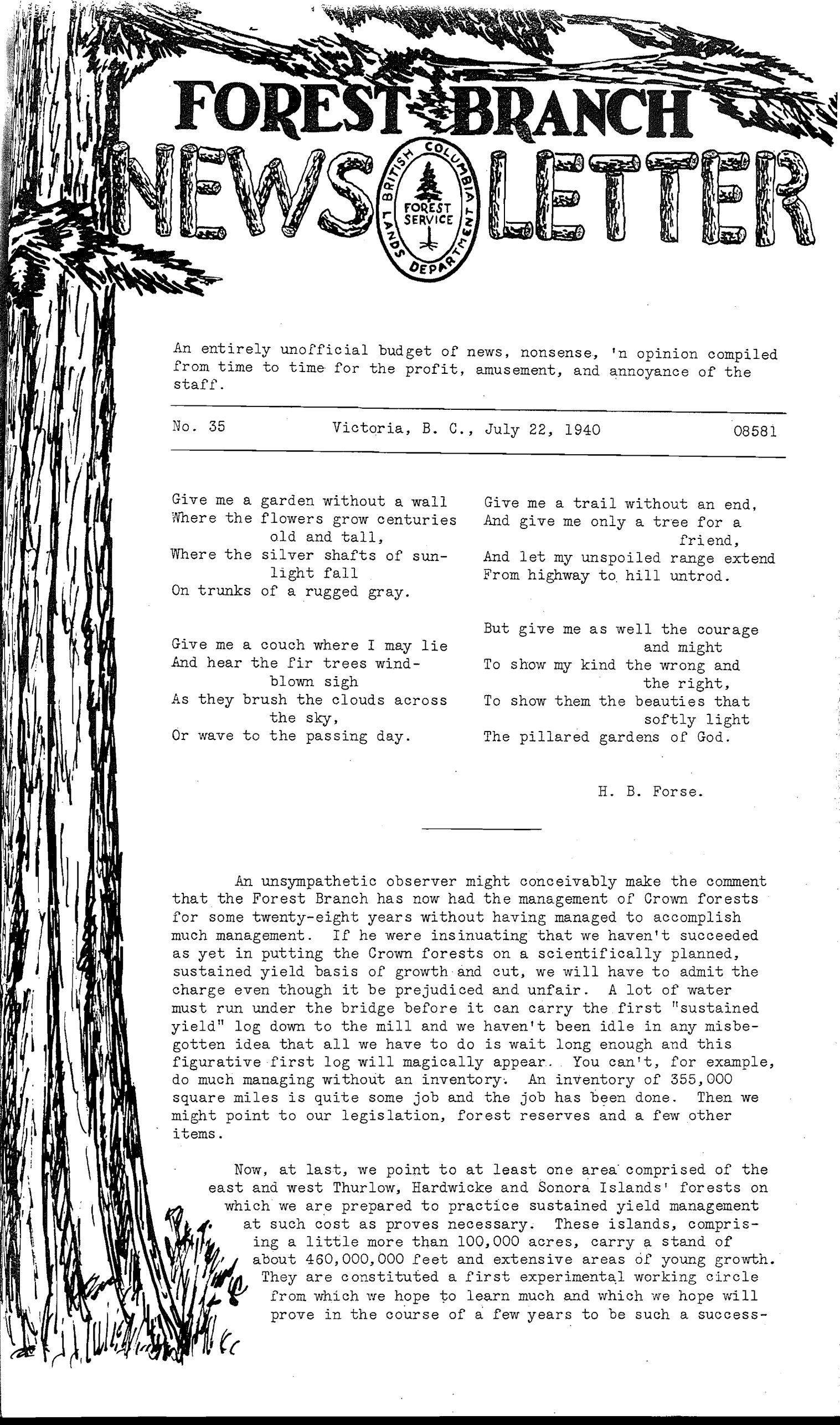




FOREST BRANCH NEWS LETTER



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

No. 35

Victoria, B. C., July 22, 1940

08581

Give me a garden without a wall
Where the flowers grow centuries
old and tall,
Where the silver shafts of sun-
light fall
On trunks of a rugged gray.

Give me a couch where I may lie
And hear the fir trees wind-
blown sigh
As they brush the clouds across
the sky,
Or wave to the passing day.

Give me a trail without an end,
And give me only a tree for a
friend,
And let my unspoiled range extend
From highway to hill untrod.

But give me as well the courage
and might
To show my kind the wrong and
the right,
To show them the beauties that
softly light
The pillared gardens of God.

H. B. Forse.

An unsympathetic observer might conceivably make the comment that the Forest Branch has now had the management of Crown forests for some twenty-eight years without having managed to accomplish much management. If he were insinuating that we haven't succeeded as yet in putting the Crown forests on a scientifically planned, sustained yield basis of growth and cut, we will have to admit the charge even though it be prejudiced and unfair. A lot of water must run under the bridge before it can carry the first "sustained yield" log down to the mill and we haven't been idle in any misbegotten idea that all we have to do is wait long enough and this figurative first log will magically appear. You can't, for example, do much managing without an inventory. An inventory of 355,000 square miles is quite some job and the job has been done. Then we might point to our legislation, forest reserves and a few other items.

Now, at last, we point to at least one area comprised of the east and west Thurlow, Hardwicke and Sonora Islands' forests on which we are prepared to practice sustained yield management at such cost as proves necessary. These islands, comprising a little more than 100,000 acres, carry a stand of about 460,000,000 feet and extensive areas of young growth. They are constituted a first experimental working circle from which we hope to learn much and which we hope will prove in the course of a few years to be such a success-

ful venture that further important producing forests can be incorporated into the scheme.

R. C. Telford is placed in immediate charge in the capacity of Ranger with a view to developing through the District administration.

The establishing of this working circle is a major step in the evolution of forest management in the province and progress will be watched with unusual interest.

We are pleased to have "The Forest Log" (published by the Oregon State Board of Forestry) back in circulation again after its holiday of more than a year. There are a lot of things we like about "The Log." We like its short pithy items of current news. We like - (continued on page 3.)

Constituting the "Islands' Working Circle" a Ranger District in itself has necessitated some Ranger District reorganization which in turn reminds us that we have fallen badly in arrears in reporting staff moves generally for some unaccountable reason.

Starting from scratch, way back last April:-

C. W. Walker was transferred from Kamloops to Victoria to take over special duties in the Economics Division.

R. R. Douglas moved from Nelson to the Management Office at Kamloops.

W. C. (Si) Phillips (and bride) moved from the Ranger Office at Ocean Falls to be Assistant Forester at Nelson.

I. Martin moved from Smithers to take over the Ranger District at Pouce Coupe.

C. L. Gibson moved from Prince Rupert to take over from Martin at Smithers.

G. Minns was appointed to the permanent staff as Ranger at Prince Rupert.

J. B. (Bert) Conway, recently Fire Inspector at Kamloops resigned at the end of May to undertake a private business venture at the Coast. Bert has been a tower of strength in the protection field in his various appointments throughout the Interior and on the Coast for some nineteen years. We will miss him in the smoky days that are still to come.

Joss Wood (Vernon) moves temporarily to Kamloops as Acting Inspector.

W. W. (Pat) Stevens is relieving Wood at Vernon for the summer.

R. C. Telford, as previously noted, moved in from the West Coast of the Island to take over the new "Islands" District.

A. Dixon comes to us from U.B.C. to relieve Telford and "get his feet wet" literally and figuratively, out where there is more water than dry land.

T. J. Underwood is transferred from Alert Bay to Pender Harbour.

R. G. Glassford from Pender Harbour to a new Ranger District headquarters at Qualicum Beach.

D. M. Calder, recently confirmed in the Ranger appointment, moves from Thurston Bay to Alert Bay.

C. S. Frampton is appointed Ranger and takes up his new duties at Port Neville.

All of which brings us as nearly up to the minute as we can get. With

multiplied duties and war service intruding from all sorts of unexpected angles, the staff is not likely to stay "put" for any great length of time.

Since our last letter, V. C. Smith, Launch Engineer, Vancouver; E. G. (Si) Oldham, Victoria; G. A. Playfair, Victoria; D. A. McKay, Victoria; and C. R. Lee, Kamloops, have enlisted for Active Service. This brings Forest Branch enlistments to a total of 13.

In other war effort fields the Service has been honoured in the choice of the Chief Forester to act as Assistant to H. R. McMillan, recently appointed Timber Director for the Dominion. This appointment will probably keep the Chief in Vancouver and occupy most of his time.

E. E. (Mike) Gregg at the same time is acting as Assistant to B. Gattie, representative here of the Timber Control Board in England. Their principal concern is the supply of aeroplane spruce.

Others, we understand, are in the throes of leaving. Six months ago we wondered how we would house the staff. Six months from now we may be hanging out "To Let" signs!

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the subscription price. We like Hazel Hoe and appreciate the publication on her page of what we take to be a recent photograph. Hazel says in this latest issue:-



"A deficit is what you've got when you haven't got as much as you had when you had nothing." We wonder, incidentally, whether that might be a pointed reference to our own financing.

As a matter of fact there is only one thing we really don't like about "The Log." We simply can't understand why at least 99% of all periodicals find it necessary to ask the reader to, - "continue on page 4." -

Speaking of enlistments, we feel that we would like to keep in touch with our own Forest Branch associates in the Active Forces during their absence. With this in view, the Minister and the Branch have started a "Tobacco and Parcels Fund" raised by voluntary subscription. It will be used to forward parcels from time to time to Forest Branch men in the various Services. The Districts have been invited to participate and the field staff may forward contributions either to the District Forester or to C. D. Orchard at Victoria. All such will be properly credited to the Fund. Audited statements of it will be published as often as seems necessary.

The first parcels have already gone forward and it is hoped that we can send at least a few smokes each month hereafter.

Notes from the Forest Economics Division

The field season is in full swing with most of the men out in the woods pursuing the varied activities of the Division.

Ced Walker is in charge of the North Shore Project, making a forest survey of the country from Howe Sound to Stave Lake. Ced has a crew working from the "B. C. Forester" and Mickey Pogue, with Paul Brun, has a crew near Stave Lake.

In the Interior, Dick Nixon and assistant chief John Stokes are making a survey of the Slocan drainage.

All three parties are using maps made from air photos compiled by our Air Survey Section.

C. F. McBride and A. B. Anderson are at Victoria completing maps and the report of the Okanagan Working Plan.

Harold McWilliams is organizing for large-scale planting projects with crews falling snags and examining areas for planting.

Eric Garman is re-examining history map plots and carrying on his usual silvicultural studies.

A. P. MacBean is at present working at Cowichan Lake examining thinning plots and is carrying on other silvicultural studies.

Ian MacQueen has a crew making visible area maps in the Nelson District and is himself investigating the lookout systems in the Nelson, Prince George, and Prince Rupert Districts.

Doug (infra-red) MacDougal is completing the panoramic pictures from the lookouts of Kamloops District.

Larry McMullan who has taken Gordon Godwin's place in the Cutting Plans job, is working at the A.P.L. and Comox Logging Company's operations.

Jack Benton, who has taken over the field activities of the air surveys under the immediate supervision of Hugh Hodgins, has completed a project in the Fraser Valley and is waiting for weather to do a job for the Surveyor General on the Island. Then Jack expects to take pictures over the area from Sifton Pass north to Lower Post.

Dick Spilsbury is out doing soil examination work in connection with reforestation as well as carrying on some soil research at Cowichan Lake.

George Allan is studying the life history of seed production as related to weather and other factors in order to find a basis for forecasting seed years.

"John" Collins is in the Nelson, Kamloops and Prince George Districts revising and bringing up to date the Forest Atlas with the help of Ranger Assistants.

George Silburn is at present in Victoria supervising Forest Atlas cover mapping but expects to be in the Prince George district on the same job. While there he will complete the mapping in the Dome Forest.

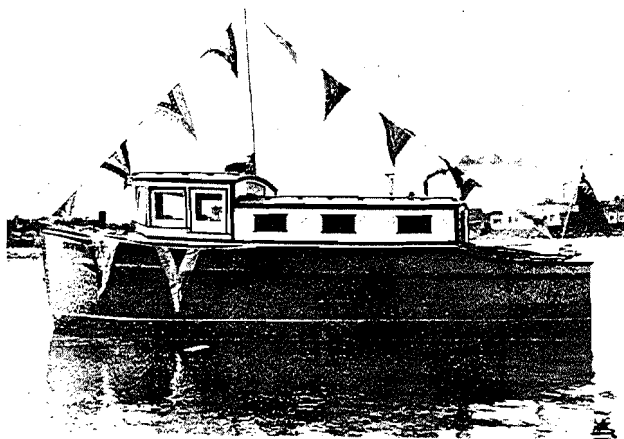
Tom Wells and Jack Long have the Green Timbers and Quinsam nurseries, respectively, in full swing for large scale planting in 1941 and 42. Their "families" number somewhere around 20,000,000 seedlings.

(continued from page 3.)

So far as we can see, it is nothing more than a deliberate device to annoy the reader. We believe the Forest Branch News Letter is the one and only paper published for the express purpose of "annoyance of the staff" (see top of page 1) and even we do not stoop to that level. But, at that, we enjoy "The Forest Log." We didn't publish an obituary when it gave up the struggle but we are glad to see it back.

If you don't know "The Forest Log" we think a postcard request addressed to the State Forester, Salem, Oregon, would put you on the mailing list.

The new launch built by Armstrong Bros., Victoria, for the Scaling Division was safely delivered to Scaler Bert Kearns at Ocean Falls on July 2nd.



She was launched on June 10th when Miss Noel Ferguson, Secretary to the Honourable Wells Gray, gracefully did the honours in giving her the name of "Swifter II" after a short introduction by the Minister of Lands. A number of the Forest Branch, Lands and Police personnel were present at the ceremony.

This sturdy little boat, which is 26 feet long by 8 foot 3 inch beam and draws 2 feet, is powered with a 60 H.P. Kermath engine which gives her a cruising speed of about 10 knots or about 11 1/4 land miles per hour. She is particularly adapted for working round booms, being as easy to park as an automobile, which "manoeuvrability" is accounted for by her shallow draft, her short length and the fact that the rudder is set close up to the propellor and the after end of the keel is of "open" or "shark's jaw" construction. The boat is very serviceable, comfortable and a good sea boat, which features were satisfactorily demonstrated in her trip from Victoria to Ocean Falls during which all sorts of weather and sea conditions were encountered.

She replaces the "Swifter" which has been in use at Ocean Falls for the past sixteen years and has outlived her usefulness being now too slow and unseaworthy owing to general debility.

The crew of the "Swifter II" on the trip north were Captain, Chief Engineer and Cook Jas. H. Blake and First Mate and Deckhand H. Weatherby.

Infant Fire, No. 75, - discovered at back of camp by David Raymer, aged 5, son of T. Raymer, Beaver Lake, Kelowna David got a tin and packed water from the lake, put the fire out, then got a shovel and when found was trying to dig round it.

This fire was started by a cigarette butt, and was several feet across when discovered.

David tells all visitors at this fishing camp to be careful with cigarettes and matches and not to light any fires.

We read that from studies of over 40 fly repellents over a period of two years, the formula found the most effective was as follows:-

1/2	fluid ounce	oil of thyme
1	"	" concentrated extract of pyrethum
2 - 3	"	" castor oil.

Olive oil may be substituted for the last item but the effectiveness of the repellent is not so lasting. We are not insinuating that we have mosquitoes and related pests in B. C. but reckon you might be interested in case you holiday or travel elsewhere.

A candidate writes in a recent Assistant Ranger Examination that a split tree insulator is a wire wrapped around a tree that starts to split while being fallen.

We think this boy, if he ever gets the chance, might equal the genius of another man reported last year in one of Charley Langstroth's fire reports. Faced with the necessity of transporting materials the length of a lake he rigged up a raft, mounted a fire pump on it and propelled the craft with a jet of water from the pump.

The following Property Loss Certificate was received from the Kamloops District headed "Believe It Or Not," with a footnote to the heading by someone else which said, "We do!"

The Certificate was for one compass, box, with the following explanation:-

"Lost by Assistant Ranger A. M. Gilmore who states he threw his coat at a black bear which showed fight when on a cruising trip on east side of Adams Lake near Woolford Creek, the compass was in coat pocket. I was up looking for same accompanied by Mr. C. D. Orchard and Gilmore but owing to the dense brush was unable to find any trace of either coat or compass."

The only reason we can think of why the Ranger and Assistant Ranger, with the able assistance of the Assistant Chief Forester, could not find the coat with the compass is that the bear is probably wearing it and running cruise lines on the proper bear-ing through his berry patches.

R. H. Chestnut of the Scaling Staff sends us the following which will be of interest to the many in the Service who are familiar with Jericho Beach. He says, -

"These lines were written from a story told to me by Mr. Jim Scott and are as related to him by an old timberman, (sorry to have forgotten his name), who claims the present 'Jericho,' Vancouver, derived its name from 'Jerry's Cove' and that Jerry's Cove in turn derived its name from Mr. Jerry Rogers, a prominent logger of logs and ships' spars in the years between 1869 and 1877, when he died."

JERICHO
(Jerry's Cove)

In those days before Vancouver was a city,
(When as Gastown Village it was known)
Away out beyond the Kil-sa-linos
Where grew fir, cedar, pine, O:
Just the finest ships' spar show
For Jerry Rogers specially grown.

His bullocks came from way beyond 'Westminster,
His crew, all, were men of skidroad trove,
Jerry held not "moulders' ticket"
But he knew good trees from thicket,
And when his skimmers shouted, "Go!"
Logs rolled into "Jerry's Cove."

In those days before Vancouver was a city
When folks just sort of favored Jerry's Cove,
Midst the growing hustle, tussle,
Romance and out-styled bustle;
Their picnic place of meeting
Often was clipped to, "JerrysCo."

Today the call spreads outward from 'Westminster.
The crew, all, are men of sky-road trove.
They each must hold flyer's ticket,
And all go forth to picket
The skyways of an Empire,
Bringing fame to "Jericho."

R.H.C.
Feb./40

(Jerry Rogers, Logging Operator, at Jerry's Cove
1869 to 1877, died 1877.)

Notice on Forest Branch Tool Cache:-

"No admittance except on business. No business
transacted here."

Vital Statistics

Clarke McBride (Surveys, Victoria) welcomed a small boy on his first arrival June 22nd. The poor little feller hasn't a name at this writing so we can't properly introduce him.

"Spike" Alexander, Skipper of the "P.Z. Caverhill" introduces Henry Scott Alexander, born May 25th.

Late News

The following are reported to have enlisted:

- A. E. Parlow, District Forester, Kamloops.
 - C. L. Armstrong, Assistant Forester, Kamloops.
 - J. Boydell, Ranger, Revelstoke.
 - F. J. G. Johnson, Ranger, Invermere.
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It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Harold (Joe) Smith, Supervisor at Vancouver for many years.
