FOREST BRANCH NEWSLETTER

BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST SERVICE LANDS DEPARTMENT

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

No. 28 Victoria, B. C., May 1, 1939. 08581

Every once in so often we think we are overworked. Every once in so often we reckon we are underpaid. Then every once in so often we learn about someone who really does know how to work and we get an uneasy, if fleeting, feeling that perhaps the overwork and underpay may perhaps arise out of some deficiency closer home. Some such thought occurred to us as we read recently of Dr. Lyon Phelps (Readers' Digest, February). To quote a few random lines:

> "Now 73 years old and retired 4 years ago....(he) goes on living much as he always had and the unfinished humanities keep him occupied 16 hours a day."

With the opening of a new field season the following review of the Insect Survey work will be of particular interest. The Division of Forest Insects has been promised our continued interested co-operation in which we know we have the support of the field staff.

THE FOREST INSECT SURVEY

Results of the forest insect survey in British Columbia and western Alberta have shown a great improvement during 1938 in comparison to 1937, in spite of the fact that 1938 was a very bad fire season and rangers and assistants were extremely busy. Therefore the appreciation of the Division of Forest Insects of the Federal Science Service, is here expressed to those co-operators in the B. C. Forest Service, in the National Parks Service, and in private enterprise for making this survey possible. However, the character of the material and the frequency of negative reports in some cases, indicates that certain suggestions might help to improve the work still further. These will be mentioned later on.

The increase in volume of material handled during the past year is shown in the following table:

Year	Boxes Sent Out	Boxes Returned	Negative Reports	% of Boxes Returned	% of Co-operators Making Returns (Boxes & Negative Reports)
1937	401	189	138	46	82
1938	831	467	177	56	77

FOREST BRANCH LIBRARY VICTORIA, B. C.

It might be of interest to know what happens to this mass of insect material when it arrives at the Vernon Laboratory. First of all, the living and dead material is separated, the latter preserved or mounted for determination. The living material is further segregated into adult and immature insects, the former being killed and mounted for determination. The immature stages such as caterpillars, pupae, and occasionally eggs, are separated into species, as nearly as possible, and then removed to the Trinity Valley Forest Insect Field Station near Lumby. Here the caterpillars are fed, each species and shipment being kept in separate glass tubes. When fully grown these caterpillars pupate. Many of the moths emerge from the pupae in the fall while many others remain over winter as pupae. These latter must be protected from sub-zero temperatures.

They are placed in an overwintering chamber similar to a root cellar. This is a small compartment 6' × 8', with cement sides, sunk into a bank of earth. The ceiling and front are well insulated with sawdust so that when the temperature outside goes as low as 8° below zero, a temperature of 26° above zero is maintained inside the chamber.

In order that the emergence of these adults will not interfere with the survey work in the following June, the adults are forced to emerge earlier than they would under natural conditions. This is done by removing the material from the overwintering chamber in mid-January and transferring it to the constant temperature cabinet in the Vernon Laboratory. It is gradually warmed from 26°F. to 80°F. where the temperature is maintained until emergency of the moths takes place, generally in a week or so. The temperature in the cabinet is thermostatically controlled so that it does not vary from 80° more than 2 or 3 degrees. The relative humidity is maintained at from 80% to 90%.

When most of the material has emerged as adults, these are sent to Ottawa for identification. Thus, over a period of years, a very complete knowledge of insects which feed upon our forest trees will be obtained. Some of these cause the death of trees over considerable areas from time to time. Along with the moths and other adult insects, a great many parasites, which help to destroy the injurious species, are recovered. The following table shows the material dealt with from the survey.

	LARVAE	PUPAE	ADULTS	TOTALS
Coleoptera (beetles)	8	6	395	409
Lepidoptera (moths)	1646	148	84	1878
Hymenoptera (sawflies, bees, ants, parasitic wasps)	1544	118	78	1740
Diptera (flies, including parasitic species)	36	1	77	114
Hemiptera (true bugs) and Homoptera (aphids & scales)	All stages		(in addition many Adelges and galls)	460
All other insects	25	5	271	301
Arthropods other than insects (except spiders)	All stages			49
Spiders	All stages			190
Snail shells				2
GRAND TOTAL				5143

Although spiders and ants were noted as not wanted, because they destroy the other insects in the box, 28 ants and 190 spiders were received. Many of the spiders were small and did no damage and it is realized that it is difficult to eliminate all of them.

Rearing of the material received during the summer of 1938 is still in progress. By October 15th the following adults had been reared from the larvae and pupae received:

Moths	263	
Sawflies	64	(700 cocoons of a species
Parasites	47	(of sawfly were sent to
		(Eastern Canada for para-
		(site study.

As mentioned above, the remaining larvae and pupae were placed in an overwintering cellar, and placed in a constant temperature chamber in January. By March 2nd the following additional adult insects had been recovered:

Moths	97
Sawflies	6
Parasites	74

Suggestions to Rangers in Making Collections

In a few instances negative reports have been received consistently from the same ranger or assistant ranger. This suggests that the collections are not being made according to instructions. The following notes may be of some help:

(1) Don't choose too large trees. Select them 8' to 15' high.

(2) It is not necessary to select trees which show signs of defoliation, or which are sickly in appearance.

(3) Often better results are obtained by beating the branches with a stick rather than jarring the whole tree by a blow on the trunk.

(4) Examine the tarpaulin carefully. Many of the young larvae may be only a quarter of an inch long or even less and may closely resemble twigs or bits of needles.

(5) Don't put all of the dried needles and debris which falls on the tarpaulin into the shipping box.
Carefully pick the insects off individually, place them in the box, and provide plenty of fresh green foliage from the same tree for the caterpillars to feed on.

(6) It is desirable to seal the box along the seams with the tape provided. This prevents escape of any insects in transit.

It might be interesting here to give a short outline of what is happening in Eastern Canada with regard to the outbreak of the European Spruce Sawfly, which species really gave rise to the Forest Insect Survey.

The chief extension of the area of distribution consists of a region between Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay, where the insect was found in fairly considerable numbers. Also a single record was obtained from the eastern end of Lake Superior north of Sault Ste. Marie, which is the most westerly record known. In spite of the activities of the survey, no larvae were obtained in any of the western provinces.

The only hope of a permanent check of the outbreak still seems to lie in the establishment of effective parasites. To date over 70,000,000 parasites, of species imported from Europe, have been

liberated in various areas in Eastern Canada. Control by this method will be a long-time proposition, a fact which has been realized by entomologists from the start of the work. The effects of these parasite importations may not be measurable for a good many years. If, however, the measures are successful eventually, an inestimable protection of our western spruce stands will have been accomplished.

In connection with control by parasites it may be well to note three outstanding examples of control of injurious shade tree and forest insects in British Columbia.

(1) Control of the larch sawfly by the introduction of a European parasite (Elk Valley, near Fernie).

(2) Control of the lecanium scale, a bad pest of shade trees, by the introduction of a European parasite (Lower Fraser Valley).

(3) Control of the satin moth, an enemy of poplars and willows by the introduction of a European parasite. (Lower Fraser Valley).

We are living in an age of commentators and, keeping up with the times, we offer our observations too, but, we hope, minus the usual perplexities:

First we should like to comment favourably on the high standard of the Annual Reports received this year from all District offices and to commend the authors for their work and knowledge which are evidenced by their contents.

All districts are unanimous in their opinion that the year 1938 showed retrogression in practically all phases of lumbering and logging activity, but that notwithstanding this, Management work is increasing. By way of an example, one district states that last year all Rangers were requested to report on the name, number and location of all stallions in their districts. It appears our Monthly Management Summary report form is antiquated and due for revision.

Information from a reliable source states that over a period of years the annual sale of poles at the Minnesota Transfer averaged 700,000 poles. One district alone reports pole stocks on hand at the year end at 800,000 pieces. It looks like a buyer's market for this product.

It is reported that a railway company is using creosoted Jackpine poles in the heart of the major interior pole-producing region.

Heavy snowfalls reported throughout the Province. This will probably be reflected in fewer winter logging operations and reduced output. It's an ill wind that blows no one any good. The field staff with Dame Nature for an assistant gets a chance to catch up, and perhaps a breathing spell before the fire season descends upon them.

One district makes front page news by reporting, with refreshing frankness, that check-scaling during 1938 was even worse than ever.

Information received from the Department of Railways on logging railroad mileage statistics indicates the trend of the big logging operations on the Lower Coast. In 1923 there were 344 miles of logging railroad on the Mainland in comparison with 274 on Vancouver Island. During 1938 the Mainland had 67 miles whereas on the Island mileage had increased to 709 miles.

Believe it or not, in one forest district alone this past winter there were 119 operations for Christmas trees with an output of 841,000 trees.

Management Office Commentator.

And speaking of Annual Reports, we have the following culled from various Rangers' submissions to the District offices:

"We caught fleeting glimpses of new Allies in the Field this year and, while it is quite understood that the channel of their responsibility in nowise led through the Ranger's office, the following is submitted as proof that we were not entirely unobservant of this unfolding of new life before our eyes:

Right lavishly is "Research" now supplied
With subject matter for analysis.
And avidly, with moistened towel on furrowed brow,
By midnight oil, perchance, may they devise and cogitate.
To multiply, divide, subtract, and add,
By charts and curves, through theorems to theses, to evolve
New yardsticks, cunning formulae, tricks, gadgets, and devices,
Which, having but at best an unproved value, may be sent
With covering instructions to the Districts, please.

"It had been my intention, when I made up this report to deal with a number of subjects perhaps best described as 'random'. Such as 'The value of affected nonchalance to a Forest Officer when holding nothing better than a pair of duces, or confronted with a desperate fire situation and a lot of windy people.' I had hoped to get around to a word or two on Peavies, Honorary Fire Warden Badges, Brush-hooks, and Hazard Sticks. There had been something revolving in my mind about it not being always good tactics to fight the head of a fire, quoting instances. Neither was I going to omit mention of the fact, noted this summer, that the theory that the S.E. corner is always the weakest, does not hold here; it is the N.E. corner that is most likely to be lost, the change occurring at about M. 23 from Victoria on the Malahat.

"Whatever they were, bright ideas, or just plain headaches, they are stood over until the next Ranger Meeting, or some other convenient season. Report ends." ..... Chas. F. Holmes.

"During the very lean year of 1932 I found it was physically impossible to carry out the requirements of the 'Forest Act' alone regarding these burning permits, but no relief could be obtained, so I figured out a scheme of co-operating with the several Farmers' Institutes and letting each Institute choose one of their members each year, he was given authority to issue burning permits in his district during the spring rush, the length of time for same depended on the kind of season. The scheme made it possible to carry out the requirements of the Act and also made it much easier for the settlers because many times they would come into Smithers probably 10 or 15 miles for a permit and find no one here, which meant a second and sometimes a third trip in for them, or the use of the mail with probably a week's delay over their clearing operations. The scheme worked successfully, but last winter one or two individuals voiced the opinion that the Branch was trading on the generosity of the Institutes and getting them to do their work for them, so the scheme was discontinued. When this was made known last spring it brought forth a storm of protest. Some asked for the names of these individuals who had protested but this would not have been wise to give because there might have been a lynching case or two, but this last summer I have been beseiged with requests to have this scheme put into operation again. The scheme worked successfully while in operation for 6 years and we had no escaped fires and I believe by this co-operation the settlers felt they were taking an active part in affairs themselves and not so much the serfs of officialdom."
..... I. Martin.

"In our Service there seems to be a tendency to be sparing with certain essential pre-suppression expenses, as for instance, the question of telephones or other means of communication for the temporary field forces, while at the same time expenditures on fires, even to a wasteful extent, are permitted. One would think that a more careful consideration of the benefits of small portable phone-radios and transmitters for the patrol force would make it clear that if early reports of fire outbreaks could be communicated, large expenditures could be avoided, amply justifying such patrol, and the best equipment that money can buy. More development along these lines will bring greater results than trying to out-guess the elements by foretelling

fire conditions, or by the use of Caterpillars and large crews of poorly organized, inexperienced labour in combatting the fire after it has assumed large proportions."..... J.A. Mahood.

"I still think certain areas of vacant Crown land could be set aside for cutting Christmas Trees."

"We have only one other comment to add, which was the recommendation of one Ranger in his final timber sale report: 'This operator should have his head examined.'" ..... F.H. Pym.

.....

Since the new year the Kamloops office has moved to new, and we are told de luxe, quarters in the recently completed Provincial office building there. We were promised some pictures and details but they have not turned up. In view of the following several contributions from Kamloops, however, we feel we can overlook their failure:

While raking over our old files during our recent move to better quarters, the following memo was unearthed....

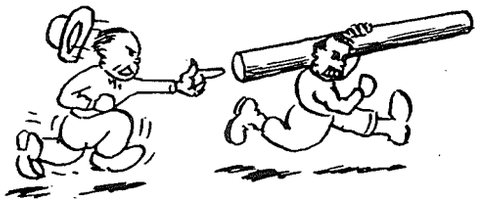
To Ranger C. Williams,
Blue River, B.C.

Kamloops, B.C.
November 3, 1928.

On looking over the file covering the above Timber Sale it is noted that the cruise report shows an estimate of 507 poles 30' and up. It is further noted that there was shipped a total of 508 poles of the above dimensions.

Kindly advise from what area Mr. Hanson purloined the uncruised pole. (Signed) Asst. Dist. Forester.

Unfortunately the file ends there. The Mystery of the Purloined Pole still awaits solution. The Brains of the Office are nonplussed. 'Tis true Ranger "Cym" is still with us; but when questioned a far-away look comes into his eyes. He won't talk. He can't remember. And Mr. Hanson, the purloiner. What of him? Nobody knows. The rumour that he now lives in luxury in some South American city on the proceeds from the purloined pole has never been more than a rumour.



From where was the purloined pole purloined????
The unsolved mystery.

.....

Among the many uses we have found for old hose is as a tow rope. Twenty-five feet roll up into small space to tuck under a car seat and it is plenty strong enough to tow a good sized car. The granny knots we are in the habit of using will not tighten up as with rope. This may be common knowledge, but, if not, is worth spreading.

.....

A Radio conversation.....Not entirely imaginary:

"This is VJX6 calling VX7Tay....I mean this is V6Jay Tay calling VSEXT7, I mean this is... Oh Hell, I mean this is Vx6T calling V7TT T, THIS IS CRAG MOUNTAIN Lookout calling Peak Lookout.

"Hello, that you Bill? Calling Peak Lookout. Come in, switch over will you. Hello, that you Bill? Say do you know....Hey, get out. No, not you Bill. I was going to ask...GET off the air. What? No. Say, Bill, I was...Get off the air. Some Blanketty outfit Bill trying to butt in. Yeah, some other District. Want the air all the time. Look Bill, do you...Hey...Foghorn Lookout. Get off the air.

"There goes somebody else. Hey fellows, let me talk will you. I've got an important message to get through. Hey, gimme a chance. Hello, Bill. Still on. That you Vay jex 7T...that you Bill? Say listen Bill...there goes that blasted Foghorn Mountain again. Say, I've got an important message to get through..Yes, that's right, get off the air... Hello Bill, everything seems quiet now. Listen Bill before they get going again...how do you cook rice?"

The following masterpiece is forwarded by a man who is accused of not liking sheep. It is intended for the News Letter but the betting is 94 to 6 that it will not reach those classic pages. The reasons...Policy. Hidden within its lines may be Propaganda by the Fish and Game clubs. It may not sound good to Sheepmen who may possibly catch sight of it. There may lie a very light suspicion of a hint that sheep (or sheepmen) are responsible for barren slopes. This is Heresy, carrying with it excommunication. The writer will be accused of prejudice (if that's how you spell it). But as Omar, the Tent Maker, says..."He knows, He knows, He knows." Anyway, the blame is on the Editor if he prints it.

Lines by a FOREST officer, newly introduced to a GRAZING district.

"Pray tell me Sir," the Maiden cried, "how earnest thee thy keep?
A Forest Ranger yclept thou art, but rangeth naught but sheep."

"Alas, 'tis true," the Ranger said, "Mine head in sorrow bows,
No joy exists, the world is dark; I'm cursed with sheep and cows.

"My days are filled with duties dark, my nights with anguish deep,
For I, who once cruised stately Spruce, now cruise the noisome sheep.

"For years I trod the forest aisles where lofty pinetop sweeps
The clear and Balsam-scented blue; the dark green mountain steeps.

"Where oft I've watched the clownish cub; the deer their vigil keep,
While slaking thirst in limpid stream where finny elfin leap.

"Where stilt-legged Moose and antlered Elk came bounding into view
Now steals the odoriferous Ram in search of virgin Ewe.

"The sylvan glades and cooling shades are gone as last night's sleep.
Alas! So has the peaceful quiet--the slopes are Baa-d with sheep.

"And though, sweet Maid, I range the hills, no more their praise I swell;
Though only He can make a tree His man can still raise Hell.

"The timber lies entangled now in scarred devasted heap,
The green of mountain meadows fades to grey with bleating sheep.

"Midst contemplative cows I wend and wary must I tread,
No mossy log to rest my bones; the ground is spread with spread.

"The trees and alpine flowers fade and die as Heaven weep,
For how can green things grow, fair Maid, in air perfumed by sheep?

"Mock not my woes; the mournful tale of war 'tween sheep and cow
Has driven better men than I to squirrel feed I trow.

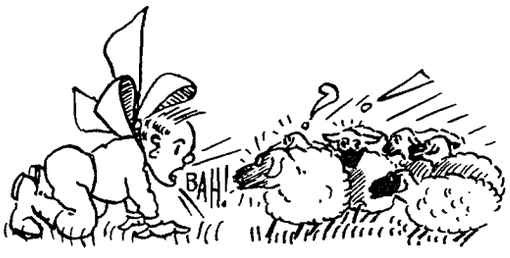
"No jugs of wine, nor books of verse, nor e'en thy bright blue eyes,
Can ever turn this wilderness again to Paradise.

"Drift fence, mudholes, are now my lot. Away the foul things sweep!
Lookout! I'm mutton! Ha, ha, Baa!!!
To Essondale.....I'm SHEEP!!!

L'Envoy.

From Timberbeast to counting sheep,
O shades of Bunyan guard his sleep;
'Tis most unkind of all Life's cuts,
And the best of us may yet go Nuts.

.....



VANCOUVER DISTRICT RANGER MEETING, March, 1939.

Chairman C.J. Haddon opened the meeting promptly at 9;45 A.M., Tuesday, March 14th last. After a short address of welcome to the field staff, he introduced Mr. Prowd who, in the absence of the Chief Forester, gave the boys the blessings of the Victoria officials. With a quick change of pace Mr. Prowd then got down to brass tacks and gave a resume of Management activities for the past year and also gave a clear-cut picture of new policy and legislation as they affect Management work.

Eric "Collection" Fox then gave forth on the subject of export permits for minor products and seizure procedure.

Bill "Sergeant-Major" Byers followed and told the boys how to scale cull logs. Several Rangers had just taken the scaling examination and, during this part of the proceedings, were inclined to survey their less well informed brethren with smiles. We hope they all got their licences.

Ernie Cowie, Nanaimo, then led the discussion on the troublesome and not altogether timely subject of "Christmas trees".

The Tuesday afternoon session opened with Mr. Mathers of the Dominion Entomological Bureau giving us the inside dope on "Insect Collection" with particular reference as to what not to include in the boses. Whereupon Jim Mahood, a stickler for detail, wanted to know whether or not "fire bugs" should be included.

Hugh Hodgins, Economics expert, speaking on forest cover mapping, insisted quite correctly, that these maps are not only artistic masterpieces but also of great practical value.

Marc Gormely, District office, general "do" and "don't" comments on Management reports, with emphasis on clearer carbon copies.

Ed Bassett, ditto, general comment on various phases of Management work. Discussion on stumpage prices on basis of grades vs. flat rate showed general opinion in favour of latter.

Wednesday morning meeting brought the Chief Forester to the fore. After a message of welcome he threw the meeting wide open and invited criticism of present forest policy.

Mr. Melrose then held forth on Operation policy and amendment to the Act which influenced operations. Subsequently the question of rates of pay for fire-fighters was discussed and battle lines drawn up. When the tumult died, the consensus of opinion via votes showed that higher rates were favored, board not to be included except for cookhouse crew, number of classifications of fire-fighting crew should be reduced and rates of pay recommended for each class retained. Another discussion followed on relative merits of occupation vs. ownership responsibility under Sec. 117 and 118 of the Act.

Next morning a discussion developed regarding the policy of preliminary training for special classes of fire-fighters. Stand-by fire crews composed of Y.F.T.P. boys together with prior training of selected men for special jobs was general decision.

Ian McQueen (Economics Division) - "Chick Sale" of the lookouts, shot facts and figures at the boys from all angles. Relative humidity, wind velocity, direct and indirect factors, percentages, fuel moisture, hazard sticks, etc., whizzed by us in gay profusion. However, the general discussion and questions resulting showed that most of the boys were pretty fast on the pick-up.

Geh Ternan, the District dynamo, read a paper entitled, "A Resume of 1938 Fire Season." A flood of discussion resulted covering:

Equipment - from R.D. 8's up to and including Mr. Melrose's "lady shovels."

Closures - partial vs. complete, with unanimous vote for latter, uniforms generally considered O.K. but Conway was skeptical of the material in them.

Doug Taylor, District S.D.O., spoke on slash disposal and snag hazard reduction. Highlight was the quotation from Chief Forester H.R. MacMillan's report of 1914 to the effect that the Service had this problem under control at that time. In view of our present and proposed activities along these lines, it looks as if we hadn't made much progress in the past 25 years. Arthur Waddington, the other S.D.O., supplemented Doug's snag disposal survey with one of his own and reported his findings. Barney Johnson added his findings on this problem as observed in connection with the Mud Lake Fire.

On Friday morning the meeting opened with a brief message of thanks from Mr. Bramham for co-operation extended to the Canadian Forestry Association by the Service.

Dick Orchard then presented a brief message of welcome from the Victoria staff.

Discussion on Taylor's paper of previous day continued.

Percy Sweatman, Duncan, spoke on slash disposal requirements in Municipalities. Municipal fathers doubtful of their ability to exact penalties under Sec. 113(a) of the Act on areas within their jurisdiction. Victoria staff agreed to investigate.

Bert Conway, Campbell River Super., brought up the subject of reconditioning old grades for protection purposes. Considerable discussion resulted centering around the question of the value of "cats" on this work.

Inspector Jim MacDonald then read a paper on behalf of Geh Ternan, who was battling with a cold, entitled "OLO Inspection Policy and Procedure and Final Fire Reports". Discussion centered around new warning notice stamped on F.B. 348 - general opinion was that the notice is O.K. Also wording of F.B. 348 and posters discussed.

Inspector MacDonald, District criminal investigation division, continued with his own paper on prosecutions entitled, "How to get your man" - in one easy lesson. When Jim got through the boys were reaching for their badges and looking for suspicious characters.

Friday afternoon session opened with discussion on MacDonald's paper with particular regard to action in regard to offences committed within Municipalities.

Joe Smith, Vancouver Super., discussed payroll waste on fire lines. General comment following covered ways and means of preventing property losses, employment of trained, reliable men handling equipment and more forest officers on the front lines. Charlie Holmes described his pet invention, a car water-tank, with graphic word pictures and water-colour diagrams.

Bob Murray, Nanaimo Super., spoke on hazards from open burners. Suggested ways and means of reducing the hazard. No time was available for discussion of this subject.

The Hon. A. Wells Gray was introduced at this point by the Chairman. The Minister thanked the meeting for their welcome and assured them of his full support.

The Chief Forester summarized the highlights of the meeting, commented on the morale of the Service, public relations and the possibility of recreational development in our forests. He expressed his appreciation for the loyalty and efficiency of this staff during a trying year.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Horton, Assistant Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Portland, Oregon, who spoke on "Multiple Use of Forests, with Particular Reference to Recreational Development". Mr. Horton, an accomplished speaker, gave a clear, complete picture of recreational development in the U.S. forests. He outlined the phenomenal expansion of this phase of forest use in the U.S. The last and most spectacular branch of recreation is winter sports. Development, even with the resources of the U.S. Forest Service, was unable to keep pace with the public demand for increased facilities. Recreational personnel recruited from ranks of technical foresters but some prior experience in this line necessary. Temporary assistance, for peak loads, generally obtained from forestry school and given 3-day training course prior to commencing work.

Mr. Horton spoke glowingly of the future of recreational forestry. Expects use of U.S. forests to double in next 5 years and predicts similar expansion in this country. If our Forest Service fails to plan for this development it was his opinion that public pressure for recreational facilities will force some other organization to handle it. Forest Service logical group to do the work.

Mr. Manning expressed appreciation of meeting for Mr. Horton's address.

With a few well chosen remarks Chairman Haddon closed the formal meeting.

.....

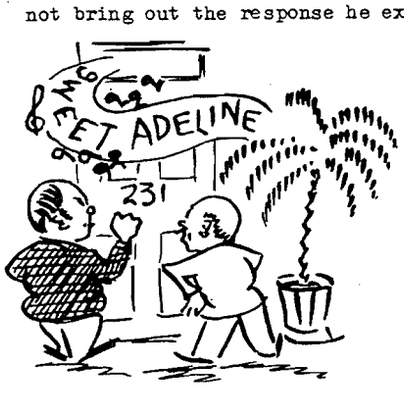
The banquet, held in the Hotel Georgia on Friday evening, together with the Chief's party afterwards in the Hotel Vancouver, were the social highlights of the Ranger Meeting.

Speakers at the former were Charlie Haddon (toastmaster), the Minister, the Chief, Mr. Horton, Game Commissioner Butler, Dick Orchard, George Melrose, Jim MacDonald, Bob Murray and Charlie Holmes, The speech of the evening was unquestionably that of Charlie Holmes, We were all aware of Charlie's superb vocabulary and his literary ability but we were overwhelmed by his oratorical talent. A talent, we believe, worthy of a Grade "A" minister(theological or political), a Crown prosecutor or a radio announcer.

George Melrose and Jim MacDonald were presented with the 25-year-service button by the Minister. Jack Asson was unable to attend to receive his badge.

An irate logger, who looked suspiciously like Ian McQueen, crashed the banquet and swarmed all over Charlie Holmes demanding back pay for fire-fighting. He was finally subdued and enticed to dine with the lads.

Charlie Haddon, pianist, lead the community singing. Soloist, by popular demand was C.D. Orchard, who gave a beautiful bar-room rendition of "Little Streams of Alcohol". The singing, possibly due to the effect of Dick's efforts, was somewhat restrained and Charlie's exhortations did not bring out the response he expected.



Altogether a most successful meeting - the old timers agreeing that it was the best of the lot and adding that this was only to be expected since practice makes perfect. Particular honors should go to Chairman Haddon for his smooth, capable handling of the affair.

.....

HELL, IT'S SPRING AGAIN!

by Jon Anon

Oh let's take a swing at the glorious Spring.
Others have done it before us.
They find lots to say at the beginning of May
So we may as well add to the chorus.
Just what they can see to get dizzy gets me,
They're happy as kids blowing bubbles;
But May number one is when up starts the fun
And we're off to a season of troubles.

When there ain't no more snow and the balmy winds blow,
And the sun stirs some life in the hermits,
The ranchers and campers, the farmers and trampers
Come clamoring round us for permits.
If we have to say "Nay" there's the devil to pay
They wonder why Governments hire us;
They write nasty letters addressed to our betters
And get up petitions to fire us.

Oh Beautiful Spring, when the birds take to wing
And everything breaks into song.
The buds bloom on trees'es and stings grow on bees'es
And streams of Bock Beer flow along,
When there ain't no more ice and the roads are quite nice
And you travel with somewhat more pleasure;
Then out comes the STAFF with its jolly old laff
To find where we get all this leisure.

The Poets all sing of this beautiful Spring,
When the hills fill with wooly-clad bleaters;
But there's always a sting to the jolly old thing,
For instance: No-seeums and 'Skeeters.
Piscatory liars, who start forest fires,
As 'tween times they take little snorties,
And it sure is no joke when the ladies who smoke
Come prowling the woods clad in shorties.

I still can say more while I'm hot on this score,
For what follows Spring?....why the Summer!
Black flies and leeches, fat ladies on beaches,
The jungle camp-fires of the Bummer.
The storms full of lightning, the heat that is blighting,
The forest crys for us to save it,
It's a glorious season for those who lack reason,
But...though this don't rhyme...you can have it.

.....