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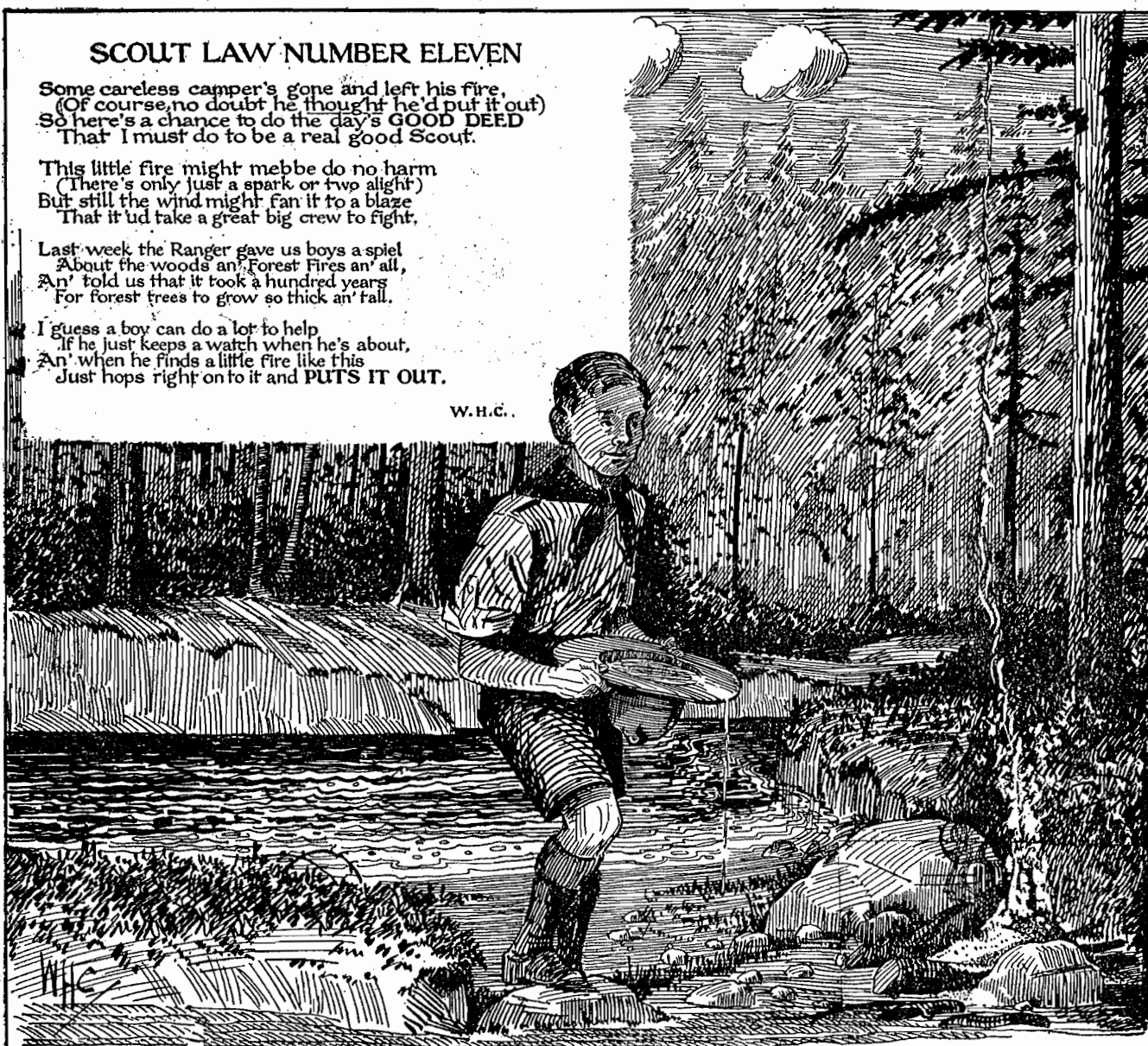
Some careless camper's gone and left his fire,
(Of course, no doubt he thought he'd put it out)
So here's a chance to do the day's GOOD DEED
That I must do to be a real good Scout.

This little fire might mebbe do no harm
(There's only just a spark or two alight)
But still the wind might fan it to a blaze
That it ud take a great big crew to fight.

Last week the Ranger gave us boys a spiel
About the woods an' Forest Fires an' all,
An' told us that it took a hundred years
For forest trees to grow so thick an' tall.

I guess a boy can do a lot to help
If he just keeps a watch when he's about,
An' when he finds a little fire like this
Just hops right on to it and PUTS IT OUT.

W.H.C.



This magazine is a staff publication, and is not in any sense a medium for the expression of Governmental policy.

The object of its publication is to promote discussion, foster exchange of ideas, disseminate news of "family" interest and, through the encouragement of individual initiative, to strengthen the spirit of co-operative effort.

HOW THE FOREST BRANCH CAN HELP THE BOY SCOUTS.

(Contributed by the B. C. Headquarters of the
Boy Scouts Association.)

The study of the tree life of British Columbia is now being undertaken by the Boy Scouts throughout the Province in ever increasing numbers, and the fascination of the subject is steadily growing among them. During the year 1922, a selected body of Scoutmasters attended a Training Camp at which the subject of Forestry, in many of its branches, was brought to their attention. At this Camp, also, a representative of the Forest Branch was present to give a lecture on the subject. Since that time, scores of Boy Scouts, through the knowledge gained by these Scoutmasters, have become acquainted with the trees and shrubs in their vicinity, have acquired the habit of keen observation of the many varieties in the country contiguous to their several Headquarters, and are being gradually imbued with a real knowledge of and enthusiasm for the subject of Forestry.

With all due respect to those many Forestry experts in the Province, it is in our opinion the exception rather than the rule for these men to be able to thoroughly interest the boys by lectures; we also do not think that much good can result even from representatives of the Forest Branch taking the boys out in large numbers into the woods and giving practical lectures. The most satisfactory way in which our Scouts all over the Province can become interested in this work is through the Scoutmasters; and if it can be arranged for these Scoutmasters to receive instruction from the Forest Branch then they in turn can pass the same on to their Scouts by Scouting methods.

It is desired particularly for our Scouts to first of all have a good general knowledge of the trees and shrubs in the immediate neighbourhood of their town or city, any particular uses to which the trees can be put, the location, etc. at which they are to be found.

Hiking and camping are two very important items on the programme of every real live Scout Troop, and so long as anything approaching stereotyped lectures is barred, an immense amount of good work can be accomplished on the subject of Forestry during these hikes and camps.

At times it may happen that a Camp will be in a neighbourhood where there is only a small quantity of dead-wood; it would be of considerable use to know what types of green wood will easily burn for camp purposes. These and details of a like nature are of great interest and use.

When a good grounding has been made on the subject of tree life in the district close at hand, further progress can be made by interesting our Scouts in the larger item of "Trees of British Columbia," showing where certain types and varieties grow, altitudes, &c. in which they prosper most; and of course making it as interesting as possible by explaining what use is made of the various kinds of tree.

Then, there is the big subject of Forest Protection - Prevention of Fire, Methods of Fire-fighting, etc. Knowledge of this is all-important and the topic appeals to the mind of the boy. An immense amount of good could be accomplished by bringing this branch of Forestry work to the attention of the rising generation. Though there may be certain difficulties to overcome, we believe that Scouts in all parts of the Province would willingly co-operate with the Forest Branch, and particularly in emergency. Instances of this co-operation have come to our attention in recent years.

We would suggest that a representative of the Forest Branch take an active part in Scout work in every Scout centre in British Columbia. It would be of much assistance to the movement if we could have on the various local Committees an expert in Forestry, and it would undoubtedly be in the interests of the Forest Branch to have our hundreds of boys interested in and backing-up their efforts.

If it were possible, we believe also that much further good could be accomplished in the many troops of Scouts if illustrated books on Forestry could be placed at their disposal.

In concluding this article we wish to express our sincere appreciation of the interest now being taken in Scout work by the Forest Branch. We look to the Branch for much practical sympathy and help in the near future. Through the mutual co-operation of the Forest Branch and of the Boy Scouts Association we believe untold benefits will accrue to our Province.

* * * * *

(We agree with the writer of the foregoing article that probably more satisfactory results could be obtained through the Scoutmasters than by taking the boys out en masse. At the same time, we have found by practical experience that excellent work can be done among the boys themselves in districts where there are no Scoutmasters. As many as sixteen or twenty boys (of "cub" age) have been taken out and given practical instruction with results which were highly satisfactory.

With regard to Fire-fighting; here is a phase which cannot be handled in any other way than by practical demonstration. The organizing and equipping of fire-fighting crews can be explained theoretically, but fire-fighting tactics can be learnt only on the fire line under actual conditions - although there are, of course, certain fundamental rules. In cases where the Scouts were in camp and the Forest Officer was able to make use of them, the boys have actually been employed on the fire line as water-carriers, tool-carriers and messengers; and in such cases they were able to gain a knowledge at first-hand which no amount of school-room or black-board instruction ever could have conveyed.

In the main, however, we are heartily in accord with the writer.)

"NEW LAMPS FOR OLD?"

Daylight Saving is in force in VICTORIA, and by the time it is dark it is almost time to go to bed! But even so, there is a chill in the air, and after one comes in and sits down with a pipe, it is more comfortable if there is a fire in the grate.

Sitting and watching the flames go up the chimney, it occurred to me that there were compensations in having left youth good many years behind. One has then a double viewpoint and can look backward as well as forward.

A philosopher nearing sixty can look forward without fear and backward with a good deal of pleasure. He can say, as Jack London said of one of his heroes -

"..... This out of all will remain, he has lived
and has passed.

So much of the game has been gained though the gold
and the dice have been lost."

This is an age when we question everything, and sometimes are given to discard a theory just because it is old, and take on a new one for no other reason than that it is new. And it was because I was thinking of things old and new that I wondered if it might not be worth while to go over some of the things I was taught as a youth, to see if they would stand the test and ring as true as they did forty years ago.

One of the things that came back was the Political Economy I studied then - Adam Smith's 'Wealth of Nations'; John Stuart Mill; and the new star in the firmament of that day, Henry George, in 'Progress and Poverty'. If I remember right, they all agreed that the first principle of Political Economy is 'the greatest good for the greatest number.' If it was true then, it is true now. Is it true? If not, what have we to take its place? If it is true, and if all the science of Political Economy is based on it, then it should be the foundation of all our legislation. If it is true, then it is a law and cannot be broken with impunity, any more than any of Nature's laws or a law of Mathematics.

If you put your hand into the fire, it will get burnt - Doctor Price to the contrary notwithstanding! If your salary is \$100 a month and you spend \$125, there will be trouble sometime, inevitably.

If it is true, then it is a simple standard for measuring all legislation, and laws will be good or otherwise in so far as they measure up to that standard. We don't have to take anybody's word that a yardstick is a yard long, because there is a standard yard and we can have our yardstick measured by it. If we have a standard by which we can measure our legislation, then we do not need to take the word of the soap-box orator or the would-be statesman, or the pleader for special interests; we can compare it with our standard.

Taking it for granted, then, that our standard is a true one, then for the sake of illustration try to measure some of the policies in force today in the Dominion of Canada, and see how they compare with the standard.

The theory of Protection is the first one that comes to my mind.

Did you ever try to figure out if it was possible to protect the many at the expense of the few? Trying to make $2 \times 2 = 5$ is easy compared to it! But that it is possible to protect the few at the expense of the many is as easy to prove as that $2 \times 2 = 4$.

Please remember that there is a wide difference between taxation of Imports for Revenue, and taxation of them for protecting a manufacturer or producer. If no automobiles were manufactured in Canada, it would be perfectly legitimate to tax every one coming in One Hundred Dollars, or even One Thousand Dollars, for Revenue with which to carry on the business of the country. If we keep our standard in mind, are we justified in taxing an automobile manufactured in Detroit \$700 so that the automobile manufactured in Windsor (just across the border) can sell the one he manufactures for Twentyfive dollars less than the manufacturer in Detroit; and so make an additional profit of \$275? Would it not be more patriotic to pay an additional Twentyfive dollars, and then the Government would be the gainer by Three Hundred dollars, and our other taxes so much the less?

The manufacturer and a few workmen in Windsor benefit by the duty, and every purchaser of an automobile in Canada, and every taxpayer, suffers!

You cannot protect the wheat grower on the prairie because he has an exportable surplus, and a duty of a dollar a bushel on wheat coming in from the States would not increase the price of the prairie farmer's wheat one cent a bushel.

You could protect the English farmer, because the people of England consume so much more wheat than the farmers produce, and the few farmers could be protected at the expense of the many consumers.

This is not an essay on FREE TRADE versus PROTECTION. It is simply an illustration. If the economic formula I have cited is true, and if my inference is correct, then Canada is breaking an economic law - and no economic law, no physical law, no moral law, can be broken with impunity.

Perhaps a little time spent in thinking on a few fundamentals would not be wasted.

Geo. R. Naden.

THE FIRE SITUATION

"And when the fury of the fiend was spent,
Burned out the fullness of his horrid wrath,
It left behind a devastated path.
To human carelessness a monument!"

... ..

Again we face the FIRE SEASON. The last days of April showed us some real danger, and reports of losses have begun to come in already.

What the Season has in store for us only time can tell, but let us be prepared for a good fight if necessary. After the disasters of a year ago, you may have asked yourself the question "Is the policy of Forest Protection economically sound? Can the dollars spent really be balanced against the dollars saved?" I have heard these questions from the laymen, and my unqualified answer has been "YES!" But in order to fortify myself, I have done some searching of the records of fire achievement, and the results may be of interest.

It is hard to convert into terms of dollars the value of a greenhillside, as compared to the same hillside burnt bare. The stumpage value, of course, is easily convertible, but the potential value as a source of industry, the value of the forest influence on climate and water conservation, the aesthetic value of the attraction to tourists, the value as a harbourage for game, etc., are not convertible so readily.

The Report of the COMMISSION on CONSERVATION states that fire has destroyed the timber on some 64,000,000 acres, estimated at 660 Billion feet. Reduce this to the area under protection by the Forest Branch, and we have 41,000,000 acres and 430 Billion feet. We can assume, I believe, that this area was destroyed within the last century and largely since the advent of the white settler - which means that without protection the average annual loss was 400,000 acres and 4.3 billion feet of timber. Assuming again the Royalty equity only, and the loss was in excess of \$4,000,000 per annum. Since the organization of the Branch, in no single year has our loss reached that amount, being on an average for the past ten years, 360,000 acres burned over and 184 million feet destroyed. And the cost of protection has averaged \$377,000 per annum, against which the saving on the above basis has been some \$4,000,000.

Now, I do not want you to think that I intend this as a sort of soothing dose to lull you to sleep in the shadow of past accomplishment, or even as indicating that we have approached a point where we can be satisfied with our own efficiency. Too many monuments are still being reared annually, and I would wish that what I have to say will aid in some small measure in their elimination.

It is an often-repeated saying that "Forest Protection is the foundation for a successful Forest Policy." While Forestry should not wait until fires are wholly suppressed any more than construction should not be suspended in a city while fires still occur there, yet a reasonable degree of safety must be assured before we can make investments in silvicultural practice.

The question arises then - How shall we reduce the hazard and how can efficiency be measured?

Let us first set a standard just a little higher than has ever been reached before (or have you ever set a standard?) There is nothing like having an objective to work for, even though we do not always make it.

"When you fight a losing battle,
And you have no chance to win,
All the world sure hates a quitter,
Keep your chin up, boy, and grin!
Put your shoulder to it bravely,
And with all your might and main.
When you lose, well, do it gamely,
For you'll make yourself a name!"

As the teamster said, when extolling the pulling qualities of his team - "It was just a little more than they c'd do, but they done it!"

In the U.S. Federal Service the objective set is -

- (1) Area burned over not to exceed 1/10 of One per cent.
- (2) Ninety per cent. of all fires extinguished under Ten acres.
- (3) Average size of remaining ten per cent. not to exceed 100 Acres.

To which I would add that year by year the number of preventable fires should be reduced.

In British Columbia we have not yet reached this standard. Our average for the past ten years shows -

64.2 per cent of fires extinguished under ten acres.

Total area burned 1/2 of One per cent. of productive area.

Timber area burned 1/3 of One per cent.

Average size of fires over 10 acres, 780 acres.

The average size of fires over ten acres, however, and the total area burned over is somewhat affected by our slash-burning policy - i.e., in allowing accidental fires to burn so long as they are controllable and destroying slash, reporting the total area as a fire. Still, you can readily see that we are behind the standard set.

With your standard set, the following rules will aid you in accomplishing your end.

(1st) Complete a fire plan of your own district, mapping wherever possible the Fire Liability and means of control or otherwise. Every means which could be utilised in case of emergency should be studied, because with a fire it is the unexpected that happens and causes the damage.

(2nd) Equipment should always be ready, and arrangements made for labour, provisions and transportation.

(3rd) Every point of contact with the public should be cultivated.

What would be the instinctive action of a man in the city who saw a fire breaking out? To pull the Fire Alarm? Why should not the same principle govern his actions with regard to bush fires which threaten not only his home but possibly also the living of himself and his children?

(4th) Reduce the time elapsing between moment of discovery and moment of attack.

(5th) Study your fire: use strategy in your attack.

(6th) Finally, remember that Ninety per cent of your fires are due to human carelessness and that an ounce of prevention is worth a ton of cure. See that this idea gets across to the people with whom you come in contact: or again in the words of Mallock

"First learn yourselves the best considered plan,
Then teach the careless what their duties are,
And nevermore the burning flames shall soar
These timbered hills, God's generous gift to man."

P. Z. Caverhill.

How much is a Billion, anyway? We were always of the impression that a Billion was a Thousand Millions - until today, when we stumbled across the information in Chambers's Etymological Dictionary of the English Language that a Billion was a Million Millions. Imagine our chagrin! Here were we toiling happily in the hopes that some day we might accumulate a Billion Dollars; and now to find that a Billion is a Million Millions - well, 'twas a cruel blow!

HOW BOY SCOUTS CAN HELP THE FOREST BRANCH

There is much that our organization can admire and pattern after in the Boy Scout Movement. It is altruistic; the spirit behind the organization is one of Helpfulness; the aim is one of conservation of the growing boy, primarily for the boy's sake, but in the background is the same idea as ours for the Forest, namely for the future. The fundamental purpose of the organization is character building in preparation for a citizenship of high value.

The training gives the boy physical health, energy, and resourcefulness; it teaches him discipline, pluck, and patriotism. It is the best kind of preparation for whatever life is to bring in the days to come. The motto of the Boy Scout is "BE PREPARED." What more could we ask in the perfect Forest Officer than the attributes of the perfect Scout!

The forest is an ideal training ground for scout work. Most of their doings relate to the forest, and the whole scheme of their instruction has its setting in the woods. The forest environment offers the best place to seek adventure, to become hardy and handy, to think quietly, to train the powers of close observation, and to get the "forestry ideal."

Would it not be possible to enlist the latent energies lying within the local Boy Scout organizations as an auxiliary to the Forest Branch? Properly organised and trained would they not be an aid in all lines of Forest Protection? Now, who is to give this training? I have recently looked over the Scout's Manual entitled "Scouting for Boys" by Lieut. Gen. Sir R. Baden-Powell, and while there are a large number of suggestions of ways in which boys can help in a community, there is no mention of helping in Forest Protection. This is not to be wondered at as the Manual was written for English conditions. For instance, it gives a page to telling how boys can help the police. If they can help the police, surely they can help the Forest Branch.

I would suggest that it was up to us to make up the deficiency in a Scout's training, and to enlist the Scouts in our cause.

Forest officers should get in touch with the local Scout Masters and offer their services. If you have no local scout organization, be a leader in getting one started. Help teach the boys how and where to build a camp fire properly, the need of care with fire in the woods. When you have a particularly dangerous time, and possibly a restricted area of high hazard and near a settlement, get the Scouts to patrol for a few days. Evidence on incendiaries is hard to obtain, but sometimes boys have ways of finding out things that are closed to Forest Officers. Then, they can be trained to help on the fire line; one of the Rangers at the Nelson meeting told of his success in taking boys out on the fire line as water carriers and on such-like jobs.

There are many ways in which boys can be developed into a corps of Honorary Fire Wardens. There are no doubt other lines of

Forestry work in which they could serve as auxiliaries which would develop later, as they got to know the forest and the principles behind forestry practice. It will not hurt any of us to make their ideals our ideals, to help them know the Forest, and to enlist them in our cause.

----- R.C. St Clair.

The School Essay Competition, as was expected, has been a huge success, and the Examiners are now confronted with the task of reviewing no less than six thousand Essays, which is the number remaining after eliminating all those which obviously were not of prize-winning quality.

We venture to say that a greater amount of sound publicity has been obtained, and at less cost, by this method than would have been possible by any other, and the success which has attended the scheme has been amply sufficient, we think, to justify its being made an annual event.

"Learn young, learn fair" is an old adage, the truth of which has still to be disproved. It is upon the rising generation that our hopes are centred, and we cannot spend too much time or money on making proselytes of the School-children.

VANCOUVER DISTRICT'S BASKET PIC-NIC : Saturday, June 9th. has been selected by the Vancouver Forest District for their Annual Basket Pic-nic, at Maple Grove Park, Kerrisdale.

"Sports Programme commences at 2 p.m. Sharp," runs the announcement. "Take B.C.E. Interurban Car, Lulu Island Line, to McGee Station, thence west along 49th Av. to Yew St., thence along Yew St. to Park."

A cordial invitation is extended by the District Forester and Staff to all out of town members of the Service and their friends who happen to be in Vancouver on that day. We have not had the pleasure ourselves of attending, but from what we have heard and from what we know, this is an opportunity which no one should ignore who can take advantage of it.

We hope to be able to include a short account of the proceedings in next month's "ROOT & BRANCH."

Last month's cover "THE PERMIT DODGER", has given rise to considerable comment, and our good friends the Canadian Forestry Association have asked permission to use it in the JUNE number of their magazine.

The lesson we have sought to convey "should be given more circulation in Eastern Canada," they think.

SCOUTING ON THE QUEEN CHARLOTTES.

I am told by the Editor that this is to be a Boy Scout number of "ROOT & BRANCH", but all I know about Boy Scouts is that they're obligated to do a Good Deed every day. At that, I'll say that the men in the Prince Rupert district are A.L. Scouts! During the three weeks I spent there recently they did more than one good deed a day when it came to making life agreeable and interesting. I look back on that trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands with a great deal of pleasure, and with the hope that I shan't be long in taking such another. District Forester Bonner was ably seconded by the versatile Captain Dan Archie of the LEILA R, while Rangers Scott and Penny in their respective districts nobly lived up to the Scout tradition.

And now for something about the Queen Charlottes. The crossing from Prince Rupert to Massett Inlet was rough, and when one says 'rough' referring to Hecate Strait, one has merely indicated the feathery edge of the subject! Unfortunately, I got stuck for the trip on the "Prince Albert" which (as many of you know) is the worst tub on the coast for passengers, though a good sea boat. I got to sleep in a bottom bunk with three other lusty wood buckers going strong in the same stateroom. Judging by the sounds there must have been enough wood logs bucked that night to last a three-side camp for a week! I doubt, however, if any of them could have kept it up in actual practice because the overtime they were doing was largely the result of artificial stimulation.

Anyway, I got to sleep, and awoke not until the insistent call of friend Appetite roused me from the land of wood buckers; and what an awakening that was! The cold, grey dawn creeping through the hermetically-sealed porthole revealed a scene of disorder that it would be hard to describe. Just imagine what would happen in a small stateroom in which at least three artificially-stimulated wood buckers had strewn their belongings about, and the resultant mess well mixed by a beam sea. It was an exquisite example of perfect disorder. As the ship rolled, the sea (even colder and greyer than the dawn) tried to climb through the porthole, but only partially succeeded.

Now, above the sounds of sharp-biting crosscut saws, and the creak, groan, rattle and bang of the ship, other sounds arose. First was the crash of ship's crockery as the waiters slung the grub (yes, that's just what they did! There's no polite phrase to describe it) - slung the grub, while ever and anon came the agonized groans of some poor mortal in the throes of 'mal de mer' also 'slinging grub' - you know how it goes - "Oooh-h-h-oooh-wup!" Again the dishes crashed, and came the clear call of "Ham and -!" Sunny side up. This apparently was more than the above mentioned p.m. could stand, for he answered promptly with his college yell of "Oooh-h-h-oooh-wup!" Altogether a lovely awakening.

My appetite overcame all sounds, odours and inconveniences, and I hopped out of my bunk and into my clothes. After a wash and a breath of air on deck I descended to the dining saloon, where

I ordered the usual things - rolled oats, etc. When the first dish appeared I was sure the cook was a poor sailor, and became absolutely convinced of it when I got my poached eggs. But I was hungry and got away with a large meal. Afterwards I went on deck where, passing the open door of the galley, I discovered that the cook was a poor sailor. Delightful memories of rolled oats and poached eggs assailed me, but I refused to sling grub.

During the morning we entered Massett Inlet, that long, very narrow entrance to the larger body that widens out in the heart of Graham Island. On the way in we passed one of the Los Angeles Lumber Products Line steamers outbound with a full cargo of spruce cants. This line is shipping spruce cants and deals from the sawmill at Buckley Bay to Los Angeles where they are re-sawn into building and box lumber. Three steamers and several old sailing vessels are used, the steamers making a trip each every two weeks. The old sailing vessels usually are towed. Cargo range from a million to a million-and-a-half board feet.

The sawmill at Buckley Bay is being supplied by about a dozen camps scattered around the Inlet. Camps are of various sizes from Handloggers to three-donkey. No railroads have been used yet as most of the timber lies close to shore. A large part of the output from some camps has been old logs cut for aeroplane stock in 1918 and left on the ground when the Armistice was signed. The local men have had a great deal of trouble separating this stuff as it is mixed with logs cut in 1920 from which it cannot now be distinguished. This snag is now fairly well cleaned up.

Leaving the "Prince Albert" at Buckley Bay, I transferred to the LEILA R. - Prince Rupert's H.Q. Launch - and spent a couple of days visiting various camps on the Island, finishing up at Fort Clement. Here is a town of old abandoned sawmills and houses that, in War days, was a bustling place of large population. Now Ranger Scott occupies the hotel and has a choice of about fifteen beds in which to sleep. He can sleep in a different one each night or shift from one to the other during the night, but I don't think he can sleep in more than one at a time. However, he could try if he wanted to. What I want to point out is the absolutely lavish extent of his accommodation. They are all good beds and hard to get out of in the morning - I know.

Bonney, Scott and I left the LEILA R. at Fort Clements and after half a day there we walked the trail from the Port to Tlell on the East Coast of Graham Island. It was a lovely walk. Muskeg trail most of the way and a heavy wet gale in our faces every inch. Apparently the Queen Charlotte Islands are the trial ground for the winds; they come up quicker, blow harder and in more ways than anywhere else I know of, getting well warmed up for their work in other quarters. From Tlell, Bonney and I drove by rig to Skidegate along the Coast road, which parallels the shore all the way. An interesting thing there is the windbreak reserve all around the the North and East coasts of Graham Island. The timber is kept

intact on this reserve, and certainly is needed. It serves its purpose well, for just inside its line the force of the wind is not felt at all.

From Skidegate to Queen Charlotte City is about four miles by trail. After having supper at the former place, we set out for the latter. Half-way there we met a missionary just ashore from his launch; he offered us a ride to Queen Charlotte City which we gladly accepted; but after waiting half an hour for him on shore and as much more on the launch, he found his clutch was broken. Help was needed; so we piled into his dinghy and started for Queen Charlotte City. We hadn't left him five minutes until another launch came along and gave him a tow; but we kept on and got well 'het up' getting to the 'city.' Moral : Don't leave it all to the Lord, but keep your launch in proper shape.

Taking the "Prince John" next morning, we went to Kelley's Camp at Cumshewa. Here we met Ranger Penny who proved no less of a Good Scout than the rest. We visited Kelley's two camps in the inlet and were afforded exceptional opportunity by Mr McMillan, the Manager, for lining up costs. A particularly interesting part of the work consisted of building Davis rafts, one of which was in course of construction while we were in camp.

After two days around Cumshewa, the storm-bound LEILA R turned up, and we went on to Thurston Harbour. On the way a shore trip was taken to cruise a sale. Half-way through the wind came up, and on account of the exposed nature of the anchorage we had to cut and run, leaving a stand of some mighty fine spruce that was a pleasure to cruise. Illustrating what Penny and a few more Rangers are up against, we weren't half way to Thurston Harbour, only an hour's run from where we went ashore, until the boat was taking them blue over the pilot house! Even the large HQ launch got a good shaking up - what Penny would have received in his little "EMBREE" can be imagined! I believe such sudden storms are all too frequent there and have heard several tales of Penny's narrow escapes. Apparently good seamanship alone got him by. He travels it alone, at that.

Thurston Harbour, an old Munitions Board Headquarters, is being made the Queen Charlotte HDQrs of the Whalen Pulp & Paper Mills operations, of which there will be about five this year. Bag and flat booms are made up at the various camps and towed to Thurston Harbour for Davis rafting. The southern camps around Sedgwick Bay will raft their logs there for a while at least, probably towing to Thurston Harbour later. Penny makes his headquarters at Thurston Harbour, where there is a wireless station.

After visiting camps at Louise Narrows and Beresford Arm, we returned to Thurston Harbour and then jumped off for the mainland. Luckily the weather was fine and a seventeen-hour run put us in Prince Rupert.

The opening up of large operations on the Queen Charlottes
(12)

lends strength to the statement that the centre of the Lumber industry is shifting to the West. After it has come here, there is nowhere else on the N.American continent for it to spread, and the cutting of our forests will proceed with greater and even greater acceleration. It behooves us, therefore, to look to our silvicultural requirements on timber sales and other logged areas to secure new growth with the least possible delay.

Our knowledge of the requirements of the various types for reproduction and greatest yield is limited, and can only be increased very slowly by the work of the field parties that we have been able to send out. We need the active observation of every man in the field, and the record of his observations, as to causes underlying all forest conditions. We want definite conclusions as to how we must operate our timber lands to make them perpetually productive.

How about a little scouting here ?

Geo.P. Melrose.

MYSTERY OF A TREE.

We pray thee, Lord, reveal thy plan
In which Thou didst a tree evolve;
Its wonders deep we'd closely scan,
The fascinating problem solve.
Teach us how sap can upwards flow,
How gathered from the earth beneath,
By what art wood from sap can grow,
How receive hardness through the leaf?
Its wondrous grains we pray unfold,
Why dark and light in shades there be.
Fantastic forms that we behold
Where swirls of wonder fill the tree.
Why knot and burl combine as one
In shapes that God alone can draw,
Teach us, we pray, in shade or sun
How do they each obey Thy law ?
How forms the bud where grows the leaf ?
Why leaves at autumn time must fall ?
Falling, enrich the soil beneath
To spread protection 'neath them all ?
In short, dear Lord, we'd learn to know
Tree forms that great enchantment lend,
Changing with autumn's frosty glow,
A hundred weaves to gaily blend.

(H.M.Rounds).

ENLISTING THE BOYS : A circular to hand from the Canadian Forestry Association conveys the information that the Boy Scouts Association have decided to discontinue their official organ "The Canadian Boy" (which has a paid circulation of about 3,200) and in future will use as their medium the Canadian Forestry Magazine, in which a small section of eight pages will be devoted to the boys.

"We bring at once 3,000 Canadians within the influence of the Canadian Forestry Magazine, and indirectly will be able to bind the whole Boy Scout Movement to the cause of forest conservation. We will not publish any 'shop talk'" runs the letter, "but will devote the new section to elementary discussions on forestry, woodcraft, fire prevention, intermixed with some material of more strictly Boy Scout interest. The section will be a sort of juvenile Forestry Magazine, bearing the name 'YOUNG CANADA.'"

In this connection, Dr. HOWE, Acting President of the Association, states -

"I have felt for a long time that the Boy Scouts should be given instruction in elementary forestry and the principles of conservation. It seems to me that here is a great potential force in our work that we should utilise and the action suggested would be fundamental in that direction."

That the same idea had occurred to us, will be evident from a perusal of this number of "ROOT & BRANCH." We incline strongly to the view that to enlist the sympathy of the Boy Scout organization in this Province would work to our material and mutual gain.

A Forest Protection float, which reflected credit on all who were concerned in its construction, was among the prize-winners in Victoria's MAY-DAY parade, and another one entered by the Grazing Commissioner, and with Sheep-raising for its motif, also received very favourable notice.

The Parade was one of the most successful ever staged in this city, where Victoria Day (May 24th) has been made a special feature for many years. Headed by a detachment of the Canadian Mounted Police, brilliant in their scarlet tunics, and followed by contingents from our own and the U.S. Navy, the Parade proper was led by Queen DORA in a gilded coach drawn by six gaily-caparisoned ponies, preceded by heralds and flanked by footmen in a medieval livery of purple and gold. In the coach with the Queen were her maids of honour, and behind rode her little pages. The subsidiary Queens followed on their respective floats, which with a huge number of others (among which were two splendid ones from Bellingham and Port Angeles respectively) formed a procession over two miles long.

Mr. W.L. Thomas of the Forest Branch Drafting Staff and Mr. George Copley, Assistant Grazing Commissioner, were mainly responsible for the construction of the coach, which occupied the leisure hours of several evenings, and was a triumph of artistry.

THE SUNDAYS OF THE FOREST.

To one who has spent the full summer months of the past twenty years - ay, and many of the drear months of winter, too - in the great forests of the Golden West, there frequently come those delightful periods of time when the stimulus of one's employment in the woods (be it the daily labour with the grazing herds of cattle and flocks of sheep, the study of the forests and its ranges, or the excitements of the chase) no longer appeal. Delightful, for it is then that one craves the peace and tranquillity found only in the camp deep in the far-reaching silent places, where one may sink into serene and placid moods; dreamily contemplating the wonders of the Creator as manifested in the beauties around one. And nowhere else may one understand the awesome immensity of it, or so feel the influence of the beneficent and bountiful Power behind it all.

The seasoned son of the forest always looks forward to those delightful days, but they cannot be made at will - they just come - and they come only to him who understands.

You snap awake some wonderful morning with the beaming rays of the summer sun streaming warmly over hill and dale, and sparkling water, and just touching the whiteness of your tent, and you know the day is with you. The squirrel is chirping and chattering just a little louder, just a little more gaily than usual, and the flitting birds seem conscious of a day at hand on which the wonders and power of the Great Spirit will be more than ever manifest in the spirit of every deed and achievement of that glorious day. Such days are the true Sundays of the Forest.

In my many wanderings by Forest and Stream, it has been my great privilege to visit places which have brought to me the feeling that every day must be Sunday there. The beauties of some are more compelling and appealing than others, and become etched on one's memory for ever. The beautiful and restful Nechako Valley of British Columbia is one of these, and it has left with me many vivid and pleasing memories. Its charm as a whole; the enchanting pictures in every course of its lovely and gently-flowing streams; the delightful nooks and bays which form the shores of its myriad wonderful and beautiful lakes which whisper with beguiling voices of magic sweetness. All these combine to engender in one a desire to tarry and seek repose from the daily round of labour, and give way to the pleasing contemplation of an existence far-removed from the miseries and petty jealousies of the crowded centres of population, but which have no place in Nature's great garden.

It seemed to me as I recently travelled through the charming valley of the Nechako, pausing by the clear waters of the Eukinia, contemplating the placid stretches of the Ootsa and Cheslatta, and the pretentious turbulence of the Stellako, that Nature seemed

just a little more smiling and gay in each little bay and woodland nook that came into view; that all the voices of every rippling and frolicsome stream lilted songs of contentment; the whole pleasing chorus being swelled by the gentle lapping of the waters on the lake shore.

Here is an enchanted land which may truly be said to be "the lake country of the West", and nowhere else in all the wonderlands of the Western country can there be found such inspiring and beautiful bodies of water. Both streams and lakes are replete with an abundance of the most tasty varieties of the finny tribe, which all seem most anxious to demonstrate the fine sport which these waters afford, so eagerly do they seize the hook!

Each day brings its own pleasing and engaging delights apart from the methodic and regular routine of the daily duties attending one's calling. The charm of that entrancing region carries one away from the weariness and materialistic affairs of the Big Indoors, as it may be aptly termed, and one's thoughts turn instinctively to contemplation of the spiritual desires and attainments possible of accomplishment by the frail human in his short existence. Such is the compelling influence of the Sundays of the Forest.

T. P. Mackenzie.

THE PERILS OF PUNCTUATION - "Enclosed you will find the essays on our Forests and Why We Should Protect them from the Sr. and Intermediate Grades of the W----- School."

Well, at least it is gratifying to know that the Juniors are to be trusted!

"12th. MAY, 1923."

Tune up the radio, broadcast the story,
Spread wide the news of our triumph today!
All in the Service are basking in glory;
DORA, our DORA, is Queen of the May!

Union is Strength, and we've proved it completely.
Cheers for Her Majesty; Hip, hip, Hurrah!!
Reign now, fair lady, serenely and sweetly,
Queen of the Service, and Queen of the May!

MAKING IT STICK!

Forest Protection Week has gone, but we are in strong hope that the effect of it will remain for many months. So far as Victoria, Vancouver and Vernon Districts are concerned (and I have not yet received information from the other districts) it appears that the Forest Protection idea was well and truly carried out.

School children were addressed; service clubs gave our speakers pride of place; stores carried our advertising - as also did their advertisements, which were headed by the Slogan "PREVENT FOREST FIRES - IT PAYS." Boy Scouts were also addressed on Forest Protection matters, and the organization in Vancouver secured the use of a large theatre and made a Forest Protection address to several hundreds of Boy Scouts on a Saturday morning.

Personally I know I have been stopped at different times by boys selling newspapers on the street - "Say, are you the guy that talked about the Forests and the fires at such-and-such a school?" I admit the impeachment, and try to ascertain from the youngsters just what effect my talk did have, and apparently we have got home.

They are interested in our Essay Competition. They believe that they all have a chance, and it may well be that a great amount of good will come out of all this welter of propaganda.

Boy Scouts are particularly interesting to talk to, because it is the aim of that organization to get their boys out into the woods in the summer, and to teach them to observe things, to give them a knowledge of woodcraft; but hitherto woodcraft has been taken to mean knowing the names of a few different trees, the setting-up of a tent, the classification of different birds and animals, and possibly the reading of tracks. Cooking is regarded more or less as a chore - one of the domestic matters of routine - and cooking and forest fires are not thought to be connected. They are, in the woods, and it is for us to stress that point.

A little story seems to have attracted a good deal of interest by the association that I was able to make between Forest Fires and deep-sea fish. Perhaps you can use this story in your own talks from time to time. It refers to a certain fishing bank off the Coast of Japan where a very valuable catch of fish was made year after year, until suddenly the fish disappeared from the locality, which caused great economic loss as the industry was valuable and the food necessary. Investigation of the case showed that the fish lived on a sea weed which covered the banks formerly but which had died out. The cause was traced back by various Fishery experts, who found the following - A large river emptied into the sea very near this point, and some years before the disappearance of the fish a large forest fire had swept over practically the entire watershed. With the melting of the winter

snows and the coming of the spring rains, there came down floods and the river was swollen to many times its normal volume. The influx of the fresh water was such that it carried some miles out to sea, and as it was not favourable to the growth of this particular weed, or fish food, the weed died off. The Fishery expert said it was a matter for Foresters, and the hillsides are now being clothed again with trees; some of which are planted and others are the growth due to natural seeding conditions. But here is the nub of the matter - the fish are returning to their old feeding grounds.

This story seems to interest most people. Perhaps you can make use of it.

One of the things which appealed to me was that a prepared paper was unnecessary. At first, I took the trouble to prepare a paper for the School children and Boy Scouts, but I found that to talk for half an hour on Forest Protection is easy if we but visualise all that there is to say about our own wonderful Forests. It is not a difficult matter to talk to the children, for even in the absence of other ideas, surely we could spend half an hour explaining our own jobs, and all that we do, and all that we are trying to do; and this is of interest to the public.

As Mr. MOORE said at the Nelson meeting, "One does not require the force of a Roosevelt or the silver tongue of a Bryan to get our message across."

We are salesmen selling a Prosperous Future. We are not asking for money although we are promising big dividends. All we ask is a little care from the public, and we are striving to secure that through the children.

During the war there was issued in England a poster of a pretty little child standing at Father's knee and asking the question, "What did YOU do in the Great War, Daddy?" This might be paraphrased to read, "What did YOU do during Forest Protection Week?"

C. S. Cowan,

(A variety of causes, some trivial and some of greater moment, have combined to delay publication of this month's "ROOT AND BRANCH", and further reports have come in from the field in regard to Forest Protection Week since the foregoing article was written. District Forester Bonney forwards us the notes on which his talks to the school-children in Prince Rupert were based, and in view of the fact that this number is to be circulated among the Boy Scouts we are quoting extensively from Mr. Bonney's address. Editor.)

"NOW IT CAN BE TOLD"

It is not often that we permit ourselves (the 'we' is not being used here in its Editorial sense) to indulge in activities other than those of serving the public - but, when we do — !!

That our candidate, Miss DORA ROLLS, was returned as QUEEN OF THE MAY TIME FROLIC by an overwhelming majority probably is no news to most of our readers, as both the contest and its outcome have been given considerable publicity throughout the Province and farther afield. Naturally we are extremely pleased. Our victory was a popular one, both on account of the personality of our Candidate and by reason of its unexpectedness - for it is a fact that our chances of success were taken seriously by only a very few, even of our friends.

Now that the smoke of battle has cleared away, and we have finished carving notches on our gun, a few brief comments on the campaign might not be amiss.

It is hardly necessary to say that a victory so complete as ours could not have been won unless by organized effort. The team-work was admirable, and from the freedom with which congratulations have been offered we feel safe in saying that the effect on public opinion has been extremely favourable.

It might appear that we are attaching too much importance to a purely local affair. It is true that in its initial stages, the MAY QUEEN Contest was of purely local interest, but the intensity of the competition and the calibre of the competing organizations soon gave it weight enough to attract the attention of neighbouring cities; and the enthusiasm with which our QUEEN and her retinue were received during their tour of the entire Georgian circuit was sufficient to indicate that a very widespread interest had been aroused.

Taking all these facts into consideration, we regard our victory as a distinct triumph for the Service, and we feel that our prestige has been tremendously enhanced. The Service goes about its business quietly and efficiently the year around, but its activities are not such as to afford the average citizen much opportunity of seeing it in operation as a separate unit, and consequently his ideas in regard to it and to the personnel of which it is composed are apt to be somewhat foggy. The QUEEN contest, however, afforded an excellent opportunity for the Service to place itself on unobstructed view, and to test its strength against other organizations whose strength was a well-established fact. How completely our strength was demonstrated, thanks to the loyal support of the Service as a whole, is now a matter of common knowledge.

Having won our laurels, let us wear them gracefully and becomingly; and in that respect we have a fine example in QUEEN DORA whom the adulation of several cities has entirely failed to spoil. But is extremely unlikely that we shall seek the honour again - "Once is a-plenty!"

"INNOCENTS ABROAD"

Of course, everyone agrees that Victoria's MAY TIME FROLIC was a great success; but for us, the various girls who (thanks to those who so loyally stood behind each one of us during the Queen Campaign) were fortunate enough to be elected Queens, the fun started fully a week before the actual celebration began - when we set off on our motor tour through the Sound Cities.

On the morning of Wednesday May 16th, we started up the Island. We were very cordially received at DUNCAN, and had our luncheon at the Tzouhalem Hotel. On approaching LADYSMITH a little later in the afternoon we were astounded at the crowd of children who had gathered to greet us. Mayor and Mrs Walkem kindly invited us to afternoon tea, after which stimulant we started out again.

At NANAIMO a hearty welcome was given us, and splendid entertainment was provided. A particularly pleasant feature was the delightful courtesy extended to us, at the home of the Hon. Wm. Sloan, by Mrs Sloan.

On Thursday morning, the s.s. "Princess Patricia" took us (and our car) to VANCOUVER, where a delegation met and escorted us to the City Hall, where we were presented to the Mayor and Aldermen. That afternoon we were taken all around the outskirts of the city, and had tea in Hastings Park, then in the evening attended the Orpheum where we were each formally introduced to the audience.

Next morning we proceeded to NEW WESTMINSTER, and after lunching at the Hotel there, went on to BELLINGHAM where we were very cordially received by the Bellingham Tulip Queens. A very nice dinner dance had been arranged in our honour, after which came a theatre party and then a short visit to the Cabaret. This was just a sample of the whole-hearted hospitality with which the Americans receive visitors; we were received with the same spirit at every place we touched.

The next call, on Saturday morning, was at EVERETT, and representatives from the Elks Club, accompanied by the Boy Scouts' Band, met us at the city limits and escorted us to the Elks Club, where a nice luncheon had been prepared for us.

Next that day, came SEATTLE; and before we could get into that city, cars were out to meet us, bearing representatives from the Kiwanis Club, who took photographs of the party and presented each of the girls with one of their cute little caps as a souvenir; then took us to our Hotel. That night Mayor Brown of Seattle entertained us at dinner, after which we attended a dance (given in our honour) at the American Legion Hall.

On Sunday morning, Rotarians very kindly motored us through interesting parts of the city, and our pleasant stay was over.

Sunday evening found us at TACOMA, where a lovely dinner

had been arranged at the Tacoma Hotel, and entertainment for the evening.

At noon on Monday, we arrived at the very interesting little town of Olympia, and had lunch with the Rotarians there, after which they took us around the town.

From OLYMPIA our route led back to Seattle, where we stayed until noon on Tuesday, then went on to ANACORTES.

At Anacortes a great reception awaited us; each girl was presented with a large bouquet of flowers, and I in addition with a nicely-decorated "key to the city." The ladies of the Elks Club had arranged a banquet for us, after which we all attended the theatre, where little girl performers presented us all with corsage bouquets. After the show a glorious surprise was sprung - a wonderful dance arranged by the Shriners in the Elks Club Ball Room, which had been specially decorated, a throne having been erected, etc. This proved a splendid wind-up to our tour - we left on the ferry next day, for home.

On the whole, we had a wonderful trip, and I am anxious that everyone should know that we deeply appreciate the hearty welcome afforded us everywhere we went.

DORA ROLLS.

DO CAMPERS START FOREST FIRES ? Some Canadian campers, who know and love the woods, have been complaining lately that they are accused of starting a large proportion of the fires which annually take such a terrible toll of our forest wealth. They say they have been going into the forest every year for such a number of years, and they defy anybody to point to any fire they have started.

Their complaint is doubtless justified. Men who go every year into the woods are woodsmen, and woodsmen do not start forest fires. The people who start forest fires are those who are not woodsmen, who know nothing of woodcraft, who probably were never in the woods before, or who go in only at long intervals. Still, there are in the aggregate a large number of these people, and leaving as they often do, a trail of fire behind them, they give the whole army of campers a bad name. It is hard on the real camper, sportsman, and woodsman, and the only way out is for everyone who goes into the woods, or who has anything to do with forests, to exert all the influence possible to educate these 'tenderfeet' and to create a public opinion that will support Forest Fire Laws and the work of the ranger, and ostracize those who by their carelessness burn the forest.

A good woodsman always puts out his fire and cleans up his camp before he leaves.

THE FORUM.

"I am sorry that the notes in the February issue on the Thurston Bay Ranger Meeting of the Coast Rangers were confined to the Protection part of the programme," writes F.D. Mulholland. "We have so far to go and so little to guide us to ideal management of our Coast Forests that the importance of recognizing all ideas which may possibly help us along the right road is even greater than in the case of Protection, whose ideals are so much more clearly in view.

"It is encouraging and instructive to see ideas from the field discussed in 'ROOT & BRANCH'; it is interesting (especially to those who made them) to watch suggestions develop into policy. The Vancouver district is issuing a circular showing the action taken in connection with each of the resolutions of the Committees at the meeting. Some of these, however, were somewhat ambitious and the action asked is beyond our power at present. Two resolutions urged the recognition by the Government of the value of Forest land apart from the mature timber, and the protection of logged-off lands and areas of young growth from unwise settlement. I believe something is to be done this year towards defining agricultural land by soil value, but probably a good deal of missionary work will have to be done before the majority of our citizens will agree to give up the privilege of obtaining isolated patches of good land for agriculture or home-site just because the privilege may reduce the value of a forest area. Nor is there any absolute knowledge as to what is wise and what unwise settlement within forest lands.

"It was felt that the money spent on Forest stock-taking and investigations is far too little, and the formation of a Forest Management Fund by a tax on Timber Sales and an equal amount from general revenue was recommended.

"A general demand appeared for information leading to more accurate stumpage appraisals, such as market prices, current sale study of logging costs and appraisal methods. Every effort is being made to supply this demand.

"The importance of organization of Management work on a standard basis was evidenced and definite suggestions to that end were brought forward and are being acted upon.

"We like to feel that 'ROOT & BRANCH' is open for free discussion. Apart from meeting resolutions, I suggest, Mr. EDITOR that you assure us that any field officer's honest opinions or suggestions will not be despised by you even if they should happen to be at variance with the policies of the day. Some of the Rangers have an idea that only matter of the 'Dr. Watson' style is acceptable - but I'm sure you do not mean the magazine to deteriorate into a Head Office bulletin. 'Quot homines tot sententiae'. Let them all be heard."

(We cannot be more emphatic than we have been, in our efforts to make it clear that this magazine exists mainly for the very purpose to which Mr. Mulholland refers in his closing sentences. If the Headquarters Staff have seemed to predominate, it is due entirely to the unaccountable reluctance of the field men to make themselves heard. In other words, we pipe but they won't dance!)

"Mr. MOORE, in the last number of 'ROOT & BRANCH'", says Mr. Melrose, "very aptly brings up the question of the Slash Disposal clause of the Timber Sale Contracts, and the indefinite way in which it is worded. We thoroughly agree that the usual indefinite clause is unfair both to the operator and to the range and liable to cause considerable trouble. But what can one do when the recommendations from the field are entirely indefinite? For instance, out of fifteen sales taken at random that I have just glanced over, only three reports made any definite statement as to how the slash should be disposed of; one had nothing in that section and the rest were entirely indefinite. Some reports actually recommend the indefinite clause!

"Now, the whole thing comes down to the man in the field. He is unfair to himself, the operator, and the rest of us when he does not decide in advance of making out the contract just what he wants done with the slash. His past experience must tell him what is the best system from a protection point of view and silvi-culturally. If it doesn't, it's time he studied the question and arrived at a definite conclusion. Right or wrong - the field man must decide. He is the only one who can, and he must do it when he cruises the sale.

"To my mind, there has been a lot of 'buck-passing' in the slash disposal clause. A little fear of waking the baby has deterred some of us from coming right out and saying what must be done. We pass it off in the hope that the problem in that particular area will solve itself. Sometimes it does, but often not in the way we want, whereas a little foresight would get the desired results.

"Possibly many cases do not call for any slash disposal - then why not say so? As long as we cannot make up our minds as to what we want done, just so long must we leave that unsatisfactory loophole through which to pass the buck!

"We have just sent out a list of standard contract clauses among which is the one in question, and others of a definite nature, designed to cover all methods of slash disposal at present thought practicable. Some study in the field and the use of the proper wording in the contract document should get over the trouble that Mr. MOORE has mentioned."

... ..

Here's a useful tip in regard to the WONDER Pump. "It does not always start on the minute, when you want it," writes Ranger J.T. PRICE (Ymir) "but I have found that by opening the carburetor one-sixteenth of an inch and priming the pump with a mixture of Fifty per cent. ether and Fifty per cent. QUEEN Gas, the pump will start on the second priming. This saves time, broken knuckles - and maybe a cracked jaw!"

"I have found many items and suggestions which have been most helpful in many ways," continues Ranger Price; "and I want to assure you that they have been greatly appreciated."

The Radio-Phone a Forest Branch Asset - The radio-phone was first adopted by the Forest Branch as a Forest Protection measure, and as such its performance and value compares very creditably with any other protection equipment. During the Fire Season, reports on locations of new fires, progress made with old fires, distribution of equipment, etc., are continually pouring into the Vancouver office. The District Forester is at all times familiar with the disposition, cost, size and other details of all fires within the range of the wireless stations. In a like manner such information is received by land stations from the launches equipped and advice of new fires given to the Rangers. The value of this cannot be readily computed, but is sufficiently obvious.

During 1922, the land station at THURSTON BAY handled 105,981 words, exclusive of messages to and from launches. Even at a nominal rate of two or three cents a word, the monetary value of this service runs into thousands of dollars. But the value is not confined to this - each message has an individual value and will save considerable expense at times.

As an instance - A few days ago a message was received at Thurston Bay requiring urgent department business to be attended to at Knox Bay. A wireless message was sent to the launch KIORA which was in that vicinity, the business was attended to, and a reply received almost immediately. All this obviated the necessity of a special trip by launch from Thurston Bay, the saving in this case being about Thirty Dollars.

Last year an operator in Wellbore Channel had a big fire burning on his operation, out of control and threatening his camp. He sent a wireless message to Vancouver for a fire-fighting pump and hose, which was delivered by aeroplane within a few hours. In this case time meant everything.

During the whole year, wireless is speeding up and helping Timber administration. For instance, a Ranger will visit a new area, and not being familiar with the boundaries, etc., will wire to Vancouver for the desired information, which he is able to get before he leaves the neighbourhood, thereby effecting a considerable saving in time and expense, as it will not be necessary for him to revisit the area to complete his work.

It cannot be doubted that the Radio-phone is an investment which pays.

H. G. Garman,

"There is one thing to remember, however, and that is that the forest service of B.C. is the smartest and most progressive on the continent. Their work is not greatly advertised, but by making use of air craft, for the detection of fires and the carrying of fire protection appliances, and wireless for summoning assistance, they are daily reducing the fire hazard which has been responsible for tremendous losses in the past."

(R.M. Fassie, Editor, 'Pacific Coast Lumberman', in
The VANCOUVER SUN, May 4th, 1923.)

NANAIMO BOYS GET FOREST AIDE BUTTONS

(From 'Nanaimo Free Press' May 28th.)

Forest Aide badges are available to the boys of Nanaimo. The badge of a Forest Aide is a button, the centre of which is a tree encircled by a scroll bearing the words "We Guard the Forests" and the title "Forest Aide" in the centre. Thousands of these badges are being worn by the patriotic youth of British Columbia and it is anticipated that it will soon become very conspicuous in Nanaimo. The badge may be had free of charge on application to the Forest Office, 3 Blumpton Block.

A Forest Aide is a patriot of a high order because he combines practical help with love for his country. He is among the advance guard of a people who will eventually make our forests fire proof, as far as is humanly possible, for in 1922 2,591 fires occurred within the Province, 2,462 of which were caused by human agency; some were accidental and the rest were the result of apathy or ignorance.

His efforts are directed to the end that in the years to come, it shall not truthfully be said - "Our fathers in their abundance grew lax; they had large forests but wasted them."

... ..

(The badges, by the way, were not obtained quite so easily as the above would indicate. The boy had to do rather more than just ask for it - he had to satisfy Supervisor Flumerfelt that he had an intelligent idea of what was involved before the badge passed into his possession. Ed.)

"BE PREPARED" - Several ways in which we can be of assistance to the Boy Scouts are indicated in our leading article, and Mr. St Clair in his article shows some of the ways in which they can assist us. No doubt other ways will suggest themselves. For instance, we might adopt their motto "Be Prepared."

Assistant Forester T.H. Wilkinson reports that Ranger Heath's fire-fighting tools were in the best condition of any in the Northern Interior.

Loyalty and enthusiasm is lacking nowhere, but these qualities admirable as they are, are not sufficient in themselves; they need the support of a high state of Preparedness.

"Trust in the Lord," said Oliver Cromwell, "and keep your powder dry!"

Manual work is rapidly becoming machine work. Fit yourself to work with your head.

EDITORIAL

In introducing Number One of Volume TWO, we wish to thank most sincerely those friends and counsellors and willing co-workers without whose assistance "ROOT & BRANCH" would surely have perished in infancy.

It is true that our progress has not been free from stumblings, but those stumblings would have been much more serious had it not been for the kindly hands which have always been ready to guide our unwary feet. That is a fact of which we are acutely conscious.

The associations we have formed and the contacts we have made in our Editorial capacity have been to us a source of constant pleasure, tempered only by the keen regret that in the stumblings to which we have referred, it was not ourselves but others who were hurt.

What is to be the ultimate destiny of "ROOT & BRANCH" we do not know, but that its influence and importance are increasing is a fact which grows more apparent month by month, and one which we are inclined to regard almost with regret. For we fear that the time may come when we shall have to resign our charge to abler hands; we can drive a team, but we doubt our ability to handle a coach-and-six!

However, it will be time enough to cross that bridge when we actually come to it.

From time to time, we have endeavoured to make it plain that we expect criticism, and in token of our sincerity we take issue with the Chief Forester.

In his article on "THE FIRE SITUATION" the Chief Forester sets forth the 'objective' set by the U. S. Federal Service, and proceeds to show how far short the B. C. Forest Service falls of that ideal. There is an inference conveyed in this which we do not admit - namely, that the U. S. Federal Service have progressed farther towards the ideal than have we.

We are all striving to make progress along our respective fronts, and it cannot be denied that we are still a very long way from our ultimate goal. Still, we have reason justly to feel proud of our organization and of the progress we have made along the lines of Forest Protection; and nobody is more ready to admit that fact than our American confreres, or more generous in their praise.

FIELD NOTES

All field parties but one are now actively at work. E.E.Gregg was the first to get away and is now doing a number of timber sale applications on the Queen Charlotte Islands. He has a party of 12 men and moves camp by launch.

The Horsefly party under P. M. Barr left on the 15th of May and are now well established on the job in the Cariboo District. This also is a 12-man party, using pack horses for moving. They will cruise all the timber on the Horsefly River and tributaries.

J.L.Alexander has two investigative parties at work on the Coast. One party is making studies of waste occasioned by steam operations, while the other is carrying on reproduction and sample plot studies to cover the main types of the Southern Coast.

Messrs Limpus and McKay are working on the White Pine Blister Rust under the direction of Mr. A.T.Davidson. They are now in the Mable Lake region of the Vernon Forest District.

Insect Control crews under the direction of Mr. Ralph Hopping are hitting the bugs on the nose in the Vernon and Kamloops District and Mr. Hopping hopes to gain the upper hand this year - and to keep it, by a judicious amount of control work each year following. The work in the Adams Lake valley, Kamloops District, is mainly cleaning up old workings.

Land Examination and Classification in the Port George District near McBride is being attacked very intensively this year with a soil analysis to accompany the forest cover report. Mr. J.H.Jenkins is making the forest cover report and Mr. R.A.Fisher is the soil expert. We expect to get some good results in land classification from this project.

A general reconnaissance of the country tributary to the P.G.E. to find out just what may be expected in timber traffic to that line is being made by W.W.Stevens. He has A.E.Collins as assistant with a packer-cook and pack train. He will cover the Bridge, Chilcotin and Blackwater Rivers and their tributaries, with possibly some of the Cottonwood and Quesnel Rivers.

S. E. Marling is now in the Nelson District lining up the advance work for a cruise of various areas of pulp timber tributary to Kootenay Lake. These areas are in isolated patches and will require much moving of camp, and running of tie and control lines. The work is likely to be expansive for that reason.

Professor H.R.CHRISTIE of the University of B.C. has been on a lecturing tour of the Northern Interior, where he addressed a number of local organizations on the subject of Forest Resources, Fire Prevention, and Forest Industries, which has helped materially in local public education.

NOTES ON FORESTS, FOREST INDUSTRIES, AND FOREST
PROTECTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. (by P.S. Bonney)

Forests are absolutely necessary to the mental, moral and physical health of any nation. History plainly shows that when a nation suffers the destruction of her forests or neglects to preserve them, she becomes a decadent nation and fails in most branches of science, industry and art. We see in China and Spain two examples of the effect of forest destruction upon the lives of nations. Both countries once had extensive forests, and were mighty nations for several centuries; both countries permitted the destruction of their forest resources and became the decadent nations they are today.

Our own Province of British Columbia cannot, of course, be classed as a nation, but we are a part of a great nation and as such are subject to the influences that are produced by our forests. Let us examine for a moment the situation and estimate roughly the extent of our original forest resources as well as the remainder which we now have. The total forest resources of British Columbia are estimated at 350 Billions of feet at present - perhaps you will be astonished to learn that we had at one time three times as much timber as we have now, and that at least 650 billions of feet have been destroyed by fire!

The greater proportion of this enormous destruction of our forests occurred within a relatively short term of years, compared with the life of a nation. While it is true that we have not yet reached the stage of timber famine or forest exhaustion with all their evil influences, at the same time we must begin to take steps now before it is too late, to protect our forests from fire and preserve them for proper use. It is estimated that the remaining stands of accessible timber on this continent will be used up within the next sixty or seventy years at the present rate of consumption.

The Forests of British Columbia constitute one of our greatest natural resources, and our timber industries have been developed until they are now greater in importance than any other of our industries. There are over four hundred lumber and shingle mills located in various parts of the Province, as well as several large pulp and paper mills. Over 20,000 people find employment in various branches of the timber industry and they receive nearly one third of the total wages paid in the Province. Many millions of dollars (approximately fifty Millions) are invested in the manufacture of our forest products. Nearly three million dollars in revenue are produced each year from the forests.

There are about two Billion feet of timber cut from the Forests of British Columbia each year, which is worth about Ninety Million Dollars in its finished form. It may be difficult for you to grasp just how much Two Billion Feet of timber represents, and perhaps we can make it clearer by comparing it with some smaller unit of measurement. For instance, you have all seen a wagon-load of lumber, and if you will assume that the average wagon carries

2,000 feet of lumber, then it would require a million wagons to carry the amount of timber which is cut each year in British Columbia. If these wagons were all loaded at one time they would stretch across Canada twice. A solid train six hundred miles long and containing 80,000 cars, would be needed to ship one year's cut of timber out of the province; and if we shipped one entire year's cut by ocean routes over 660 large ships would be required to carry it!

The production of timber products is continually increasing and within the next ten years will probably be twice our present output. If fire was kept out of the forests we could with safety cut three times our present amount without injury to them, providing, of course, that proper systems of cutting and management were followed.

Unfortunately, Forest Fires each year destroy large quantities of merchantable timber as well as large areas of young growing forests. During the fire season of 1922 there were a total of 2,591 Forest Fires in the Province. Less than ten per cent. of these fires were caused by lightning, and the remainder were directly traceable to human agencies, and were therefore preventable. Campers and travellers started 626 fires, Railroad operations were responsible for 332, and other industrial operations caused 203 fires. There were 829 fires of unknown and miscellaneous causes, and the balance may be called lightning fires.

These fires destroyed \$1,500,000 worth of forests and \$700,000 worth of other property. Nearly \$500,000 was expended in fighting and controlling them, and in addition about \$300,000 was spent by the Government for fire protection forces and equipment.

These staggering losses of our forest wealth together with the huge expenditures required to combat and control fires are a tremendous drain upon the resources and strength of the Province; and it is the plain duty of every man and woman, boy and girl, living in it to take an active interest in this important section of our work and to do his or her utmost to prevent and suppress fires in the forest.

As probably you all know, there is a Branch of the Dept. of Lands called the 'Forest Service' which administers the timber lands of the Province. The Province is divided into eight districts for purposes of administration, each being in charge of a District Forester, who in turn works under the direction of the Chief Forester located in Victoria. Each Forest district is again divided into Ranger Districts, which are handled by Forest Rangers, and the Rangers are assisted during the fire season by a number of Assistant Rangers and Patrolmen.

The Forest Officers throughout the Province are further assisted in their important work by a number of public-spirited citizens who have been enrolled as Honorary Fire Wardens - who report all fires as soon as they are discovered, organize small crews and fight fires while they are still of small size.

Fire-fighting tools, such as shovels, axes, mattocks and saws, are located in each district at strategic points. A number of fire pumps equipped with 1,000 feet of hose, and capable of throwing 40 gallons of water per minute, are kept in readiness in each district. Ford cars, launches, speeders, horses, and even sea-planes are used for transportation purposes.

Fires are reported by the quickest available means of communication. In the Vancouver Forest District a system of wireless telephones has been installed and is giving excellent results.

Forest Fire Laws have been enacted to govern the use of fire during the dangerous season and to provide penalties for people who carelessly disregard the safety of the forests or attempt to destroy them by setting out fires. Between May 1st and Sept. 30th, which is usually the period of fire danger, it is unlawful for anyone to start a fire except for cooking food, for warmth, or for industrial purposes, without first obtaining a permit from a Forest Ranger. Settlers who want to clear their slashed lands are given permits to burn, provided conditions are reasonably safe, but very often someone will start a fire without a permit when the weather is dry and windy, and usually a bad forest fire results which may often do thousands of dollars worth of damage. In cases where a man burns without a permit, he is prosecuted, and fined or imprisoned if found guilty.

Every citizen has a vital interest in the protection of our forests, and we should regard every person who is careless with fire in the forest exactly as we would if he were careless with fire in a city or town. Each one of us should individually make it our personal business to be careful with fire when we are in or near forest lands, and to report all fires as soon as we discover them to the nearest forest officer, and at the same time try to put them out if we can.

A number of pacifist statesmen, just before the Great War, boasted that if their country were attacked a million men would spring to arms immediately. These same statesmen forgot that even though this million might have the spirit and courage to protect their country, they would not have the arms, equipment or training. As in the case of war, so it is with Forest Fires - we must have a trained and equipped organization of men who understand how to prevent and control fires of all sorts when they break out. In addition, however, it is absolutely necessary that the people of the country give their active support in protecting the Forest from fire, because without the support and co-operation of the general public it would be impossible for any fire prevention organization to accomplish satisfactory results.

Nature builds her forests perfectly, but very slowly, and requires nearly a hundred years to grow a tree from the seedling stage to one of fair size. A Forest Fire, which may have resulted from someone's carelessly dropping a lighted match, will destroy a hundred years of Nature's patient work in a few minutes !

Forests were intended for the use of mankind, but in order to maintain them for use through the centuries which are to come, we must manage our forests with the idea of keeping the producing wood crops each year. This cannot be accomplished unless fire is kept out of the forests.

Now in conclusion, let me remind you that practically all forest fires start from human carelessness in some form or another. Let me appeal to every man and woman, boy and girl to do his or her utmost to prevent and extinguish fires in or near forest lands. If we could get every citizen in the Province to take a real and active interest in forest protection, and also to be consistently careful with fire, the losses of our forest wealth would be reduced to a very small figure.

... ..

(We have quoted Mr. Bonney at some considerable length, as we feel that he has framed an excellent appeal to the lay mind. A tremendous amount of educational work can be accomplished if we avail ourselves of the opportunities which are continually offered to spread the gospel of Forest Protection in this way. Ed.)

COMPULSION MAKES A FRIEND - The following is an extract from a letter received by the Vancouver Forest District from an operator -

"Referring to the new regulation regarding Spark Arresters for Donkey Engines, would advise that I have purchased five for use in my logging operations on the North Shore of B----- Inlet. The donkeys are working at an elevation of 2700 feet - probably the most dangerous fire hazard in the Province. The wind in this particular section is strong and continuous...W..... When I was notified by your Department that I must equip my machines with arresters approved by you, I considered myself the victim of Government red-tape, but I want to say right here and now that you were absolutely correct... Thanking you for having compelled me to adopt an approved Spark Arrester, I remain."

EXTRACTS FROM SCHOOL ESSAYS - "The happy conditions are most complete in the Province of B. C., where an able and enlightened forest service has placed on the statute books forestry legislation that is a shining example of foresight and a model to be followed by the rest of the Dominion."

"Modern man is a newspaper reading animal, and here is another tremendous drain on our forest reserves. Alas, our noble trees often perish to convey most trashy information."

"Much money is wasted every year not only in the actual fire, but in the wages of the rangers." (This is a precocious youngster!)

PERSONAL PARS

News has just come to hand of the birth of a son to District Forester and Mrs ANDREWS of Vancouver. We unite in tendering our best wishes. May the little chap enjoy long life and happiness.

... ..

Our family circle has been augmented in the Prince George District by a boy and a girl. Asst. Rangers J.B. Edwards (Tete Jaune) and D. Roumier (S. Fort George) are the happy fathers.

... ..

Assistant Forester T. H. Wilkinson is reported both from Prince Rupert and Prince George, where he has been giving considerable assistance in operation work incidental to organizing for the Fire Season.

... ..

Ranger W. G. Henning of Swanson Bay has tendered his resignation, to take effect on May 31st.

... ..

THURSTON BAY is becoming famous. They have had an enquiry for the Thurston Bay Hotel rates from an intending fair visitor; it was with regret that they announced their inability to comply. Also they have had a request for a free pass to ride on "the Marine Railway" at Thurston Bay, which they were obliged to refuse, on account (they claim) of the speed of the trains which makes it very hazardous for passengers.

... ..

Supervisor Bryant. (Scaling Staff, Vancouver) is back on the job again, we are pleased to learn, apparently quite recovered from his illness.

... ..

We hear that Miss Griffith, daughter of Ranger J.P. Griffith (Nelson) has been remarkably successful at the B.C. University.

... ..

E.J. Nash, Supervisor's Clerk at Thurston Bay, has declared a preference for field work and has been assigned to an Assistant Ranger district. The vacancy at Thurston Bay has been filled by the appointment of J.B. Howes. Howes is not a new-comer amongst us, having served as Assistant Ranger for two seasons in the Sayward District.

... ..

The Kamloops District is somewhat short-handed for the time being, in view of the promotion of Assistant District Forester C.J. Haddon, and of the fact that Rangers Powell and Horne are no longer with us.

... ..

C.L. Armstrong, formerly Junior Forester in the Vancouver District, and more recently Assistant District Forester at CRANBROOK, has tendered his resignation.

... ..

T.G.MARTIN is the new Supervisor's Clerk at Hazelton. He also has two years' previous service to his credit, as Patrolman and Assistant Ranger.

... ..

Scaler M.E.R. MacFarlane has resigned from the Scaling Staff at Vancouver. This vacancy has been taken up by the appointment of D. C. McRae to the permanent staff.

... ..

Mechanical Inspector Blake flitted in and out again last week. "Don't you ever get homesick, Jim?" we asked him. "H--1, no!" said Jim, "I'm never home long enough."

... ..

We hear it rumoured that Ranger Bob Little (Vernon) has a remarkable dog, which bids fair to rival Jim Blake's celebrated cinder hounds, or even the compass dog of F. D. Mulholland. Our information is somewhat meagre; would Ranger Little care to take the stand?

... ..

Ranger F.O'Grady is still in hospital, but his spirits remain unimpaired. He has displayed a fortitude and courage which is altogether too fine to be termed stoical. It will be goods new indeed when we hear that he is back amongst us again.

... ..

The appointment of Mrs. A. McLean to be Honorary Fire Warden at Gerrard (in the Nelson District) furnishes another striking instance of the fact that we move with the times, and that the Province of British Columbia marches in the van of progress.

Our women have the vote, they sit high in the councils of our Legislative Assembly, they render effective aid in the administration of Justice. What could be more fitting, then, than that they should take an active interest in the safeguarding of the most important of our natural resources?

In our attempts to interest and educate the public of British Columbia, and to awaken them to a realization of the tremendous importance of our Forests to the life of the Province and to the welfare and prosperity of its citizens, we could not wish for better allies than the women. They wield a powerful and increasing influence with whole-hearted sincerity and we feel that the appointment of a woman to the Honorary Staff is a step upon which the District Forester at Nelson is to be warmly congratulated.

... ..

Yes, we are scandalously late this time, and we know it! No, we haven't been sick; we've just been plumb out of luck.

... ..

ON "TIES".

"Here's a few generalities on Ties, one of the most productive and best-distributed payrolls that our District has," writes District Forester GIBSON from Prince George.

"I venture to suggest that a tie hack's idea of Heaven would be mixed with straight Jackpine, 5-6 ties high, 11-12 inches D.B.H., with few limbs and no red rot. I would hate to have to indicate what his ideas of the nether world would be!

"This red rot appears to be the first stages of a brown dry centre rot or heart rot, and results in No.1 ties, perfect but for this, being graded as No.3 by the Tie Inspectors.

"The record load of ties for this district was hauled by a four up belonging to the Northern Forest Products Co. and consisted of 276 ties. When one considers that the average car-load is 350 ties, and the weight of 276 ties would be about 25 tons, it makes a big load on a five-and-a-half mile haul over a snow road! This Company hauled altogether with four-ups, the sleighs having a rack 25 feet between stakes, and when the road was good the average load was about 100 ties.

"In contrast to these large loads on good snow roads, loads of 16-20 ties were observed coming into Prince George when the ground was bare, on wagons and Ford Trucks.

"This industry brought into the Prince George district an expenditure of approximately three-quarters of a million dollar, and provided employment for all the surplus labor of the district. The prevailing prices for ties this season were - No.1, 67¢, No.2, 57¢, and No.3, 35¢ - sub-contractors and pre-emptors having direct contracts being paid on the basis of 10¢ less.

"Good large tie chances within sleigh haul of the railway are becoming hard to find, and it will be but a few years before different methods of tie transportation will be developed. I feel that probably this industry will open a considerable field for the tractor with trailer sled for long hauls."

FROM SCHOOL ESSAYS - "Maybe some time someone is in danger of some animal, they can climb a tree."

"Animals protect the forests by their fur."

"The forests were planted and re-planted by the nerveless Rangers."

(Speaking of pines) "Their value varies, curiously enough, with the number of needles."

"They attract hunters, trappers, gamers and pleasurers."

"THERE IS NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN"

"In talking to the public on Forest Protection," writes A.E. Pickford (Nelson), "we are often drawn into a discussion of conditions existing in the early days. Of course, we have our own statistics to show results during recent years, but for history most of us are thrown back to hearsay from old timers. The following extract from a report on the Rocky Mountains, published in 1886, coming from a man of such widely acknowledged reliability as Dr. G.M. DAWSON, should prove a useful addition to the historical lore of those who make it their business to sell Forest Protection ideals.-

"I noted also of the Columbia Valley south of the mouth of the Kicking Horse, in August 1884, that most of the small streams coming from the mountains to the east showed marks of excessively heavy flood-water in the earlier part of the same year..... New channels cut out in old accumulations revealed also layers reddened by forest fires which must have occurred centuries ago, showing that the destruction of the forest by fire was even then in progress. It may be added here that evidence of the same nature with regard to very old forest fires was noticed in railway cutting on the Kicking Horse Pass, and also in one place on the Bow River, where modern forests (at least a hundred years in age) were growing above the reddened layer, still holding pieces of charcoal, which evidenced the destruction of a former growth.

"Notwithstanding the evidence previously mentioned of the occurrence of forest fires in ancient times in these mountains, it is only within the historic period of the region (probably not before the beginning of the century) that such fires became common, and during the past few years their frequency has increased in a great accelerating ratio. The effect of such fires is most disastrous. Large quantities of valuable timber are destroyed and whole regions become so blocked with tangled burnt woods and wind-falls as to be practically inaccessible, while the mountain scenery is seriously marred. These destructive fires in most cases arise through sheer carelessness or wantonness, and the most stringent measures should be taken to prevent them before it is too late. As the class of persons most careless in this respect is generally the least desirable to retain in any country, the authorities would find the respectable portion of the community in full sympathy with them in any measures adopted to check this evil. It is often stated that the Indians are responsible - for, the whole region in process of being ravaged by fires which they cannot prevent, they have become more careless than before. They would not, however, willingly destroy their own hunting grounds, and the best evidence of their care is found in the fact that, while along the North Kootenai Pass (which so far has been scarcely used except by the Indians) the woods are generally unburnt, those in the vicinity of the parallel of the Crows Nest Pass, which has now been for a few years a route used by the whites, are entirely destroyed and represented only by bleaching or blackened trunks."

ORGANIZATION - Sam was driving along a country road, when a horsefly started digging-in on one of his mules. Out flicks his long 'blacksnake' whip and the fly passed into oblivion.

A little further on, and Sam spied a tiny lizard scuttling up a tree. Out went the whiplash again, and the lizard ceased to take interest in wordly affairs.

'Sam,' suggested his white companion, who had been admiring his skill with the whip, 'see if you can bring down that hornet's nest up there.'

'No suh, boss! No sub!' Sam objected vigorously, urging his mules to a faster pace. 'Aint monkeyin' wif no hornets. Dem dawg-gone bugs is awganized.'

CO-OPERATION - "Co-operation! What a wonderful word - as broad as space and as narrow as a crack, and used most by those who practice it least. Co-operation is easy to pronounce, but difficult to practice. It covers a multitude of sins, and serves as a shield for those who constantly plead for it and are anxious to get it, but who never give it in return. Co-operation must be given before it can be gotten."

Co-operation means to work with as well as for others. True co-operation keeps constantly before it the final result, and does not falter, hesitate or stop at petty annoyances encountered in the day's work. Co-operation is a jealous dame, and demands the full measure of undivided attention and devotion. It is an irresistible power only when it is Co-operation. Its machinery is so finely adjusted that constant vigilance is needed to keep it running without friction.

Co-operation is the motive power in collective accomplishment and the most potent factor in modern Business. It is an elusive element and one which cannot be definitely charted. It is a creature of mind and will, as free as air, as difficult to confine and most appreciated when lacking. Its presence is felt rather than seen. The results obtained by and through co-operation are the only conclusive evidence of its existence."

(W.H.Gibbons, 'Studying One's Business', in the
West Coast Lumberman.)

The Kamloops District has been favoured with excellent logging weather throughout the winter, District Forester PROWD informs us. This has produced an output of logs considerably in excess of that of 1922, while an extremely active market in cedar poles is bringing in this class of material in large quantities. Tie production has been normal, and many comments are being made upon the rigid inspection to which they are subjected. Prospects are that the lumber industry there is due to share in the general prosperity, and timber sales (especially for cedar poles) are expected to be in active demand throughout the summer months. "Taking it all in all, we look for a busy season," says Mr. PROWD.

FIRES AND CAMP FIRES

(from 'Rod and Gun in Canada.')

Some time ago we wrote to the Chief Forester of the Province of British Columbia requesting information relative to Forest fires and, in addition, asked what percentage of fires had their origin at the hands of careless campers. Take a look at his letter and see what you think of it -

"Your letter of February 1 is received.

"The fire losses of the Season 1922, so far as concerns the destruction of timber, amounts to 730 million feet valued at one-and-a-half million dollars, while other forms of property destroyed including farm buildings, logging equipment, etc. amounted to \$693,016. Out of a total of 2591 fires, the greatest single cause of starting such fires is that listed as Campers and Travellers, who were known to be responsible for 625 or 24.2 per cent. There is little doubt that a number of the fires which started from 'unknown causes' amounting to 536 can also be attributed to campers and travellers; so that it is fairly safe to say that 25 per cent. of all the fires caused in B.C. last year were caused by the carelessness of people who should have the greatest interest in keeping the forests green. I trust the foregoing is what you need."

"I trust the foregoing is what you need." YE GODS!!

We who edit various departments in this magazine and who consistently uphold the rights of those who love the outdoors, get a letter like this telling us that our friends are guilty of criminal negligence and that our country is losing millions of dollars every year just ~~because~~ we don't supply nursemaids to run after people who can't be trusted to take a matchbox into the wood. We admit we don't like it. If there is any class of people in this country who should make it their business to keep the woods green to the end that they and others may go back next year and find the old camping-grounds intact, and also that vast game refuges may not be destroyed, it is those people who are referred to in the Chief Forester's letter.

We are fully aware of the fact that lightning causes many forest fires; that locomotives and sawmills cause enormous losses; and that careless 'travellers' (hoboes and men who throw cigar and cigarette butts from trains) cause others; but we cannot find a leakproof excuse for those who are supposed to be good citizens at home, but who shed their common decency as soon as they move into a tent or go out for a picnic. Their blooming holiday isn't worth what it costs the country in taxes and losses to our vital resources.

We have no further remarks to make about these people, but for the benefit of those good scouts who are going to try camping this year and who are new to the game, we offer the following suggestions -

DON'T build your fire so close to dry timber or bushes that flying sparks will ignite either them or dry leaves and pine needles lying underneath.

DON'T build your fire on grass, leaves or pine needles. Clear a bare patch of ground seven feet or so in diameter and build your fire in the centre of it.

DON'T build your fire larger than is absolutely necessary. Small fires are better than large ones for cooking. Keep them small.

DON'T build fires against trees, stumps or logs. You might start something you can't stop.

DON'T burn large amounts of paper on an open fire. Paper, after charring but while still red hot, is picked up and carried by the breeze, and may set fire to inflammable leaves, etc., some distance from the camp.

DON'T allow children to play with matches - ever. They may build a 'play' fire that may result in a forest conflagration.

DON'T leave your fire, not even smouldering. High winds may spring up during your absence and either fan the almost dead embers into flame or blow them across the ground to raise havoc elsewhere. Cover your used fire with earth or sand, or what is far better Wet it down with Water. Nobody but a fool leaves red embers in the camp fire. A woodsman takes absolutely no chances; he never 'guesses it will be all right.'

DON'T feel peeved because we are emphasising the importance of fire prevention. British Columbia alone lost about \$2,000,000 in round figures last year because careless people 'went for a holiday.' Canada's losses were enormous. Play the game, keep the forests green, put your fire OUT and - don't forget.

(W.C.M. in 'Rod and Gun in Canada.')

CHECKING UP - A coloured youth entered a hardware store in a Southern town. 'Say, boss,' he asked, 'kin ah use yore tellyfoam?' 'Sure,' said the proprietor, 'hop to it,' and the following conversation ensued.

"Am dis Doc Simpson? Say, Doc, does yo-all need a cullud man aroun' yore place? Oh, yo has one? Is yo puffickly satisfied wid his puffomance? Yo is. Yo doan want to change? No? Awright suh!"

"Say, boy," said the proprietor, "if you're lookin' for a job I can give you one right here in my store." "Nossuh, boss, I'se wukkin' for Doc Simpson. I wuz jes checkin' up on maself."

"IT'S AN ILL WIND, etc." It was at a Scotch funeral and the cortege of sea-going hacks, each freighted with its load of mourners in sombre garb, was proceeding at a leisurely pace in the direction of the church-yard. In one of the vehicles rode a stranger, whose bona-fides it was decided to investigate.

"Ye'll be a brither o' the corpse, mebbe?" queried a mourner. "Na, ah'm no a brither," answered the stranger. A pause ensued. "Mebbe ye're a cousin, then?" "Na, nor a cousin. A longer pause. "Aye, aye! Then you'll be a frien' o' the corpse, mebbe?" "Na, ah'm no acquainted wi' the corpse at a', so far's ah ken," answered the stranger, genially. "Ah'm jist here because ma Doctor ordered me tae tak the air in an open kerriage."

FROM OUR MAIL-BAG - "Please to send me a Fir Permitt or the Fir Warden to burn on Lot ---- I would like to know why he as not been hear befor this it is a year ago to day since I got a permitt to Burn and then only for two week. Do you keep him a Glass Case or on Ice. Yours truly."

... ..

"Sir, your letter Jan 17 is at hand the present time since you have forwarded to us stated that X ---- expires on 31st of this month. The particulars which you got from us before Xmas was that X---- has been stoped firmly by the big fire during past summer and that the bridge build by us for the use of the contract logging was destroyed to hell by the river and that the skidding team was taking stock to get across river but we were trying to get across with said team but we cant we just get out near to the centre of the river and the team nearly drowned and ourselves. We remember we have no right to sacrificise ourselves or consent the cause of the death upon ourselves and we decide to wait untill the ise is found which we told you when you were here last time 18th Dec? and we commenced inspecting ice from Dec 1st until 26th Jan 1923 the ise was past inspection and we commenced hauling the poles down and acrost the ise which we waited for a long time and this was the first Release of the Contract and again struggle ahead and we believe it shall be continued untill the amount of contract is finished though it is no sufficient merchatable timber left from the burn but we will try to seek for them as much as we can as we know that it is the very best to salvage the timber actuely found left from the burn The timber left From the burn will surely get dried in spring just as surely as the other burned some time ago in other place. We revive the contract as we will finish the amount of the contract and pay stumpage on it"

If all Lessees were equally determined we would have fewer half-logged areas, says Supervisor Leighton. "We speak of a logging 'chance' but this seems to have been anything but an 'odds on' shot!"

HONORARY FIRE WARDENS AND FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS

The following is a circular letter issued by the Vancouver Forest District to Supervisors and Rangers, setting out the extent of the authority vested in Honorary Fire Wardens and Fire Prevention Officers. This should be of general interest.

"The men who have been appointed as Honorary Fire Wardens have been appointed principally for the purpose of co-operating with the local Forest Officer in reporting forest fires and doing everything in their power to prevent them starting. These officials have not the authority granted under Sec.130 of the FOREST ACT as Fire Prevention Officers. They may be given authority by the local forest officer to secure a limited number of men to handle any fire that may occur. This authority, when given, should be in written form and should not authorise the Hon. Fire Warden to employ more than five men for a period of ten hours, as it is expected that by that time the Hon. Fire Warden will have been able to get in touch with the nearest patrolman or Assistant Ranger and report any fire occurring to him.

"Fire Prevention officers have been appointed chiefly in logging operations or in out-of-the-way localities, where it is necessary that a man be given the powers outlined under Sec.130. The appointment of Fire Prevention Officer gives the person receiving same full legal authority to call out men to fight fire. It does not, however, give authority to arrest any person refusing to fight fire; this authority is only granted to such officers of the Department who have been appointed special constables. When a person refuses to fight fire after being called upon to do so by a Fire Prevention Officer, he is liable to a penalty for this action.

"The appointment of Fire Prevention Officers is a new departure in Forest Protection organization, and Forest Officers concerned should therefore be particularly careful to see that the employers of Fire Prevention officers thoroughly understand the responsibilities and authority that goes with this appointment. Where a Fire Prevention officer leaves the employment of any company or Municipality, the appointment is terminated; and on receipt of recommendation by the person, Corporation or Municipality, a new appointment will be made immediately approval has been obtained from the Honourable the Minister of Lands."

ASK YOURSELF -

Am I hitched up right, or am I a round peg in a square hole? Am I strengthening my weak points, making my strong points stronger, and eliminating the things which are keeping me back - the enemies of my success? Do I decide things quickly, finally, or am I forever on the fence, fearing to make definite decisions which I cannot reconsider? Have I the initiative which begins things without being told to; which does things without waiting for others' instructions? Do I dare to attempt the thing which I instinctively feel capable of doing, and I know that I ought to do? (Ex.)

STOP PRESS NEWS.

Weather conditions on Saturday JUNE 9th made it seem advisable to postpone Vancouver's Basket Picnic until Saturday JUNE 16th., when it is hoped to be able to carry out the original programme, details of which are given below.

PROGRAMME

Sports commence at 2 p.m.

30 yds flat race (5 yrs and under)

50 yds flat race (boys, 5 - 10)

50 yds flat race (girls, 5 - 10)

100 yds flat race (boys, 10-16)

100 yds flat race (girls, 10-16)

100 yds flat race (Men)

50 yds flat race (Ladies)

Sack Race (Men)

Egg & Spoon Race (Ladies)

Egg & Spoon Race (girls)

Half-mile Walking Race (Men)

Cigarette Race (Ladies and gents.)

Potato & Spoon Race (Men)

Thread Needle Race (Ladies and Gents.)

Fat Men's Race, 200 lbs and over

Skipping Race (Boys)

Stout Ladies' Race, 150 lbs and over

Baby show (up to 3 years)

Tug-o-war (Loggers v Millmen)

Tug-o-war (Forest Branch v

All Comers)

Nail-driving contest (Ladies)

Hat Trimming contest (Men)

Age Limit for Children is 16 years.

Refreshments - 5.30 p. m.

Presentation of Prizes by Miss Dora Rolfs
(Victoria's Carnival Queen) at 7 p.m.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

At the High Cost of Living we've sportingly joked,
And kept hoping 'gainst hope for the best;
But when even at our picnic we risk being "soaked"
It would seem we're unduly oppressed!

"OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES COMETH WISDOM" - (From a School Essay) - 'If we could make the people understand this, instead of 'Woodman, spare that tree!' our slogan would be 'Camper, put out your Camp-fire.'

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TEACHING THE YOUNG IDEA - Operation Office have made arrangements to put upon the market a school scribbler with a pictorial cover, in the interests of Forest Protection.

The first picture (there are four) shows a boy who has built his fire carelessly against a down log and without having taken the precaution to clear away the debris, with the result (second picture) that the surrounding forest is destroyed. On the other hand, the third picture shows a boy who has assimilated the Forest Protection idea; his fire is carefully built on cleared ground, and he has water at hand. Result (fourth picture) - the Forest is kept green, and the game is preserved, as is shown by a deer disposing itself on the careful boy's camp site.

There is no doubt that effective pictures (and these pictures are effective) make a very strong appeal, and in this case the pictures are accompanied by brief descriptive matter.

PREPAREDNESS - To refresh the memories of our readers, we quote the following extract from C.S. Cowan's article in the first number of 'ROOT & BRANCH.' -

"It has been the custom among Forest Service men, wherever two or three are gathered together, to think and talk optimistically about the approaching fire season; how their costs are going to be cut down, especially as 'we are due for a moist summer.' Optimism is a fine thing but it is most needed when the season is at its worst, so that the goal is always in sight and one depends on an organization that has been laboriously and painstakingly built up, and is standing the strain, rather than on the hope of rain. Forest Officers must always be prepared for the worst. If the best happens, why - he is that much to the good!"

"A PEEVED SCOT" writes us as follows - "Please lay off the Scotchmen and put this in its place -

'Nurse (a little exasperated): Do go to sleep, Willie!
Remember, there's a kind angel watching over you.

Willie: Oh, don't be so conceited, Nurse.'"

(Dinna get peeved, laddie! Ah'm Scotch masel' Ed.)

Well, what about this one? A friend of ours in the textile trade had occasion to go to London on a business trip. "Weel, Alec," we asked him on his return, "an' how did ye mak oot amang the English?" "Oh, fine," Alec said, "but ma business was maistly amang oor ain folk. Ye see, ah was dealin' only wi the heads o' departments."