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FOREST BRANCH NEWS LETTER

An entirely unofficial budget of news, nonsense, 'n' opinion, compiled from time to time by anybody who has the time, for the profit, amusement, and annoyance of the staff. Nobody to blame but the contributors.

No. 10

Victoria, B. C., June 5, 1936.

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Conferences, once commonplace in Forest Branch routine, have been few and far between during the past few years. Last fall the District Foresters resumed their meetings in the short conference at Vancouver, and last month two short Ranger meetings were held at Kamloops and Nelson. Whether these meetings solve any pressing problems or not, they serve a very useful purpose and a variety of functions. Reports from Kamloops and the impressions of Mr. Taylor (Victoria), who attended these meetings, follow. We are sorry to pass up Nelson but have no report on hand.

From Kamloops: (C. C. Ternan)

The Kamloops Forest District held a very successful two-day Ranger Meeting on April 24th and 25th when all the Rangers assembled at Kamloops.

We were extremely fortunate in having the Chief Forester with us as well as Doug. Taylor from the Operation Office in Victoria.

The meeting was conducted along the lines of open discussion, no prepared papers being given, and the results seemed to definitely justify the plan. The District Forester, Charlie Haddon, put everyone at ease with a frank open talk of welcome and this laid the foundation of the best Ranger Meeting it has been the writer's privilege to attend.

Before proceeding with our own business we had an interesting talk from George Hopping of the Dominion Entomological Department and from Charlie Wilkinson of the Canadian Forestry Association. The former gave a very instructive synopsis of his Department's activities in their relation to Forest Service work with particular reference to the Spruce Sawfly which has reached the epidemic stage in some parts of Eastern Canada. Charlie Wilkinson talked to us on our mutual problem of publicity and we feel satisfied a better feeling of co-operation between our Rangers and his organization will result.

The business of the meeting was confined chiefly to Operation although on the last day we brushed over a few Management problems. A line-up of the major subjects to be discussed was prepared and each of these was dealt with in open discussion before passing on to the next. All phases of our problems and policy were covered in this manner. Everyone from the Chief Forester down took an active part in the different discussions and it was a pleasure and instructive to hear the Rangers voice their own opinions so freely. In this way we got the field man's viewpoint and problems aired and he in turn came to realize that his fellow Ranger also had a multitude of trouble and grief in the execution of his duties. Misunderstandings of policy were ironed out and the consensus of opinion was that the meeting was highly successful and worth while.

On Saturday night a banquet was held, 26 being in attendance. Our Chief Clerk, Harry Parker, was responsible for a wonderful repast, and what it takes to supplement such, with the result that we had one of the best banquets one could wish for. To cap the evening, and, for that matter the whole Ranger Meeting, we listened to an exceptionally fine address from our Chief Forester. Absolutely frank, sincere and dealing with the personal side of our Service, he gave us a heart to heart talk and when he was finished there wasn't one of us but thought it the most timely, interesting and useful address we had heard from a Forest Officer in many years.

We were all glad to meet our new Operation Officer, Doug. Taylor, who made a fine impression with the boys, and trust we will see more of him this summer.

D. B. Taylor

The Ranger Meetings held recently at Kamloops and Nelson were attended by the Chief Forester and myself, and a few of the major problems discussed and my reactions to the meetings are offered in the hope that they may be of interest to the readers of our News Letter.

The District Foresters and staffs of both Districts are to be congratulated on the efficient manner in which the meetings were conducted. The line-up at both meetings differed from the manner in which meetings of this nature have been conducted in the past, in that there were no prepared speeches or papers, the meetings taking the form of open discussion. Important problems for discussion were brought forward and each dealt with by frank and vigorous discussion. The value to be derived from these meetings was indicated not only by their usefulness in

respect to settlement of contentious problems but by the fact that they undoubtedly will be productive of real savings. It is my opinion that meetings of this nature should be held yearly in all Forest Districts, as without doubt they have their value in the manner of bringing to the fore various matters on which the field staff becomes rusty from one season to another.

Mr. Manning spoke at both meetings in his usual sincere and frank manner and the favourable reaction to his talks was very apparent. The manner in which he put himself on record was without doubt an inspiration to all his listeners.

The Kamloops meeting was favoured with a very instructive and interesting talk by Mr. George Hopping on the spruce saw-fly epidemic in Eastern Canada. Mr. Hopping informed the meeting that to date no trace had been found of this pest in British Columbia and, judging by his description of the damage done by it in the East, we can hope it never decides to move West.

Mr. Charles Wilkinson, Manager of the B. C. Branch of the Canadian Forestry Association, also spoke to the Kamloops Meeting, and pointed out the necessity for greater development of our publicity programme. As a result of Mr. Wilkinson's talk I am certain that a much better spirit of co-operation will exist in future between the Forest Service and the Canadian Forestry Association. It is my opinion (and I admit it has just changed recently), that we should get together on this very important matter and earnestly co-operate with Mr. Wilkinson and the Canadian Forestry Association.

At the Nelson Meeting we listened to a very instructive talk by Mr. Bill Rae of the Railway Inspection Department, on Fire Prevention Methods on railways in B. C. and the necessity for co-operation between the Forest Service and the railways.

Discussions at both meetings were similar and dealt with many very important problems, some of which are mentioned herewith:

Development and Value of Pre-organization

This very important subject was discussed at length and its value to the Service was voiced in no uncertain terms. Among the more important points brought forth for consideration of the field man and development of greater efficiency in this line were:

- (a) Checking of personnel by field men.
- (b) Checking all auxiliary forces.
- (c) Reviewing plans with key men.
- (d) Reviewing plans at frequent intervals and keeping them up to date.

Development and use of Fire Detection Means.

The meetings generally favoured development of plans to check closely all existing lookouts for efficiency and coverage and to provide for unseen areas in the manner of locating secondary lookouts. Discussion on use of radio as means of communicating with lookouts, and replacement of costly telephone lines indicated necessity for thorough investigation of the possibilities in radio for this work.

Development of Fire-Control Technique.

Discussion on this subject was thorough and brought out the following important points worthy of mention:

- (a) Necessity for prompt and powerful action on the start of a fire.
- (b) Imperative need of getting incipient fires out with no let-up until they are completely out.
- (c) Careful consideration of expenditures in the case of big fires and referring expenditures above average for advice of District office.

Duties and Organization of work of Temporary Staff.

The general opinion of the field staff appeared to favour lining up definite work plans for temporary staff in order that the load of work on the Rangers be lessened and more systematic care and maintenance of equipment be made possible.

The question of employment of Assistant Rangers was discussed at length and a suggestion put forth that they be guaranteed five months' steady employment. The inability of the Department to provide funds with which to carry out this suggestion was clearly defined.

Personnel.

The meetings had the opportunity of hearing the Chief Forester's views in respect to general supervision of the temporary and permanent staff. Mr. Manning made reference to the manner in which Confidential Reports had been submitted in the past and pointed out the necessity for honest and reliable criticism on these reports in future.

Honorary Fire Wardens.

This subject was fully aired and the meetings generally stressed the value

and importance of this arm of our Forest Protection service.

Superannuation.

This is a subject that is apparently given considerable thought by all Forest Service employees and was discussed fully at both meetings. The question of the ability of the average field man to carry on his strenuous duties in an efficient manner up to 65 years was aired thoroughly and the general concensus of opinion indicates the necessity for Superannuation at an earlier age. The majority of the younger field men were of the opinion that they would be pretty well burned out at 60 but were encouraged somewhat by statements from old timers such as Pete Campbell, and the actions of at least one Senior official, to the effect that they were as good at near or over 60 as at 40 or 50. This left the desire in the minds of many for the secret held by these frisky gentlemen.

On May 11th at a dinner meeting held for the purpose, the affairs of the Forestry Discussion Club at Victoria were wound up and the Victoria Section of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers was inaugurated. The Discussion Club has served a very useful purpose through several active years. Its sponsors and officers are to be congratulated on its success. It is to be hoped the new section of the Society will be equally valuable and successful.

As this is being written, organization of the Young Men's Forestry Training Plan is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The scheme is being renewed on much the same lines as last year's, - Ranger Assistants, small improvement crews in each Forest District, and camps of forty or fifty men at the three Experiment Stations. Before this Letter is delivered some of the men will be at work. Residence qualifications for enrollees is reduced this year to five years and age limits are 18 to 25 years instead of 21 to 25 years.

K. C. McCannel is again in charge of the scheme, with C. D. Schultz as Assistant. Alex Gordon goes to the Cowichan Lake Experiment Station in charge of the camp there. D. McKenzie is to be in charge of the Green Timbers Camp and H. C. Kinghorn in charge at Aleza Lake.

Protection staff is about complete. Appointments to date have been made as follows:

VANCOUVER DISTRICT:

Assistant Rangers

R. F. Lennox	Cultus Lake
J. D. Calder	Yale
G. S. Menzies	Mission
F. J. G. Johnson	N. Vancouver
A. R. Mawbey	Pemberton
R. E. Jordan	Alta Lake
S. C. Frost	Bowen Island
L. C. Chamberlin	Sechelt
G. Baldwin	Pender Harbour
H. Stevenson	Westview
S. S. Ferguson	Squirrel Cove
K. M. Bell	Campbell River
J. H. Milligan	Courtenay
F. C. Milnes	Thurston Bay
J. A. C. Denny	Salmon River
R. Conway	Jackson Bay
J. F. Rumble	Ladysmith
A. G. Tranfield	Parksville
W. Waldon	Duncan
D. V. Porteous	Sooke
W. Alsdorf	Langford
W. E. Jansen	Ganges
J. P. Greenhouse	Port Alberni

Patrolmen

T. Teskey	Chilliwack R.
T. J. Irwin	Harrison L.
C. E. Southworth	Silver Creek
W. J. Newman	Stave Falls
L. K. Irvine	Pitt Lake
T. J. Underwood	N. Vancouver
P. W. G. Johnson	Dollarton
J. G. Bennett	Alta Lake
H. C. Cowley	Squamish
W. D. Lenfesty	Lasqueti Is.
J. P. McKimmie	Van Anda
C. Bigold	Quadra Is.
W. Baikie	Denman Is.
S. H. Anderson	Hornby Is.
V. A. Brister	Thurston Bay
J. A. MacKenzie	Alberni
B. J. Moriez	Nanaimo
T. A. Kennedy	Cowichan Lake
S. G. Zepeski	Pitt Meadows

Lookoutmen

H. C. Gwynne	N. Vancouver
G. Cook	Pocahontas
A. H. Herd	Campbell Lake
L. P. Lyle	Sonora
J. St. Claire	Bainbridge
C. Harrison	Rosewall
R. H. Morrison	Little
R. Baldwin	Mt. Benson
J. Parker	Cowichan Lake
M. Gyves	Bruce

Dispatchers

M. Armstrong	Nanaimo
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PRINCE RUPERT DISTRICT:

Assistant Rangers

M. S. Starrett	Babine Lake
R. C. O'Hara	Burns Lake
J. H. Willan	Hazelton
J. McLaren	Terrace
L. G. Taft	Cedarvale
D. R. Smith	Francois Lake
E. Van Tine	Ootsa Lake
C. L. Botham	Smithers

Patrolmen

C. Hickey	Southbank
W. J. Irwin	Topley
M. Fenton	Houston

Lookoutmen

F. Michaud	Thornhill
O. Pagsdale	Skins Lake

PRINCE GEORGE DISTRICT:

Assistant Rangers

O. E. Leboe	McBride
L. Hale	Penny
L. M. Woods	Giscome
G. F. Smith	Pr. George
L. A. Willington	Fort Fraser
S. Susag	Quesnel
A. V. O'Meara	Vanderhoof

Lookoutmen

H. Webb	McBride
L. Levangie	Longworth
D. Martell	Churchill
A. Biederman	Pilot
W. T. Evans	Tsinkut
G. Roberts	Pope
C. H. Flegg	Fort Fraser
G. Warren	Mouse

Patrolmen

R. W. Blackwood	Goat River
E. W. Thomas	Moxley
A. MacDonald	Aleza Lake

KAMLOOPS DISTRICT:

Assistant Rangers

J. W. Hayhurst	Lumby
F. A. McKirdy	Valemont
S. Silke	Blue River
F. E. Johnson	Barriere
W. Adamson	Merritt
A. M. Gilmour	Chase
A. B. Ritchie	Salmon Arm
J. H. Dearing	Narrows
J. A. Sim	Sicamous
D. McBeath	Golden
D. Calder	Revelstoke
A. Corbett	Vernon
O. V. Maude-Roxby	Kelowna
H. A. Ferguson	Penticton
W. Crook	Oliver
H. A. Allison	Princeton
J. H. McMillan	Clinton
F. G. Whyte	Goldbridge
H. McDougal	150 Mile

Patrolmen

W. H. Chesterfield	Sugar Lake
C. A. Garten	Birch Is.
J. P. Newberry	Fish Lake
R. L. Aiton	Celista
L. Gardiner	Westwold
J. La Forge	Enderby
W. J. Garrett	Mabel Lake
W. Allison	Seymour Arm
E. Nelson	Downie Creek
W. B. Marriion	Otter Valley

Lookoutmen

W. I. Derby	Sugar Mt.
A. Edwards	Mara Mt.
C. Ogilvie	BX Mt.
W. C. Stevens	Snow Mt.

NELSON DISTRICT:

Assistant Rangers

H. Barbour	Invermere
J. L. Johnson	Canal Flats
D. Ross	Baynes Lake
R. A. Damstrom	Fernie
J. W. Miller	Marysville
C. Bloom	Cranbrook
G. Huscroft	Duck Creek
W. S. Hepher	Boswell
F. V. Webber	Kaslo
H. Thomlinson	Lardo
T. Laughton	Nelson

W. H. Miller	Salmo
A. W. Jeffery	New Denver
E. H. Hird	Slocan City
L. S. Ott	Nakusp
C. J. C. Slade	Arrowhead
W. R. Colegrave	Edgewood
J. F. Killough	Rossland
W. J. Hale	Renata
J. H. Holmberg	Grand Forks
C. O. Bodman	Kettle Valley
W. D. Haggart	Beaverdell

Comparative Record of Timber Sales - First Quarter

Years 1936-1935-1934.

<u>Estimated Total Amount:</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1935</u>	<u>1934</u>
M.B.F.	77,584	48,723	44,236
Lineal feet	1,920,710	1,868,372	461,690
Ties	344,621	423,328	266,086
Cords	249,017	16,830	22,818
Posts	79,700	44,900	93,710
<u>Estimated Total Value:</u>	<u>\$235,947.67</u>	<u>\$167,154.32</u>	<u>\$138,359.77</u>

	<u>1936</u>	<u>1935</u>	<u>1934</u>
<u>Number of Sales:</u>	455	425	415

The trend, particularly in the coast region, is towards larger sales. Tractor and truck operations are coming to the front, resulting in the opening up of chances inaccessible to the ordinary high-lead system of logging. Stump-age prices are again showing an upward trend with increased production.

It may also be observed that with the advent of the tractor the first step towards true selective logging is made possible.

Management Office at Victoria is finally working into a position whereby much neglected field work can again be taken up. This is made possible by staff adjustment, allowing more time for the personnel to become acquainted with field conditions. Mr. Prowd tells us he is looking forward to a lot of field inspection this year.

G. H. Waller (Port Hardy) under file "Tripe or verse" sends us the original composition quoted below. In his covering letter he says, "You do not state in your editorial solicitations whether you accept verse or not for publication." We don't know either whether it is "verse or not" but are inclined to think it is, and very good too.

The Timber Cruiser

Let me live in peace the life I love,
With the winding trails before me,
The cool green canopy above,
And the cities far below me.

My simple wants in my old pack sack,
And the tall green trees around me,
The friendly squawk of the whiskey jack,
And the settlements Way below me.

A glimpse of the sky through the lacey boughs,
The mossy floor to ease me,
The piney scents on the breeze that sighs,
Through the glens and peaks above me.

The sudden sight of a lonely lake,
'Twixt the rugged hills before me,
The warning quack of a watchful drake,
His mistrust of man reminds me.

To start with the rising of the dawn,
The chirr of the squirrel to chide me,
To pace my course through the shadowed aisles,
And my compass true to guide me.

My cosy camp by the gurgling brook,
A soft bed of boughs to rest me;
A pitchwood fire to light my book,
And I'm lost to the world behind me.

Waller's sentiments, however, are the subject of some criticism, as witness the following written expressly in reply:

Timber Cruiser? - Phooey!

Th' hell with forests cool and green,
An' phooey--five times phooey!--
To poets vernal, sempiternal,
(The half of them are screwy.)

Well, toil an' moil, perspire an' boil,
Stump-cruising in the slash.
Get bruised an' scarred, your beauty marred,
But, what I say is--" (dash) ".

Lay off that stuff. It's so much guff.
You an' your 'warbling birdies."
I'd sooner have an office job
An' a dry shirt round my hurdies!

You can have your blasted devil's-club,
Your squirrels that chirk an' chitter,
Go, drink a pail of 'Adam's Ale,'
Give me a pint o' bitter.

You can have your forests cool an' green,
An' your 'compass true to guide me.'--
For me, a nice snug swivel chair
An' a stream-lined blond beside me.

Our friend Hazel Hoe says, "Love makes the world go round,--but for that matter, so does a swallow of tobacco juice."

C. L. Armstrong is working in the Kamloops and Nelson Districts on general administrative field duties.

John Liersch returned to duty at Victoria on May 19th after extended leave of absence.

W. A. (Lex) Johnston (Surveys) is Acting Ranger in the Prince Rupert Ranger District for the summer months.

F. S. McKinnon (Research) has returned to duty at Victoria following a year's post-graduate study at the University of California. He was recently promoted to Assistant to the Forester in charge of the Research Division.

Publications Received in the Forest Branch Library

March 31st to May 26th, 1936.

- .062 Union of S. Africa - Annual Report of the Division of Forestry for the Year Ended March 31, 1935.
- .062 New Brunswick - Annual Report of the Dept. of Lands & Mines for the Year Ended Oct. 31, 1935.
- .05 The Forest Log - March, 1936.
- Natural Reproduction on the Tillamook Burn Two Years After the Fire.
- .05 Monthly Weather Review - Dec. 1935.
- .05 American Forests - April and May, 1936.
- .05 Forestry - Current Literature - U.S. Dept. of Agr., Forest Service Library, Washington, D. C.
- Geographical Review - April, 1936.
- .05 B. C. Lumberman - April and May, 1936.
- .448 Canadian Koela Producer Gas Plants - Richards St., Vancouver, B. C.
- .146 Information Concerning the Lithographed Forest Type Maps of Oregon and Washington.
- .31 Glare-reducing Goggles for Lookouts.
- .061 The Price Brothers Forest Protective Assn., Ltd., Annual Report - 1935.
- .05 Current Monthly Record of Forest Literature.
- .08 Tentative Outline of Investigations in Canada - Nat. Research Council.
- .4341 Gluing Practice.
- .062 Nova Scotia - Dept. of Lands & Forests Annual Report, 1935.
- .05 Quarterly Journal of Forestry - April, 1936.
- .05 The Timberman - April, 1936.
- .061 Report of the National Research Council of Canada - 1934-1935.
- .05 Pulp & Paper Magazine of Canada - April, 1936.
- .05 Journal of Forestry - April, 1936.
- .05 Monthly List of Publications - U.S. Dept. of Agr., February and March, 1936.
- .461 Relation of Tree Size in Western White Pine to Log-making Costs.
- .05 Soil Science - April, 1936.
- .05 Wood - April, 1936.
- .05 Ecology - April, 1936.
- .4711 Estimate of Forest Production - Operations in the Woods in Canada, 1934.

- .82 Native American Forage Plants - A. W. Sampson.
 - .132 Forest Trees and Forest Regions of the United States.
 - .358 Erosion Control on Mountain Roads.
 - .05 Canada Lumberman - May 1, 1936.
 - .43 Wood-using Industries in Canada, 1933.
 - .062 Alberta - Annual Report of Dept. of Lands & Mines.
 - .81 Livestock Husbandry on Range and Pasture - A. W. Sampson.
 - .84 Range and Pasture Management - A. W. Sampson.
 - .061 Proceedings - Fourth British Empire Forestry Conference.
 - .513 The Strength of Douglas Fir Telephone Poles.
 - .513 Western Hemlock Ties - Their Spike-holding Properties and Strength.
 - .214 Observations on Thinning and Management of Eastern White Pine.
 - .521 The Air-seasoning of Western Hemlock Lumber. May, 1936.
 - .05 Canada Lumberman - May 15, 1936.
 - .05 Climate of British Columbia - Report for 1935.
 - Lumber Distribution and Consumption 1934 in U.S.A.
 - .05 Journal of Forestry - May, 1936.
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