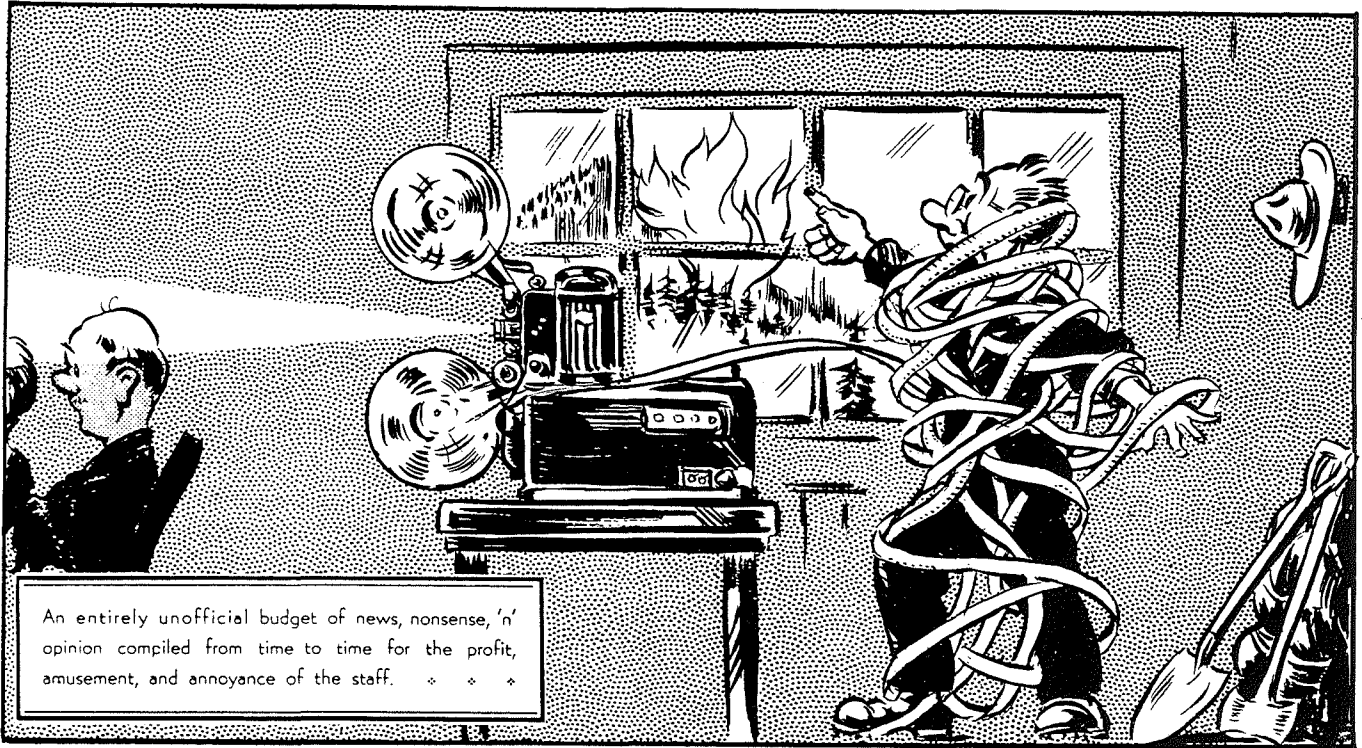


FOREST SERVICE NEWSLETTER



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A WORD ON MOTION PICTURES

We're not sure if it should be credited to Confucius in person or not, but we are sure that—"One picture is worth a thousand words"—is a proverb for which we are indebted to the Chinese—just as we are for the compass. It is, however, a debatable point as to the possibility of the ancient Chinese foreseeing such a series of developments in the realm of picture-making so that the pictures would actually move, as they do today. To be frank, we can see no constructive end to be gained by pursuing this conjecture any further, because what we are more interested in right now are instructional motion pictures in general and those films available from the Forest Service in particular.

To those of the Field, District, and Headquarters staffs interested in carrying on a programme of forest protection publicity and general Forest Service public relations work amongst the schools and service clubs in the Province, the use of motion pictures can be of great assistance. For example, after one has struggled through a ten minute discourse on some carefully chosen subject and finds that both the impact of the oratory as well as the physical components of the oratory itself are sadly lacking, then the projection of a film or two of an allied nature is invaluable.

In order to project a film, the room, of course, must be darkened. This darkening can be a great boon to the erstwhile orator as it affords him the chance to get out of sight and hide in the blessed darkness. Also, it is often very gratifying to note, during the projection of the film, that the attention of the entire audience is riveted on the screen and, if the film is long enough, they are quite likely to forget all about that horrible speech. In some instances, nothing could be more desirable!

Even for those few who are somehow endowed with the powers of expression while before great multitudes, the motion picture adds authenticity to their talk and imprints the salient points therein with just double the intensity. That people will nearly always believe in and be impressed by a film before they will by a fellow human being, could almost be classified as one of those "indisputable facts" of which we often hear. This condition is doubly indisputable if the film is in colour and sound.

Just as surely as this is the "atomic age," it could also be referred to as the "film age." Everybody seems intent on acquiring a projector of their own—schools, service clubs, church groups, and even private individuals. A check on the record of circulation for the films in our own Forest Service bears this out. In 1946, our films were shown to 371 different audiences, totalling 32,633 persons. In 1947, however, circulation had jumped to 812 audiences comprising 57,722 persons! Of the 812 showings, 53 were given by members of the Service, 15 of whom were District personnel.

It cannot be denied that there are obstacles in the existing system for borrowing films and, more particularly, projection units. However; the underlying cause of the obstacle can be traced, in nearly every case, to a lack of equipment. With the "austerity" programme now in force, new projection equipment is out of the question for the time being. Nonetheless, in order to make the two units now available more adaptable, the Public Relations Division has been gathering together additional auxiliary equipment which is designed to overcome irregularities in electrical power peculiar to any area.

For instance, when using silent films only, it doesn't matter if the current is Direct or Alternating. With sound films, however, Alternating current is essential in order to operate the loudspeaker. To overcome the difficulties that could arise from this peculiarity, the Division has

NEWSLETTER

A Word on Motion Pictures (continued)

acquired a Janette Rotary Converter which can be supplied, along with the projection equipment, when the showing of sound films is scheduled for areas having Direct Current only.

When there is no power of any sort available, a generator can be shipped with the other equipment as was done recently for Mr. W. C. Pendray, the Grazing Forester at Kamloops, who has attended many of the Stock Association Meetings in his District showing the new film, "Richer Range Rewards," with great success. In a letter, Charlie says, in part, "The film is proving of great interest and is a considerable help in our efforts to encourage better range management practices."

Probably the outstanding "Ranger-Public-Relationist" so far, is Ranger E. L. Scott, of Revelstoke, who has been using films quite regularly for the last year and at present has a series of reservations extending from the latter part of April on into August.

By way of demonstrating the appeal that motion pictures have, especially in outlying districts, we quote from a note received from Ranger H. G. Mayson, at Barriere. He says the turn-out was gratifying, "some coming as far as 8 miles by sleigh and walking.--I feel these films help to bring about closer co-operation with residents of a community."

Other Rangers, such as Charlie McGuire, who got a turn-out amounting to 65 percent of the population of Canal Flats and Les Stilwell, who has plans for a lecture and film tour through the schools of the Creston area, are also making use of this film service which can become invaluable in the important field of public relations.

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VANCOUVER DISTRICT

Welcome!

We welcome to the Vancouver District Office Staff, Mr. C. E. Bennett, Assistant Forester in Management, and O. A. Coull and N. MacLeod, Junior Clerks.

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Scaling Notes

We are pleased to report that Fred O'Grady has been discharged from the hospital and is now able to get about with the aid of crutches. He looks forward to discarding these within the next few weeks.

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Harold Rayner, who joined the scaling staff after returning from Overseas, recently recently resigned from the Service to do the scaling for Coast Mills Export Co. Ltd., at the mouth of the Fraser River.

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We welcome the following men to the permanent scaling staff: Fred Longstaff, Fred Luck, Harry Hincks, Johnny Widsten, Archie Milligan, Wilf Lowdell, Nels Rainbow, and Gordon Marriott.

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Harry Hall, who has been doing the scaling in Victoria for the past ten years, retired in February. Harry did a very fine job while handling the Victoria work and the Industry showed their appreciation of this by tendering him a farewell banquet at which he was presented with a nice purse.

We wish Harry a long and happy life.

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WE HEAR FROM PRINCE RUPERT

Our "Welcome Mat" was recently swept clean for the arrival of a new addition to our staff, Frank Goertzen, by name. Frank arrived from Victoria in the early part of April to assume his duties as radio technician for the Prince Rupert District. Welcome, Frank!

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We kept the old mat clean for the return of four members of our field staff who were attending the latest semester at the Ranger School. The four are Aale and Wallace Antilla, Herb Hammer, and Jack Mould.

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Wallace Went and Done it

Congratulations are in order for Wallace Antilla and Miss Olive Gordon, of Prince Rupert, who were married on April 12, 1948. We would like to extend our heartiest best wishes for a happy wedded life to them both!

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NEWSLETTER

We Hear From Prince Rupert (continued)

The Spring Shift

We have received word of A/Ranger H. W. Campbell's transfer to the Kamloops District. A/Ranger A. A. Antilla will replace Ranger Campbell at Ocean Falls.

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J. P. MacDonald has arrived from the Kamloops District to assume his duties here as Fire Inspector. At the moment, Jim is dashing from house to house trying to find a suitable abode. We hope to see more of him when he finally locates one.

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Our Chief, Wm. Murray, has added two more wrinkles to his well-furrowed brow because of the uncertainty of the present office staff. There seems to be a few moves contemplated and it's simply a matter of time as to when the shifting will begin. We do hope, for the sake of Murray's health, that when it does come it'll be short and sweet. What was that, Bill?

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Carman O.K.

Ranger Carman Gibson has returned to the field after having his appendix removed. We understand that he is well on his way to recovery even though he did have to return to the hospital for a couple of days.

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FORT GEORGE DISTRICT

Movement--Wow!

Things are really moving throughout all the Forest Districts these days and this District is no exception. The log-scale has moved upwards; personnel, inwards and outwards; and rumours, even in this cold part of the Province, are continually moving in all directions at once.

Personally, we wish the following moves of those leaving the District were rumours but, unfortunately, they are not. Our sincere best wishes for success in your new ventures, lads.

Art Kirk moves from Vanderhoof to be Fire Inspector at Kamloops; Irwin Johnson, from Quesnel to be Fire Inspector, Nelson; Doug Chorlton, from Prince George to Radio Technician, Victoria; Buster Ross, from Prince George to be Ranger at Creston; and Brooks Cranston leaves his post at Fort St. John to attend University in the U. S. A.

All the moves were not of the outward variety, however, and we are glad to extend our sincerest of welcomes to those moving into the District and wish them every success.

Alf Specht comes from Vernon to be Ranger at Penny; Nestor Threatful, from Revelstoke to be Ranger at Vanderhoof; and Bob Simpson, all the way from Victoria to be our Radio Technician at Prince George.

And to those who were shuffled within the District boundaries, we wish the best of luck and every success in their new locations.

Larry Willington shifts from Ranger at Penny to be Ranger at Quesnel, and Ralph Angly, from Fort Fraser to be Acting Ranger at Fort St. John.

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Our Ranger Meeting

This year's meeting, held from April 8 to April 10, is reported as being one of the best for some time. Everyone had something to say; everyone got something out of it (at least four cups of coffee); and morale advanced numerous points (not to mention cost-of-living)!

After Management Licences had been given the "once over" lightly, Operations had the green light for the remainder of the Meeting, thus allowing Management to sit back and watch the cars go by. As was said before, all had something to say, but we might add here that the District officials kept their tongues as inactive as possible.

The presence of Gerry McKee and Cedric Telford, both from Victoria, was very much appreciated by all.

The banquet was an apparent success with speeches forthcoming from every side. Doug Chorlton bade us farewell prior to leaving for Victoria and Claude Heggie, our new Operations Clerk, delivered his maiden speech in this District. Welcome to you, Claude. Alf Specht and Nestor Threatful said a few words in the District's favour; that is, they told us what they thought of us. Inspector Clarke, of the B. C. Police, Land Inspector Hyslop, Jack Woolsey, and Alf O'Meara all indulged in some well-rounded oratory.

George Forbes, about to retire, come November, attended his last meeting as a member of the Forest Service and contributed much information throughout the three days. His farewell speech at the banquet gave light to the olden days and suggestions for the future, based on experience. We hope George will attend many more Ranger Meetings.

NEWSLETTER

Fort George District (continued)

Rusty Campbell, another of the oldtimers who gave forth with his experiences throughout the meeting, paid heartfelt tribute to our District Forester's father, and to our District Forester. Rusty's well-chosen words are always listened to with respect.

Gerry McKee, late of this District and unquestionably admired by all the Service personnel here, yielded information about Victoria and gave Walt Henning due respect for his well-deserved rating as Assistant Forester.

Walter then spoke at length in praise of all the co-operation extant within the District and stressed the wisdom to be found in the words of the older forest officers.

We were sorry to note the absence of Art Kirk, Irwin Johnson, and Buster Ross who were unable to attend the meeting because of their recent moves. The gang missed them.

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Bob McMillan

Ranger of The Far North

Opposite is a picture which we feel is well worth viewing. As Bob says, "I really feel sorry for these poor Rangers in the Far North, but here I am as I looked on April 2."

Bob grew this "carrot-red" beard rather than pay a fine on the occasion of the McBride Klondyke Night. He won first prize for growing the most seductive "soup strainer." Although we didn't see the beard in person, it must have been worth the prize from the look of the contrasting plaid shirt, red beard, and brown hair!

Bob says he really made his beard-growing efforts pay dividends as the prize represented close to a month's salary.

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KAMLOOPS DISTRICT

Jim Fraser Retires

J. M. (Jim) Fraser, who has been with this Service since leaving the Dominion Forest Service in 1931, retired as of the 1st of April, 1948.

For the present, Jim is remaining at Merritt, where he has been our Ranger for the last three years. Rather than sit down to enjoy his well-earned rest, he is giving the Merritt Sawmills the benefit of his knowledge and wide experience in the area.

We all wish him many years of happy retirement!

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Huzzah For Her Majesty!

Joyce Larson, one of our stenographers in the Management office, was elected Queen of the Kamicecade at the recent Kamloops Ice Carnival Show, sponsored by the Canadian Legion. Queen Joyce developed some of her latent possibilities and blossomed forth as a very accomplished impromptu speaker.

Her Majesty is also a hard-working member of the Kamloops Branch of the Legion where she holds the position of Third Vice President.

Well done Joyce! We're all proud of you.

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Her Majesty, Joyce Larson, and Attendants.

NEWSLETTER

Kamloops District (continued)

These Comings and Goings!

With the exit of Jim Fraser, we welcome Huntley Campbell back to the Kamloops District where he will be guiding the destinies of the Birch Island Ranger District.

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Jim MacDonald has ended his happy stay in Kamloops by purchasing an umbrella and a one-way passage to Prince Rupert. Everyone in this District was sorry to see Jim depart, but we know his friendly manner will be welcomed by the Prince Rupert staff.

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F. A. McKirdy's is Some Record!

We think Mr. F. A. McKirdy, Local Justice of the Peace and Forest Service Lookoutman on Tum Tum Mountain during 1947, has an almost unique record.

He was a Forest Guard from 1910 to 1916 and passed his Assistant Ranger Exams as far back as 1917, which should make him amongst the earliest to pass these exams. With the exception of 1933, the lean year, when he was a patrolman at \$1.00 per diem plus 90¢ subsistence, he served as an Assistant Ranger for 23 years--from 1917 to 1940.

By 1940, however, the hills seemed to be growing steeper and McKirdy was informed that, according to a Victoria ruling, he was now over-age for employment as Assistant Ranger. He then accepted the more sedentary position of Lookoutman and has held it ever since.

Mr. McKirdy's file gives some very interesting glimpses into the past as we note that he "went to T. S. X1533 with Mr. Manning. He was very nice and so was Mr. McVicker. I was pleased to have met them." Other famous old names of the Service, such as, C. R. Mills, P. Bonney, M. A. Grainger, C. McFayden, P. Z. Caverhill, and Pat Sharkey frequently appear in his reports of those far-off days.

Confidential reports on Mr. McKirdy, made out by a long line of senior Forest Service Officers, make uniformly good reading.

The standard of education and training for forest officers now starting their careers is, and should be, higher than in the past, but the new men will do well if they live up to the standards of loyalty and service set by some of the old-timers, as personified by Mr. McKirdy.

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HATCHED AND MATCHED

The Newsletter, of late, has fallen behind in a most disgraceful manner in its coverage of the "Hatching and Matching" within the Service. We shall attempt to make amends in this issue and we hope that those offended will commence speaking to us again in the future.

Rhodes--To Alan, of the Accounts Office, Victoria, and Edythe Rhodes, a DAUGHTER, Sharon Alana, on January 21, 1948, at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Pope--To Michael, of the Parks Division, and Mary Pope, a DAUGHTER, Nancy Alison, on March 30, 1948, at the Royal Jubilee Hospital.

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On the evening of Friday, December 5, 1947, Eric Beech, of the Forest Service Marine Station, and Gwendoline Olive, only daughter of Chief Clerk Eric Fox of the Vancouver District and Mrs. Fox, were married in St. Mary's Anglican Church, Kerrisdale.

Belated though these greetings may be, we do wish the Beeches every happiness in their married life.

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Donald Owen, of the Fire Research and Planning Section, Victoria, and Miss Jane Jurgensen, were married on April 24, 1948, in Victoria. Mr. and Mrs. Owen spent their honeymoon in Vancouver and will reside in Victoria.

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THE WELCOME MAT

The Newsletter is happy to shake the dust off the old "Mat" and extend it for the purpose of welcoming Charles Medley, to the Accounts Office staff; Elvin Gower, to the Operations' Draughting office; R. L. "Bob" Fielder, to Fire Research and Planning where he is replacing Jack Mellander who is now doing a turn as Assistant Ranger at Langford; "Mike" O'Brien to the Management Division; and Donald Mitchell, and ace-high photographer and ex-Assistant Ranger at Coquitlam, Paul Johnson, to the Public Relations Division.

To you all, and to those we missed, a hearty welcome!

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NEWSLETTER

A. B. Williams Retires

At a gathering held in the Forest Accounts office, on Wednesday, April 21, Alfred B. Williams, who was known to most of us as "A.B.," was presented with an easy chair, by Mr. Orchard, on the occasion of his retirement after twenty-seven years with the Forest Service.

Mr. Williams was born in London, England, in 1881, and arrived in British Columbia in 1906. He managed his own business in Prince Rupert for eight years and after serving Overseas with the 102nd Battalion, in the First Great War, joined the Forest Service in 1921, as a Compassman on the Kitimat Cruise. During the latter part of that same year, Mr. Williams was appointed to a clerical position in the Forest Accounts office where he continued until his retirement.

We all wish Mr. Williams many years of pleasant and restful retirement and hope that the easy chair will help somewhat.

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"Cy" Oldham Heads Parks

To those of us who were around during the pre-war years, E. G. (Cy) Oldham is a well-known personage. However, for the sake of those more recent members of the Service, may we introduce Mr. E. G. Oldham, the newly-appointed Forester-in-Charge of the Parks Division.

Cy graduated from the University of New Brunswick in 1933 and worked with the Economics Division and the old Forest Development Projects until he enlisted with the 17th Battalion, R.C.A., in 1940.

He returned to the Forest Service for a short time in 1945 and then accepted a position with the Dominion Government as Superintendent of Forests and Wildlife for the Northwest Territories.

So, on behalf of all your friends in the Service, Cy, we would like to say, "Welcome back!"

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E. G. (Cy) Oldham.

Flash!

Although it may not be news by the time you read this, at proof-reading time the transfer of M. W. (Marc) Gormely from Assistant District Forester at Vancouver to be District Forester, Prince Rupert, was indeed news!

Marc will replace Ernie Mathieson when the latter retires as District Forester at the end of June.

D. B. (Doug) Taylor, who has been in charge of protection in Vancouver since 1938, has been promoted to be Assistant District Forester in that District.

Also, Supervisor C. F. (Charlie) Holmes has been promoted to be Fire Inspector for Vancouver and Ranger C. S. Frampton will move from Lake Cowichan to act as Supervisor for Vancouver.

To you all, the Newsletter wishes the best of luck and success in your new positions!

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