WEAK MIND**. With these two factors plus a little patience and a **GREAT DEAL** of practice there is no reason for the student not going places in the field of lettering.

A. In figure(a) are seen four strokes which may be said to form the foundation for lettering as in general practice at the present time.



As the student progresses it will be discovered that an adaptation of one or more of these strokes is used in the construction of all letters.

B. In Figure 2 (after Tracy) it is seen that fifteen of the lower case (small) letters of the alphabet can be formed with a small ellipse as a basis; the other nine can be formed with straight lines. This method of forming letters, however, is not recommended, but is inserted here as introductory to a method somewhat similar. In Fig. 3 this other method is shown.



— FIG. 2 —

C. The methods given in this article for forming inclined letters hold good also for upright letters. (See footnote at end of this text.) Inclined letters, however, can be made more rapidly and with greater uniformity by the average student or draughtsman. In Fig. 3 the arrows in the first and fourth rows indicate the directions of the strokes; in the second and fifth lines the completed letters are shown; in the third and sixth lines **INCORRECT** methods of forming letters are illustrated. The **MAIN** points to keep in mind concerning the different letters are as follows:

(1) The i, j, l, and c, are the only letters made with one continuous stroke.

(2) The strokes in each letter are as far as possible **DOWNWARD**. The slope of the main stem, with few exceptions, is about 1 to 2½. (Fig. 1 (b)).

Height of Letters. A good height for lower-case letters is 1/16", the height of numerals being slightly greater. This makes the height of capital letters a little less than 1/8".

Note: The above dimensions are arbitrary and apply more particularly to the making of field notes; a student not interested in this line of endeavour need not, and should not, confine the exercises to them. The engineering student, however, would be advised to use them until such time as he may develop an individual proportion which will then become a subconscious function.



Fig. 3.

(3) The order or sequence of strokes is from left to right, except in "s", "x", and "z."

(4) In the first group a, d, g, and q, the only difference between the letters is in the third stroke. In each of these letters the second or middle stroke is flatter than the first in order that there may be a clear space between the second stroke and the vertical stem. In order to avoid the effect shown in the third row which comes from not doing this, it may be well for the beginner to exaggerate somewhat the "hump" in the first stroke and then make the second stroke almost straight.

(5) In the letters "b" and "p" the oval is wider at the top than at the bottom.

(6) The basis of each of the letters in the third group, c, e, o, and s, is an inclined ellipse. The "e" is made with two strokes. If made with one it is apt to have a different slant from the other letters, as shown in the third line. Notice that the first stroke of the "s" is started in the opposite direction from that naturally expected. The "o" is made with two strokes, each of which should begin and end almost horizontally in order that the two strokes may meet in a smooth curve and not in a sharp apex. This also gives proper width to the "o" without making it round.

(7) For the letters of the fourth group, h, m, n, and u, the first effort should be to get the vertical strokes parallel. The second stroke in h, m, and n, should not be started too far up the first stroke, and it should make almost a sharp turn at the upper corner. The first stroke should not begin with a curve. Notice that the third stroke of the "u" is at the bottom, the other two strokes being made first to secure parallelism and proper width of letter.

(8) In the letters g, q, b, p, j, l, and y, the portion above or below the main body of the letter is a little less than one half the total height of the letter; in the letter "t" it is still less.

(9) In the letter "k" the third stroke does not start at the intersection of the other two. Begin the second stroke pretty near the bottom of the first and make it strike well to the right so that the letter will not be too narrow. Notice that the second stroke of the "r" is UPWARD.

(10) In the letters v, w, x, and y, make the strokes in one direction almost vertical, and the strokes in the opposite direction at a considerable slant, so that the main axis of the letter may have the slope corresponding to that of other letters. The intersection of the two strokes in "x" is a little more than half way up.

(11) For the letters k, v, w, x, y, and z, make the angles at the intersection of lines clear and sharp.

(12) In the letters g, j, and y, the stroke extending below the line is straight until just at the end it turns sharply to the left, forming a small hook.

(13) The cross-strokes in the "f" and "t" are on a line with the tops of most of the other letters.

D. Good numerals are even more important than good letters--IN FIELD NOTES they should be made UNMISTAKABLE. The main point to be kept in mind is:

1. Make figures somewhat larger than lower case letters.

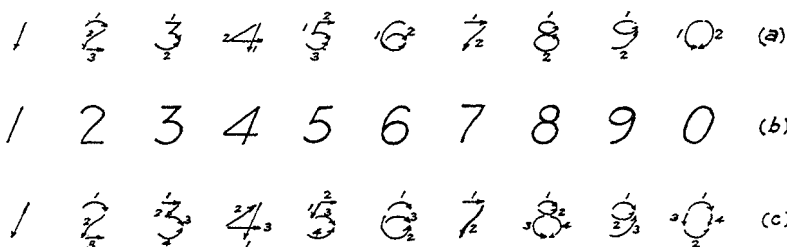


FIG. 4

In Fig. 4(a) the sequence of strokes for ordinary figures (small single-stroke) is shown.

In Fig. 4(b) the finished product.

In Fig. 4(c) a more elaborate or subdivided sequence is shown. These will be found easier when larger figures are necessary (as in titles, etc.).

It may be well to note here that the writer has found from experience that a good rule to follow in the construction of either letters or figures is: NEVER TRY TO MAKE A HIDDEN OR OBSTRUCTED STROKE. By this is meant a stroke the full course of which is not at all times observed. In other words, the path of the pencil, pen or brush should always be open.

Illustration (See also C(6) referring to "e"). Let us take the letter "s" for instance and assume that the draughtsman has never been shown how to make this letter. We will further assume that he begins his stroke at the top right end of the letter; thence follows the general alignment until the bottom left end is reached thus: (See Fig. 5(a)). It is obvious that during the construction of the upper section the two lower sections are more or less concealed by the pencil. The same applies in turn to the lower section during the course of the pencil over the middle section.

A word as to WHY the sequence of strokes in the foregoing paragraphs.

If the student will pause to observe the construction of a pen point and then try to follow its path over a directed course he will observe that the position of the two points are relatively in the same position to each other during their entire course. This insures a uniformity of line, or, an equal distribution of pigment. Again do the same thing over an undirected course as in the letter "s" before related, when it will be noted that the points follow a course of this pattern: (See Fig. 5(b)).

In conclusion, an analysis of this text should disclose the following highlights:

1. That the construction of letters has a definite and simple basis.
2. That, unless this were true, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to obtain anything like uniformity in lettering.
3. That considerable practice is necessary to enable one to memorize this plan of construction.
4. That wrong practice will tend to make lettering appear difficult when the reverse should be and is the case.

Footnote: When the student has mastered the foregoing text, he or she will be given a few simple rules for adapting the rules already learned to the construction of "Vertical letters."

As a farewell remark, the student is warned that--AFTER 20 or MORE YEARS OF STUDY AND PRACTICE--there will be found many who cannot form a legible letter if their life depended on it, but who THINK THEY KNOW INFINITELY MORE about lettering than the student. DON'T BE DISCOURAGED. REMEMBER THERE IS NO ONE BEST WAY.

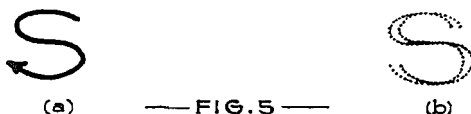


FIG. 5