

MEMORANDUM

1317255

94

TO Chief Forester,

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER

Vancouver, B.C.

Victoria.

Sept. 21 1938

0131739

Your File:

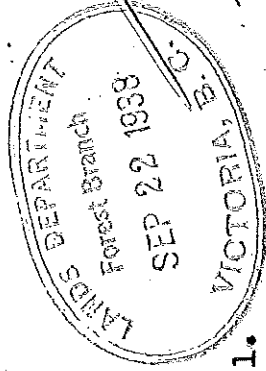
My File: O.F. #230 Bloedel

Refer to yours of

In accordance with instructions received from Mr. Melrose, enclosed please find the following accounts in connection with the evacuation at Bloedel Fire:-

John Cairns \$ 24.00
J.E. Barton 18.00

The above accounts are to be handed to the Deputy Provincial Secretary at Victoria, for payment.



DR
Encl.

E.P. Fox,
Chief Clerk.

102
MEMORANDUM

1317252

1317252

95

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER

Vancouver, B.C.

TO Chief Forester,

C.F. Branch,

Victoria, B. C.

September 21st, 1938

0131739

Your File:

My File: O.F. #230 - Bioedel

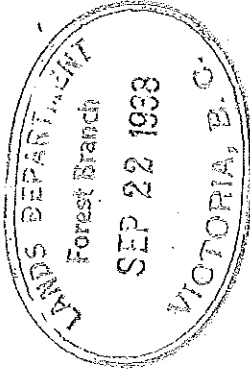
Refer to yours of

Attention "Mr. Melrose"

We enclose herewith statement covering hire of equipment from the Comox Logging & Railway Co. in connection with the Bloedel Fire.

While we are all in agreement as to the rates charged in this instance, we would like to have you look this over and, if possible, verify the dates as we are unable to do this here. As Supervisor Conway and yourself were in close touch with this subject on the Courtenay end of the fire, you may be in a position to furnish this information.

When you have looked this statement over, will you be good enough to forward same to Supervisor Conway with a request that he verify, if possible, the information requested and return to District Forester for payment.



JGM:EAY

Enc.

J. G. MacDonald
Fire Inspector

96
103
September 25, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Superintendent of Welfare,
Weiler Building,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing for your attention
the accounts of Messrs. John Cairns for \$24. and J.E.
Barton for \$18. for the evacuation of settlers at the
Bloedel Fire.

Yours truly,

Geo. P. Melrose,
Forester.

GPM:J
encls.

104

PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

FOREST BRANCH.

DEPARTMENT OF
LANDS.SEP 17 1938
VANCOUVER OFFICE

From

Counstancy, Vancouver Office.

File No.

Sept 15, 1938
O F Blood

To

D. H. Van

Office. File No.

O Accounts

Attention

Referring to

Carboned account for truck on
vacation in motor of C. C. Barton
Please send cheque to this office.

(Signature)

D. H. Van

September 23, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Supervisor J.B. Conway,
B.C. Forest Service,
Campbell River, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum from the Vancouver District and the account in question. We have not yet apparently settled on the rates for tractors except for Tansky who charges us considerably less than \$75. per shift. Possibly the other rates are quite reasonable but a two-ton Ford truck at \$2. per hour looks pretty high and a light Delivery at \$1. These must have been just standing by for considerable periods of time. The charge for fire pumps certainly seems to be considerably out of line since they were used almost entirely in saving the company's own property.

I am not able to check the actual dates or items for as you know I did not spend much time actually on the fire line while in and around Courtenay but you and Taylor will undoubtedly know more as to the actual units and when they were used. We will be quite satisfied with your check on the time put in. Beyond that, however, I have a distinct recollection that Mr. Filberg assured me that there would be no charge whatever for their equipment and I am rather surprised now to receive this huge bill for such use. In addition to which it seems that the maximum price is being charged for everything.

If you will check this over as far as you can, consult with Taylor and any others who are aware of the facts, and send the result back to Vancouver, we will then be in a position to deal with the company. In the meantime I do not need to advise you that no assurance of payment should be given.

Yours truly,

Geo. P. Melrose,
Forester.

CEM:J

Copy forwarded District Forester, Vancouver.



NATIONAL REVENUE, CANADA
(CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DIVISIONS)

1316878

99

COPY

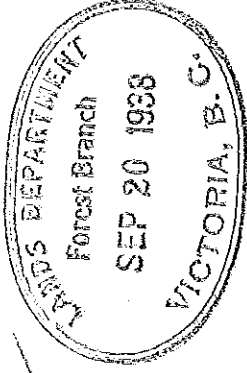
Refer to File No. 194493

Port of OTTAWA, 16th September, 1938.

0131739

Collector of Customs & Excise,
Vancouver,
B. C.

Dear Sir:



The department is in receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, relative to duty and taxes paid by the Finning Tractor and Equipment Company, Limited, on Angledozer ordered by the Forestry officials of the Department of Lands, Province of British Columbia, at a time when it was thought they would be required to combat forest fires on Vancouver Island, but the use of which articles was subsequently found unnecessary.

As a special case the department will not object to the goods being returned to warehouse and application being entered for refund of the duty and taxes paid, provided the goods can be identified to your satisfaction.

Yours truly,

Sgd. L. H. Taylor,

Secretary, Customs Division.

COPY TO: George P. Melrose, Esq.,
Department of Lands,
Forest Branch,
Victoria, B. C.

For your information and being further in reply to your letter to me of the 27th ultimo.

A. Larmichael,
Collector.

101
150
September 21, 1938.

File: 0131739.

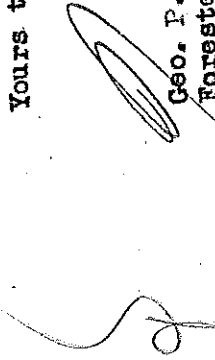
Finning Tractor & Equipment Co., Ltd.,
940 Station Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Gentlemen:

For your information I am enclosing
copy of a letter received from the Department of National
Revenue at Ottawa which is self-explanatory.

You should now get in touch with the
Collector at Vancouver and make your own arrangements for
returning the Angledozers to bond.

Yours truly,


Geo. P. Melrose,
Forester.

GPM:J
encl

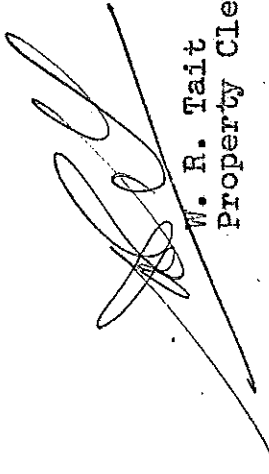
105

Vancouver, B. C.

September 21, 1938

Enclosed herewith Property Loss Certificate covering F.D.P. equipment lost at the Bloedel Fire. Will you have same signed and returned to this Office at your earliest convenience, so that we may have the opportunity of making invoices to cover the cost of equipment lost.

WRT:M
Encl.


W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

0131739

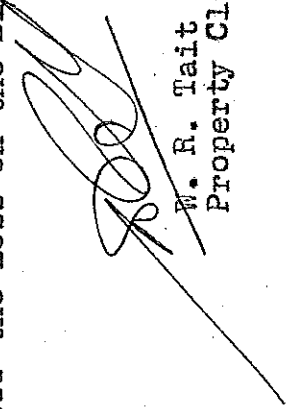
Vancouver, B. C.

September 22, 1968

With reference to Property Loss Certificate covering F.D.P. losses of equipment on the Bloedel Fire, which was forwarded to you for signature.

Would you kindly alter "17 falling saws" to read "16", and "19 bucking saws" to read "12". This is accounted for through a shipment of equipment which was returned to the Victoria warehouse yesterday from the Trout Lake Fire, which had one falling X-cut saw and seven bucking saws. We have therefore struck this amount off the Loss on the Bloedel Fire.

WRT:M



W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

0131739

Vancouver, B. C.

September 22, 1938

In checking over equipment returned from the Bloedel Fire, Campbell River, we find a considerable number of parts for twenty-five and ten-man mess kits. As none of these items were issued from Victoria, we believe that they might have been sent from one of the Ranger Districts to Campbell River.

We are enclosing herewith a list of these items. Would you kindly advise us where we should ship them; and if they should be going direct to a Ranger District, and you sent us a requisition to cover shortages on these kits, we would be able to buy the items required to have them completed, and have them shipped to the point you specify.

WRT:M
Encl.

W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

0131739

FC WEST PROTECTION STORES RETURNED FROM CAMPBELL RIVER

Bowls, soup enamel	43
Boxes, for knives & forks, 12-5/8"x10-7/8"x3 3/4"	2
Containers, 26-1/8"x12x17"	6
Containers Lids, 25 1/4"x11-5/8"x7"	6
Cups, miners tin	78
" enamel	10
Kettles, aluminum 4 gals.	1
" half oval, 10 1/4"x11"x12 3/4"	3
Kettle Chains	6
Ladles, retinned small	4
Lifters, pot	5
Ladles, retinned large	1
Mugs, aluminum	7
Pails, tin, 11" diameter, 14" deep	1
" " 10" " 12" "	2
" " 8 1/4" " 11" "	3
" " 7 1/4" " 10" "	3
" " 6 1/4" " 9" "	3
Pails, H.B. 16 quarts	1
" H.B. 14 "	1
Pans, half-oval, 10-3/4"x10"x3 3/4"	3
" " 14"x10 3/4"x3 3/4"	2
" frying steel	7
" baking, 20"x11 1/2"x2 1/2"	8
" milk, 11 1/2"x2 3/4"	4
" " 11"x3 1/4"	5
" " 10"x2 1/2"	3
" " 8 3/4"x3 1/4"	5
" " 7 1/4"x2 3/4"	3
" " 6 1/4"x1 3/4"	77

112

Plates, enamel	15
" tin	118
Pots, enamel 5 gals.	1
Reflectors, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x14"x3 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	5
Stoves, camp folding	2
Stovepipe, 5", lengths	4
" 5", elbows	2
" 5", dampers	1
Saws, butchers	1
Spoons, basting	3
Turners, cake	4

113 MEMORANDUM

1317752

TO Chief Forester,
Forest Branch,
Victoria, B. C.

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER
Vancouver, B.C.

September 23, 1938

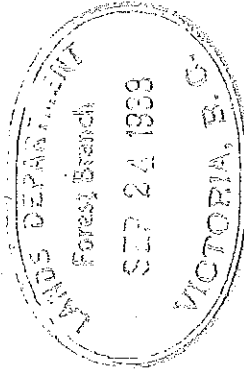
Your File: 0131739
 My File: O.F. #230 - Bloedel

Refer to yours of

Attention "Mr. Melrose"

With reference to the telephone conversation of today's date regarding medical attention to M. Hvolgaard, we are passing this account to you for your attention. *W.D.*

Regarding the second item on this account covering medical services rendered to Fred Peterson, for your information the ailment for which this man was treated was boils, and as the Workmen's Compensation Board would hardly consider claim in this connection, will you please deal with this matter at the same time.



J. G. MacDonald
 J. G. MacDonald
 Fire Inspector

JGM:EAY
 Encs.

Vancouver, B.C.

September 23.

September 27, 1935.

O.F. #230, Bloedel.

Attention: Mr. J.G. MacDonald.

As we instructed the first men listed on the attached account to report to the doctor, we will have to pay it. If such was the case in the second instance we should also pay it and you may so proceed.

GEM:J
encl

Geo. P. Melrose,
Forester.

0151739

115
Vancouver, B. C.

SEP
September 26, 1938

Attention: C. C. Ternan

In reply to your memorandum of September 24, with reference to account issued by McLennan, McFeely and Prior for \$28.76, wrenches, etc.

I would advise this was supplied to the Bloedel Fire and delivered to G. Melrose. I have seen Mr. Melrose, who agrees that he accepted delivery of same. They were turned over to Mr. Blake and put in the pump boxes along with the rest of the tools.

Mr. Melrose says this is a charge against the Bloedel Fire, and should be paid by the District.

WRT:M

0131739

W. R. Tait
(Per M.E.C.)

W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

Vancouver, B. C.

September 26, 1938

Attention: C. C. Tennan

In reply to your memorandum of September 24, with reference to Jeune Brothers invoices returned for O.K.

For your information, these tents and flys were F.D.P. equipment loaned by the Property Room to the Bloedel Fire. Invoices are O.K.'d in this office before being forwarded to you for payment.

W. R. Tait
(Per M.E.C.)

W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

WRT:M

0131739

117
October 4, 1938
File: 0131739

Supervisor J. B. Conway,
B. C. Forest Service,
Campbell River, B. C.

Dear Sir:

In checking the equipment which is being returned from the various fires within your District, we find the following items which were charged to timekeepers, etc., and are not yet accounted for:

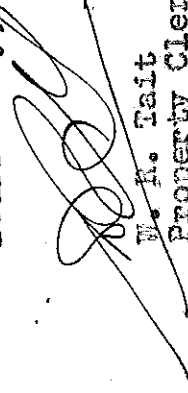
1	Typewriter
1	Machine, stapling
1	Tent, 12 x 14
9	Springs, bed

There may be other items still within your District. Would you be good enough to forward a list of same.

We have been advised by Foreman Freeman King that the equipment on the inventory we have here has all been returned to Elk Falls.

If the typewriter, etc., is still being used by some of your staff, would you forward a Property Receipt for those items mentioned.

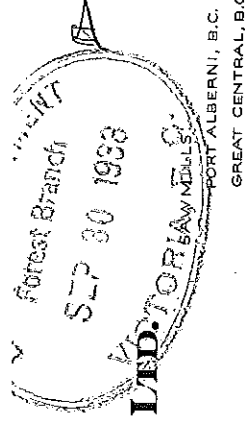
Yours truly,


W. H. Tait
Property Clerk

WRT:M

VANCOUVER OFFICE:
904 STANDARD BANK BLDG.

118



BLOEDEL, STEWART & WELCH LTD.
MANUFACTURING
PACIFIC COAST FOREST PRODUCTS

Bloedel File 0131738

P.O. BOX 307.

PORT ALBERNI, B.C.
Sept 29th 1938.

Mr. E.C. Maning
Chief Forester
Victoria
B.C.

1319188

Dear Sir:-

I understand your department has taken
aerial pictures of this years fire in the Campbell River
area. If possible Bloedel, Stewart & Welch Ltd. would like
to purchase a set of these pictures.

Would you please let me know when we could expect to be
able to get a set of these.

Yours truly,

H. H. Hutchinson

Copy Photo sent to Hutchinson file

Replied 50.02

119

September 30, 1938

File: 0151739

Bloddel, Stewart & Welch Ltd.,
P. O. Box 307,
Port Alberni, B. C.

Dear Sirs:

Replying to your letter of September 29th, I would advise that we have ordered the air photos of the large fire at Campbell River, and these will go forward to you in due course.

I might advise that the total cost will be in the neighbourhood of \$50.00 and trust this will be satisfactory.

Yours truly,

GFM/NO
[Signature]

[Signature]
C. P. Melrose,
Forester.

c.c. Forest Surveys

R. W. McMURRAY
MANAGER

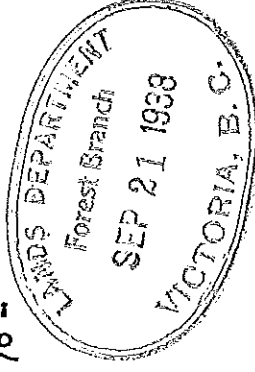
1316973

113

VICTORIA, B.C. September 17th, 1938. b.

- T 38 - 76 -

E. C. Manning, Esq.,
Chief Forester,
Department of Lands,
Forest Branch,
Victoria, B. C.



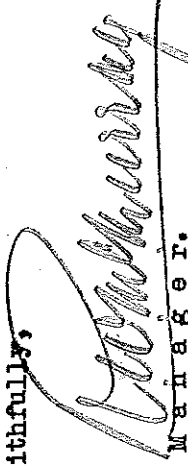
Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant,
file 0131739, and thank you for your expression of appreciation of
the help we were able to render your Department when they were
hardpressed fighting the large forest fire near Campbell River and
Courtenay this Summer.

Any help that we were able to render was gladly given
and you can always depend on our fullest co-operation in emergencies of
this nature because we realize what a wonderful asset the forests are,
even from the restricted and selfish viewpoint of our connection with
the tourist trade.

A copy of your letter has been passed along to the personnel of
the vessels concerned.

Yours faithfully,


Manager.

121

October 5, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Memorandum to:

Mr. Mulholland

Will you please arrange to have for me by October 20th without fail your summary of the "Bloedel" Fire, showing such information as total area burned over, area of barren or sparse reproduction burned, area of good reproduction burned, area of merchantable timber, etc.

[Signature]
Chief Forester.

KR

115
October 8, 1938.

File: 0130551

0131739 ✓

cc 102
Bloedel, Stewart & Welch, Ltd.,
Port Alberni, B.C.

Gentlemen:

Further to ours of September 30th, this is to advise that we are forwarding to you, under separate cover, 228 photographs and an index map of the Bloedel Fire.

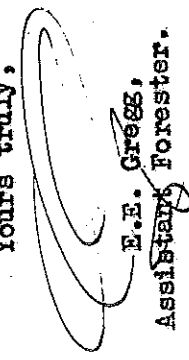
We trust you will find these of value. The prints may be placed in relation to each other by reference to the index map.

Attached is our account, No. 1475, for \$47.10 to cover the cost of printing.

With the naked eye one can only partially appreciate the value of an air photo. They should be viewed through a stereoscope. If you happen to be in Victoria soon we should be glad if you would call into our office so that we could show you some of these photographs under a stereoscope. It has the effect of adding a third dimension to the photo.

Our Surveys Division advise that they could supply you with a useful stereoscope for about \$20 or \$30. This would probably be considerably less than the cost of the factory made article.

Yours truly,


E.E. Gregg,
Assistant Forester.

EEG:J
encl

138
p.c.d.

123

October 8, 1938.

File: 0130551

0131739.✓

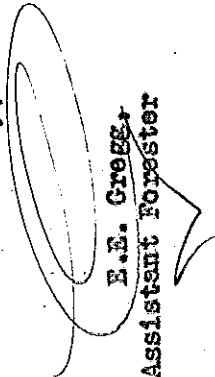
Comox Logging & Railway Co.,
Headquarters, B.C.

Attention: Mr. R.J. Filberg.

Dear Sir:

In connection with the photographs
and index map handed to you yesterday, kindly find
attached our account # 1474 for \$47.10 to cover the cost
of printing.

Yours truly,


E.E. Gregg,
Assistant Forester

REC:J
encl

p.c. Oct 12 1938

Mr. Melrose

please refer to file 124

124 117

October 3, 1938.

File: 0130551.

Mr. R. J. Filberg,
Vice-President,
Comox Logging and Ply. Co.,
Headquarters P.O.,
V.I.

Dear Mr. Filberg:

Referring to your verbal request for a complete set of our aerial photographs of the Campbell River fire area we did this job for the Protection Division and I have asked Mr. Melrose, Chief of that Division, to send you the photographs. They are now being printed and should reach you shortly. There are over 200 photographs.

Yours sincerely,

F.D.M.

F. D. Mulholland,
Forester.

FDM:JM

124

125
MEMORANDUM

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER
Vancouver, B.C.
October 6, 1938.

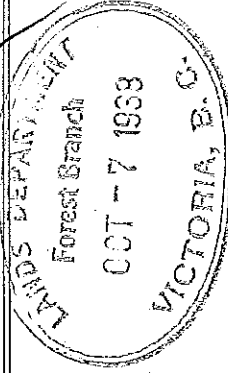
TO The Chief Forester,
Parliament Buildings,

Victoria, B. C.

Refer to yours of

Your File: OF #230, Bloedel,
My File: OF #526, Mud Lake

1320585



Attention Operation

As you know, at Campbell River we took over the Y. F. T. P. camp in charge of Freeman King who was of invaluable assistance all during the summer in the heavy fire work which occurred.

We are receiving accounts covering gasoline and repairs to car K26 under his charge, as well as Chevrolet truck 248 and Chevrolet 249, but are not sure whether or not we should charge these against the fires designated on the accounts. In the first place, we have no record of a number of these cars, as for instance Nos. 248 and 249, and we are attaching these accounts hereto and would ask that you look them over and advise whether or not these are legitimate charges against the fires.

We are also attaching an account for car 302 which we believe is Mr. Blake's car which was used around Campbell River in connection with the Mud Lake Fire while he was at Thurston Bay. Should this account also be charged to the fire?

Yikes
Ed Fernan
C. C. Ternan,
Asst. District Forester.

CCT.JM
Encls.

Charge all to fires concerned.

MEMORANDUM

F-147-1.38.

C
O
P
Y

To: Ass't. Chief Forester,
Dept. of Lands,
Buildings.

Attorney-General's Office.

Victoria, October 7th, 1938.

Re: Forest Protection Fund.
Your Files 016882 & 0131739.

Your memorandum of the 5th instant has been
duly received.

Section 117 of the "Forest Act" appears to give to an operator who has complied with the various conditions in the section an absolute right to obtain from the Forest Protection Fund the amounts "Allowed for wages paid for the services of the men so employed", that is, the men employed in extinguishing the fire. Further, it should be noted that this statutory right is not hedged with any right to pro rate such as is found in insurance policies, and, further, the Crown is not given the right of subrogation, that is, the right to be put in the shoes of the operator and to obtain damages from the person who really started the fire.

In my opinion the Crown has no right to demand any undertaking to refund from a person obtaining a payment to which he is entitled by the Statute: As a matter of fact, I very much doubt that any operator insured against the same risk that the Forest Protection Fund may be said to insure against could recover from his insurer without accounting for the payment he had received from the Forest Protection Fund, and the same consideration would apply if the person who had obtained payment under the Forest Protection Fund sought to recover the identical sum from the tortfeasor responsible for the setting of the fire.

In any event my opinion is, to put it bluntly, that it is no concern of yours whether or not the person receiving payment from the Forest Protection Fund obtains a similar payment from an insurance company or other person. It may be, however, that you may wish to consider an amendment to the Statute which would enable you to pro rate with the insurance company. Before you considered such an amendment, however, it would be wise to obtain full particulars of the nature of the insurance with which you would wish to pro rate.

Departmental Solicitor

127
Vancouver, B. C.

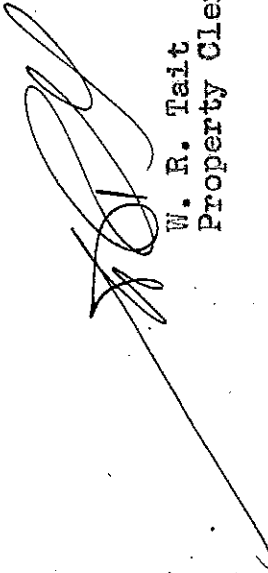
October 11, 1938

Enclosed herewith Property Loss Certificate in duplicate, covering equipment lost and destroyed on the Bloedel Fire.

You will note that the total cost of replacement of this equipment would be \$1121.69.

Will you have these Property Loss Certificates signed and return one copy to the Property Room in due course.

WRT:M
Encl.


W. R. Tait
Property Clerk

0131739

MEMORANDUM

TO Chief Forester,
Forest Branch,
Victoria, B. C.

Refer to yours of 9/28

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER

Vancouver, B.C.

October 7th, 19 38

Your File:

My File: O.F. #230 - Bloedel

Attention "Operation"

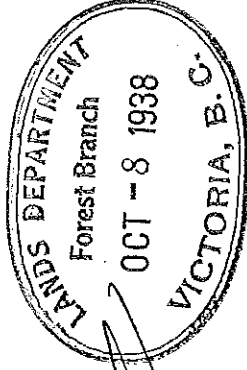
In accordance with instructions received from Mr. Melrose, enclosed please find the following account in connection with the evacuation at Bloedel Fire:-

C. W. Haas \$64.00

The above account is to handed to the Deputy Provincial Secretary at Victoria, for payment.

EAY

Enc.



MEMORANDUM

1320581

TO The Chief Forester,
Parliament Buildings,
Victoria, B. C.

FROM DISTRICT FORESTER

Vancouver, B.C.

October 5, 1938.

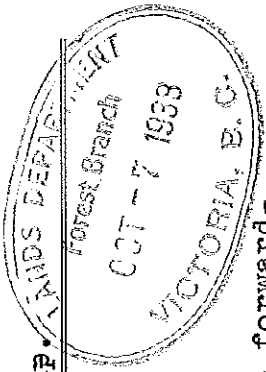
Your File:

Refer to yours of

My File:

O. Pers. Sup.

Attention Mr. Gregg



At the request of Mr. Melrose we are forwarding to you under separate cover the diaries for July and August of Messrs. Conway, Langstroth and Silke.

It is understood that you will have copies of these diaries made to be forwarded to Mr. MacQueen in California. Will you please arrange to have copies made without any delay and return the originals to this office as they are required in connection with the final fire report covering the Bloedel Fire.

Mr. Taylor is writing up his diary for July and August from field notes and will forward it to your office as soon as possible, with a like purpose in view.

CJH.JM

C. J. Haddon
C. J. Haddon,
District Forester.

130

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	FOREST BRANCH.	DEPARTMENT OF LANDS.
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COVERING LETTER.

From W. O. Brewster Date Oct 11 1938
To Mr. McCaughey Office 1117 File No. 9
Attention Mr. C. A. Goodhue Office 19 File No. 205

Referring to

Whereas with reference to the above mentioned
Letter - It was found that the same was being
forwarded to Mr. Goodhue
It was also found that the same was being
forwarded to Mr. Goodhue

(Signature)

Vancouver, B.C.

October 6, 1938.

October 11, 1938.

O.F. No. 230

O.F. No. 526

The seven attached accounts from the Campbell River Garage should all be charged to the fires concerned.

The account for Mr. Blake's car No. 30 will be a charge against his car and taken care of here.



T.A. Simmons,
for Forester.

TAS:J
encls

0131739 ✓

0132456

October 11, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Superintendent of Welfare,
Weller Building,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find account
for C.W. Haas for \$64. in connection with the
evacuation of certain residents during the fire
near Courtenay.

Yours truly,

T.A. Simmons,
for Forester.

TAS:j
encl

133

October 12, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Mr. I.C. MacQueen,
2807 Stuart St.,
Berkeley, Calif.,
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

At the request of Mr. Melrose we are forwarding you, under separate cover, copies of diaries of Messrs. Conway, Silke and Langstroth for July and August in connection with the Bloedel Fire.

Copies of Mr. Taylor's diary for the same period are now being made and will be sent you in due course.

Yours truly,



T.A. Simmons,
for Forester.

TAS:J



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VICTORIA, B.C.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS
FOREST BRANCH

October 11, 1938.

Files: 0131739
0130549.

Memorandum to the Chief Forester

As requested in your memorandum of the 5th instant we submit herewith a map and summary of areas burned over by the "Bloedel" fire.

This information is based upon the survey of the E. and N. Belt made by this Division during the last two years, brought up to date for logging and fires prior to the "Bloedel" fire. It is also based upon information from local forest officers, logging companies and vertical air photographs taken after the fire.

With regard to the 15,690 acres of mature timber burned over no estimate can be given of the volume destroyed but it is understood to be a small percentage, and the Comox Company, in particular, informs us that they will be logging the dead stands for some time.

FM:JM
encls.

Forester.

Richard M. Wood



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS
FOREST BRANCH

VICTORIA, B.C.

October 11, 1938.

Files: 0131739
0130549✓

Memorandum to the Chief Forester - Re "Bloedel" Fire

The accompanying map shows the boundary of the "Bloedel" fire, the forest cover prior to the fire in standard legend colours, the major fire guards and miscellaneous improvements.

The areas quoted in the following summary are gross and include areas partly fire damaged. This factor will primarily affect merchantable values destroyed by the fire. A considerable amount of field work, which this department has not had an opportunity to do, would be necessary to obtain the net merchantable volume destroyed by the fire. An intensive examination of the air photos has not provided this information.

Summary of "Bloedel" Fire - 1938

Areas within fire boundary on accompanying map

Mature timber 15,690 acres

Immature timber	80
1 - 5 years	2,470
6 - 10 "	4,260
11 - 20 "	510
21 - 40 "	980
41 - 60 "	
	8,300 acres

Not satisfactorily stocked

†† Logged	6,740
Logged and burned	30,000
Burned	20
Non commercial cover:	
† Deciduous	7,050
† Coniferous	1,555
	45,365 acres

Scrub forest	2,210
Swamp	2,850
Meadow and hay	60
Cultivated, etc.	20
TOTALS	74,500 acres

Merchantable timber affected by fire estimated at 459,600 M.B.M.

*C.C. sent Dist. for Vancouver
Oct 11/38.*

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- 2 -

Chiefly logged and burned

+ Chiefly decadent timber of no commercial value.

Details of areas logged over, not restocking and not slash burned:

<u>Date logged</u>	<u>Area (acres)</u>
1917	270
1924	60
1925	80
1928	610
1929	340
1930	1,370
1933	610
1934	90
1935	180
1936	470
1937	1,150
1938	1,510
Totals	6,740

W. J. Hoagins
Assistant Forester.

HJH:JM
1 encl.

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Vancouver, B. C.

October 11, 1938.

Enclosed please find a copy of the report on the "Bloedel" fire as prepared by the Forest Surveys and Working Plans Division. The map to accompany this report has been forwarded to you under separate cover.

*Extra prints are requisitioned
another colored print being
made here.*



E. E. Gregg,
Forester.

HJH:JM

FOREST Surveys
013179 and ~~013179~~

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Diary of "Bloedel Fire"D.B. Taylor

July 5th - On operation Elk River Timber Co. with Ranger Langstroth. Visited Elk Falls Park. Met Mr. Cobb and discussed slash disposal on areas south and east of Camp 8. Observed fire about 4 P.M. in direction E.S. & W. operation. Location confirmed by lookouts. Weather hot and dry with light west wind.

July 6th - On operation Comox Log. Co., Block 28, with Mr. J. McQuinn, Supt. Examined area with view to slash disposal. Advised in evening that C.C.T. had flown to Menzies Bay to supervise Bloedel Fire. Weather fair in A.M., partly overcast in P.M.

July 7th - On operation Block 26, etc., with Mr. Cobb. Discussed plan of burning and received assurance that slash would be burned on receipt of instructions in Fall. Took speeder out on main line of E.R.T. Co. with Mr. Cobb to observe action of Bloedel Fire, which appeared to be in fairly good shape. Weather part overcast with light rain at 4.30 p.m.

July 8th - On operations south of Courtenay. Weather fair, part overcast.

July 9th - Met Mr. Cobb and looked over slash area vicinity Mirror Lake. Advised re snag-felling on slash area west of Mr. Cobb's home. Bloedel Fire appeared quiet. Weather overcast with light S.E. Rain general at 8.30 P.M.

July 10th - Operations south of Courtenay. Weather - light south east with rain.

July 11th - Operations south of Courtenay. Weather overcast. Trace rain.

July 12th - Weather fair and warm.

July 13th - On operations vicinity of Courtenay. Discussed slash disposal with Conway. Noted Bloedel Fire smoking up in evening. Weather hot and dry with light winds general westerly.

July 14th - On operations south of Courtenay. Weather hot and dry with west winds. To Victoria at night.

July 15th - In Victoria in a.m. conference with Chief Forester. Mr. S.G. Smith called by l.d. telephone and advised re condition of Bloedel fire. Instructed to proceed Campbell River to assist in control of fire. On arrival at Forbes Landing, fire observed to be in peninsula north of Lake and also in old logged & burned area E.R.T. operation, Sec. 90 south side of lake. Made recon-

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naissance of fire on south side with Ternan and Conway and planned action necessary in control at this point to prevent spread of fire into active operation of Elk River Timber Co. in vicinity of Mirror Lake. Assisted in supervision of fire crews vicinity Forbes Landing during night. Fire jumped from active fire west of Forbes Landing over half mile of green timber in Brown's operation east of Forbes, Sec. 32. Locked over new fire and planned for control on 16th. Weather hot and dry with moderate west wind.

July 16th -

Took crew of 48 men for control work on fire in Brown's operation. Fire in 1937 and 1938 slash and spreading rapidly. Early A.M. looked over area in path of fire between Campbell & Mirror Lake with Pete Harimbourne and picked trail for tractor to open up. Supervised trail construction on Brown operation and in old logged and burned areas of B.S. & W. Ltd., and I.T. Co. Trail constructed from green timber into swamp in Section 33 and all 1937 slash of Brown's burned out. Strong winds made control difficult and after numerous trails constructed fire slowed up at north end of swamp in Sec. 33. Brown's cat working on trail from point north of his camp toward old I.T. Co. main line through Camp 6. Made reconnaissance for trail location at night. Weather hot and dry. West winds.

July 17th -

Constructing trails north end Brown's slash and opening up old B.S. & W. grade through Bk. 48. Obtained Brown's "Cat" and opened up old grades from B.S. & W. old grades in Bk. 48 through to Camp 6 and Quinsam River. This trail system designed to connect with trail constructed by Brown "Cat" on 16th appeared well located but high winds in evening carried fire from within fire area over line and half mile beyond. Fire crossed old B.S. & W. main line from Camp 3 to Elk Falls at night. Put crews in to control spot fires. Weather hot and dry with high variable winds.

July 18th -

Opened up cat trail from south boundary Bk. 48, easterly to Quinsam River and also put cat trail around big spot fire, east of B.S. & W. Camp 3-Elk Falls main line. These new lines were held during the day, the former with favourable wind condition the latter with pump and 3,000 feet of hose. During night variable winds drove fire out of control and line around spot fire lost, pump and hose cut off. Cross roads to Elk Falls lost. At 2.50 A.M. 19th - temperature 78, humidity 46%, with high wind. Weather during day hot and dry with variable winds.

July 19th -

Opened up new cut-off road from Campbell Lake highway to Elk Falls Road with Comox & Carney cat. Brown's cat working south from Campbell Lake Road through old B.S. & W. logged and burned areas to old main line at South east Bk. 48. This "cat" later joined by Carney "cat" and together they completed trail which was lost at 7.00 p.m. and considerable difficulty experienced getting "cats" out of fire. One "cat" got bogged and had to be pulled by the other.

During day trails were opened from Elk Falls road in westerly direction to the Campbell River for protection of Elk Falls Park. Reconnaissance made to find crossing of "glory hole" gulches for Comox "cat" and after making attempt at apparently the only possible point the cat was wired and had to be backed out. During evening and night the Elk Falls, Campbell Lake Road and Brown's new road by way south boundary Block 48 were lost and fire heading fast in south east direction toward Comox operations. Many deer observed trapped at night. 75 in one herd. Made reconnaissance of E.R.T. "cat" operation at night. Fire crossed Quinsam River in this operation at 3 A.M., July 20th. Organized "cat" work for 20th and notified P.W.D. to watch Quinsam Bridge. Weather hot and dry with variable west and N.E. winds. Made air reconnaissance of fire during day.

July 20th - Roads to Elk Falls, Campbell Lake cut by fire. Elk Falls camp abandoned and moved to Campbell River bridge. Put crew to work felling snags and constructing trails from Quinsam River highway bridge to Camp 5, E.R.T. main line. P.W.D. crew on Quinsam Bridge made air reconnaissance of fires and found easterly boundary within 2 miles of Camp 3. This represents an advance of 10 miles since same time July 19th. Conference with District and Chief Forester re action necessary. Moved from Campbell River to Comox logging Co. Camp 3 sector. Weather hot and dry with variable winds.

July 21st - At Camp 3 Comox Logging Co. 4.30 a.m. and made reconnaissance of trail construction of July 20th. Trails of little value owing to general direction being across wind. Spotted new trail location south of Comox main line from Camp 3 to point near N.E. corner Section 5 and put Comox "cats" to work. Contacted Bob Grant re action to take. Jack McQuinn Supt. Comox Log & Ely Co. requested permission to back fire Tsolum River slash and felled and bucked. Advised both he and Filberg against this plan as results obtained would in effect have advanced head of fire at least one day. Flew over fire with Filberg. Established radio operator Mathews of R.C.N.R. at Headquarters. Comox logging crew making good attempt at protection of Tsolum River operation but fire spotting in 1937 slash at night made situation appear hopeless. Interviewed Mayors of Courtenay and Cumberland with G.P.M. and advised them of threat to both cities. Weather hot and dry with variable winds.

July 22nd At 3 A.M. fire spotting into green timber and light 1937 slash. At 7 A.M. Comox crews engaged in protective measures for Tsolum River bridge. All debris cleared for 200 feet and mineral soil exposed for this distance. All snags felled within 300 to 400 feet. All families and important records moved from Headquarters Camp. Fire reached main 1937 and 1938 slash at 10 A.M. Moved pumps in for protection H.Q. camp. Tsolum River bridge destroyed

at noon and fire headed both sides Constitution Hill. Crews employed in protection of settlements and H.Q. camp. Made reconnaissances of settlement S.E. of H.Q. camp. Made reconnaissances of Dove Creek Road and operations of McLeod and W. & W. Logging Co. at night with Conway. Fire destroyed one small shack on Dove Creek Road and crossed road into McLeod slash, also that of W. & W. Logging Co. and appeared to be slowing up in margin of green timber surrounding Jippo operations. Conference at night with G.P.M. & Filberg when latter requested we take over Comox crew.

July 23rd - Made reconnaissances of head of fire and planned action with Conway. Started Comox bulldozer on fire trail from end Fitzgerald Road to Dove Creek Road. This trail completed at night and later developed into trunk road. Put crew on spit fire back of Colletts farm, Sec. 174, near Tsolum School. This spot 2 1/2 miles north east of defined north boundary of fire. Organized crews on Dove Creek Road and through roads of W. & W. Logging Co. to shingle mill. Scouted country in vicinity of Murphy's swamp and Camp 3. Put "cat" opening up trail from Fitzgerald road around boundary of fire to Tsolum River in protection H.Q. camp. Located trail from Tsolum River to McKenzie's swamp. Put pump in first part of trail and started "cat" through to McKenzie's. Attended to night crews and supervised night work on W. & W. roads. Weather hot and dry. Very light west winds.

July 24th Made aerial reconnaissance of fire with Filberg & Stevens. Smoke conditions made observation difficult. Comox crews employed in protection of Bk. 28 operation. 6 "Cats" and numerous pumps on this Section. On H.Q.-Camp 3 trail with Stevens spotting out new trail location. Carney cat on this line. Supervised work on W. & W. Log Co. roads and vicinity Fitzgerald's road. Fire inclined to slowing up. Weather hot with practically no wind.

July 25th Found Carney cat broken down in McKenzie's swamp. Replaced it with Fanning R.D. 8 in P.M. Pat Beban R.D. 8 #1 on spot fire between Dove Creek & Burns Road. Spotted road for it. This "Cat" started work 3 A.M. and worked through to 10.30 P.M. Put pump crews in Dove Creek holding W. & W. Log Co. roads. Weather smoky and hot. No wind. Fire quiet.

July 26th On spot fire trail with Beban R.D. 8 #1 from Dove Creek Rd to School trail. With Stevens spotting "cat" roads between McKenzies & Murphy's swamp. Located new trails on Woods operation and put R.D. 8 opening them up. Met J.G. MacDonald and looked and took over lines from Ployarts to Oyster River.

Fire quiet during day and trail work effective. Weather warm with very light west wind in P.M.

July 27th - On Brown's River trails inspecting work and instructing foreman re action to take. Pat Carney's "cat" on trail for protection Fitzgerald Road farmers. This cat broke down in evening and was replaced by Finning R.D. 7. This cat completed this trail. Beban R.D. 3 #1 on Woods operation and Mill Road and completed trail which made trail complete around head of fire to McKenzie's swamp. Weather warm. No wind.

July 28th - Supervised trail construction Brown's River to Oyster River. Trail from H.Q. camp to Camp 3 completed with exception some short stretches to be cleaned up later. Finning R.D. 8 moved to Oyster River trail from Piddocks to Oyster River. Met McKinnon at H.Q. camp. Supervised establishment of Dove Creek fire camp. Carney cat being repaired at H.Q. camp. Finning R.D. 7 on new line from Fitzgerald's Rd. to Dove Creek Rd. Beban R.D. 8 #1 completed spot fire trail. Fire very quiet. Weather warm. No wind.

July 29th - Finning R.D. 8 improved spot fire trail and then moved to Oyster River. Finning R.D. 7 finished on farmers trail and standing by in H.Q. camp. Carney's cat at Cariboo Creek standing by. Beban #1 and 2 and Cletrac on Brown River trail. Met Filberg & Welch at H.Q. camp and discussed disposition of "cats" and crews. Informed Welch F.B. would place all men along north and east flanks of fire. Moved 50 men to Dove Creek camp and commenced trail construction on west flank of fire. Looked over line from Oyster River to Brown's River. Weather part overcast with light S.E. Fire very quiet.

July 30th - Light rain falling at 5.30 A.M. and on and off for 2 hours. At Dove Creek camp attending to trail construction and camp supervision. Started Beban R.D. 8 #1 opening up trail from Dove Creek Road along edge of fire in green timber and second growth. Interviewed Clay Welch re payment of ranchers on Fitzgerald Rd. and informed they should not be paid. Forsythe, Cletrac "cat" broken down and of no further use until overhauled. Beban R.D. 8 #2 broken down in P.M. Finning R.D. 8 completed trail to Oyster River and moved to Camp 3 for loading on 31st. Moved R.D. 7 (Finning) from H.Q. camp to Cougar Hill trail to replace Cletrac. Interviewed Hutchinson of B.S. & W. Ltd. at Dove Creek Camp. Ran to Campbell River re trail work at Oyster River. 56 men in Dove Creek camp at night. Attended to supervision of camp at night. Weather - light rain 2 hours with light S.E. wind. Fire very quiet.

July 1st - At Dove Creek camp and on trails early a.m. Interviewed timekeeper who informed me re crooked work on part of Timekeeper Dahl. Put B.O. Police on job. Met Hutchinson of B.S. & W. and invited criticism but he had none to offer. On Cougar Hill trail and scouted trail through to Dove Creek. Instructed Carney re backfiring trail. Interviewed Filberg re Tsolum River crew. Dove Creek camp in evening on general supervision. Fanning R.D. 8 and 7 at Cougar Hill, Beban #1 on Dove Creek Rd.-Fitzgerald Rd. cut-off. Beban R.D. 8 #2 not working. Weather. Part overcast. Light rain at Dove Creek. Wind S.E. and West.

August 1st - Locked over fire line from Cougar Hill to H.Q. camp. Fire generally quiet. Heavy shower at Dove Creek camp at noon. Moved surplus supplies from Dove Creek camp to Courtenay. Beban R.D. 8 #1 finished and shipped at 4 p.m. Fanning R.D. 8 and 7 on Cougar Hill trails. Took B.O. Police Detective Smith to Dove Creek camp. Inspected fire trail construction on west flank. Fire very quiet. Spot fire behind Japs on Burns Rd. Got "cat" (Fanning R.D. 7) and driver at H.Q. camp and put on spot fire which had apparently hung over since July 22nd. Interviewed G.P.M. in evening. Weather - showers at Dove Creek. Part overcast with light S.E. wind.

August 2nd - Conference in Courtenay office with G.P.M. and Filberg on rates of pay for Comox crew. Silke on Bowser Fire. Received report Bowser fire threatening settlement. Ordered Tansky R.D. 8 and Carney R.D. 7 out at noon and headed them for Bowser. On arrival at Bowser I met Silke and Hoy and after looking over fire informed Hoy he had insufficient men. He had backfired behind village without a trail and had only 2 sets of fallers on job. Three F.B. pumps working to protect village. T. & C. crews poorly organized. Carney "cat" started trail construction at 6 P.M. and Tansky "cat" at 7 P.M. Tansky "cat" cut off for night at 9.15 P.M. Carney cat worked all night. Forty-six fallers brought down from Courtenay for fire control. Twelve men quartered at Tansky camp, 4 drove to homes and 30 put up by Thomsen & Clark. Some complaints from settlers re damage by "cats" constructing trails. Fire very threatening to settlement at night. Kept pumps going all night. Thomsen & Clark crew much too small. Weather - part overcast with S.E. & S.W. winds.

August 3rd - Crews on job at 5 A.M. Got Tansky "cat" started at daylight. Carney "cat" worked all night. Found T. & C. crew left fire line at 6.30 A.M. before relief by their day crew and as a result fire crossed north line. This fire caught later by pump crew. I later learned that the reason night crew had not been relieved was due to Supt. Hoy laying off 44 men without authority or advising Silke or me. I searched for Hoy along various roads and lines and in P.M. found him in Bowser beer parlor. Gave him letter of instructions 34177A

dated August 3rd. Crews re-employed by Hoy and at night T. & C. had about 70 men on this sector, many of whom were double-shifting. I found men extremely dissatisfied with manner in which Hoy was hiring and firing them. Carney and Tansky cats' progress retarded during day by windfalls. Unable to get buckers from T. & C. so switched some fallers on to job. Three Forest Branch pumps worked all day protecting settlement. Carney "cat" working from settlement to Green and Cochrane Rd. and Tansky "cat" on north line. G.P.M. on fire in P.M. ordered 25 men from Courtenay. Weather - warm with S.E. & S.W. winds.

August 4th - Got fallers out at 5 A.M. Trail crew arrived from Courtenay at 7.10 A.M. (21 men) Total 67 F.B. crew on fire. Carney "cat" finished trail to T. & C. Rly. at 10 A.M. and moved at noon to Courtenay by truck. Supervised trail construction during day and made reconnaissance of Country ahead of fire with Silke. Trail from Green & Cochrane road to T. & C. road backfired. On north side trail in P.M. supervising trail construction and patrols. Men very poor and no supervision by T. & C. on this line. Tansky "cat" worked to 7.30 P.M. and then moved out to settlement. This "cat" held up during day owing to lack of buckers. Found necessary during day to use F.B. fallers on bucking and patrol jobs owing to failure of T. & C. to supply sufficient men. Unable to contact Hoy. Weather hot and dry. Light S.E. wind.

August 5th - Tansky "cat" standing by. Cat driver reported no crew on top end north line last night 6.30 to 7.30. Tansky "cat" moved to Fanny Bay in P.M. Inspected north line and at 10.30 a.m. informed Supt. Hoy he had insufficient men on fire. He advised he had this morning been instructed by Mr. Milburn, manager of T. & C. that he was to take over fire and put men on as instructed by F.B. Looked over west side of fire and found insufficient men. Sent in 6 more. Only one man found on this side and fire burning along $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of trail. Examined old Nile Creek fire boundaries and country between it and Bowser Fire and established that present fire is T. & C. responsibility. Old fire was fanned up by Qualicum wind on July 30th (Sunday) and pushed toward Bowser. Returned to Bowser at 12.20 to locate and advise Hoy men required to hold new outbreak on west side. Found him at 1.30 P.M. at which time he appeared in a fog. Instructed him to send 20 additional men to Green and Cochrane Road (west side). Inspected north side and found only three men on trail where at least 15 required. Hoy reported to have laid off 30 to 40 men this a.m., which appears correct judging by number observed on lines. At 3 P.M. I interviewed Bob Grant of Grant Bros. Logging Co. who informed that his crew was on fire at 5.30 a.m. at Hoy's request and were laid off at 7 a.m. and returned to camp at Fanny Bay. At 10.40 Hoy again called them out which was after I instructed him to obtain more men. Looked over west side again and at 4.40 p.m. met Hoy and again informed him that he must obey my letter of instructions of August 3rd and employ more men.

Advised him to employ Joe Thompson as fire foreman and he requested that I get him, which I did. Fire very active during day and required supervision by both Silke and me to keep men on job. Fired three trouble-making "tin canners." Night crews assembled early and relief of day crews commenced at 6:30 p.m. Gave Hoy further letter of instructions, 34187A at 6 P.M.

August 6th - On inspection of Green & Cochrane Road (west side) at 7.30 A.M. found 10 men only on job in place of 40. These 10 made up of 4 fresh men and 6 men of night crew double-shifting. Chased Hoy for more men and supervised calling of them. Settlers in Bowser complaining of action of T. & C. on fire. Joe Thompson arrived on fire at 9.50 with 15 men. Laid off night crew at 10.15 A.M. Established Joe Thompson in charge of fire crew on south and west sides. Instructed him re his responsibilities and duties and had Hoy confirm his employment. Visited north and main line sides at 11.45 A.M. with Hoy and found crews lacking equipment. 12.30 instructed Hoy re his company's responsibilities and received assurance that instructions would be carried out and that Joe Thompson would be put in full charge of fire in vicinity of Bowser. Interviewed Patrolman Harris and instructed him to collect equipment and hose not in use. At night fire appeared in good shape and I returned to Courtenay. Late P.M. interviewed timekeeper at Courtenay re time of Comox crew on Bloedel fire.

August 7th - On inspection of Burns Rd. trail and checked up on number of men employed. Found Finning R.D. 7 "cat" finished so shipped it to MacQuillan Crossroad for loading. Supervised fire control on Dove Creek Road-H.Q. Camp trail and found tank car doing good work. Arranged with Comox Logging & Rly. Co. for transportation of Finning R.D. 8 and R.D. 7 "cats" which were later loaded at 1 P.M. Met man in charge of Finning "cats" and informed him the "Forest Service was finished with Finning "cats" and that they could be shipped back to Vancouver. One Finning "cat" being moved out from Cougar Hill and another has been at H.Q. camp for some days out of order and being repaired. Filberg advised he wished to keep one Finning R.D. 7 for company work at H.Q. camp. Merrill, Ring, Wilson cat at H.Q. and has been since breaking down July 30th. This "cat" broke her blade and in addition required some overhaul work. This "cat" was loaded out of Rock Bay in P.M. July 24th. Started work July 25th and was reported in poor shape when it arrived on job. Note: Finning "cats" definitely all finished today. Inspected trails vicinity of Mill & Cougar Hill and found patrol crews too strong. At 8.30 P.M. had conference in Courtenay office with Filberg re "cats" and I advised him we were definitely

finished with "Finning" "cats" and would leave shipment of them to his direction. He advised they would be shipped to Vancouver by barge August 9th with exception of one R.D. 7 which he was holding for company use at H.Q. camp, which of course was without cost to the Forest Branch. Finning's man advised that one R.D. 7 was being shipped to Curran & Ross at Buckley Bay for use on that operation and was therefore not a further charge to Forest Service. Discussed Bloedel Fire with Filberg in evening and he agreed that 1937 slash disposal on Sections 17, 18 and Ek. 27, Quinsam Lake unquestionably saved his operation on Ek. 28 and E.R.T. vicinity Mirror Lake. He also suggested 100% snag-felling on all logging operations. Rain falling at 10.15 P.M. and continued to after midnight. Weather -part overcast. Light S.E. with showers at night.

August 8th - On Bowser Fire 4.30 A.M. Inspected fire lines and found crews on job. At 6 A.M. day crews arrived. Control measures under Joe Thompson appear effective. Proceeded to Victoria, arriving 10.15 A.M. Interviewed Chief Forester and G.P.M. Left Victoria at noon. Looked over Bowser fire in P.M. and it now appears this may be reduced to patrol. In Courtenay office late P.M. Weather - overcast, light S.E. and West.

August 9th - In Courtenay office early A.M. discussing various work to be attended to on Bloedel Fire with Conway. Inspected Camp 3-Oyster River trails. Interviewed Mennonite foreman and reduced patrol crew to five men. Fixed up time books with foreman. Visited Camp 3 and interviewed Jack McQuinn and Bob Grant. Informed them not to put any men on fire, Vicinity Camp 3 without F.B. authority. Made arrangements to inspect Tsolum River-Wolf Lake trails on 10th with McQuinn. 17 men from Aiken's crew laid off at 5 P.M., leaving 11 still on job. Observed Finning R.D. 7 under repairs at H.Q. camp. This is machine the Comox Company is retaining. Wilson's cat at H.Q. awaiting shipment. Two Finning "cats" shipped to Vancouver today, one R.D. 7 (Finning) sent to Curran & Ross on August 8th. Weather, part overcast with S.E. & west wind.

August 10th - Met Stevens and McQuinn at H.Q. camp 5.45 A.M. Rain falling at 6 a.m. to 11.30. Over fire trails constructed by Comox crew from west fork of Tsolum River to Wolf Lake with Jack McQuinn and Hugh Cliffe. Found well-established trail and evidence that the crews had worked hard. Discussed fire situation with McQuinn and it was decided to lay off MacQuillan crew today and Cliffe crew on 11th. Inspected standing timber damage on Eks. 29 and 131. Met Filberg at H.Q. camp and discussed future

patrol on Tsolum River-Wolf Lake trails if conditions warrant. Fanning H.D. 7 still at H.Q. under repairs. Discussed fire situation with Conway at night. Weather overcast with fairly heavy rain in A.M.

August 11th - Made inspection of Oyster River-Cariboo Creek and Lost Lake trail systems. Found only two spot fires between Oyster River and E.R.T. Co main line. Truck moved all equipment from this sector to water tank at Oyster River bridge. Visited Hell Diver and Lost Lake trails and found them in good shape and Comox crew engaged removing equipment to Oyster River bridge. Most elaborate trail system in this locality. Instructed McQuinn re removal of F.B. equipment and reduction of crews. Weather - light rain with S.E. wind.

August 12th - At H.Q. camp and Black Creek supervising removal equipment, etc. Instructed foreman in charge Black Creek crew that only one man required after today. Inspected line through to Oyster River and in vicinity Fitzgerald Rd. Signing cheques, etc., Courtenay office. Weather- light rain with S.E. wind.

August 13th - Met District Forester in Courtenay office and held conference with Filberg in connection with payment Comox crew. Met Hutchinson of B.S. & W. Ltd. at Courtenay and discussed fire situation with him. C.J.H. and I.C. McQ. left at noon for down Island. Dove Creek camp closed out and crew paid off. Small crews cleaning up. Attended to numerous complaints of men re cut in long hours and generally there appeared to be much evidence of foreman over-paying men. Weather overcast with light S.E. winds.

August 14th - In Courtenay office attending to pay-off of crew, Eloedel Fire. Numerous complaints re hours and rates all of which pointed to fact that bosses had been allowing extra time to compensate for 25¢ per hour rate. Visited line between H.Q. camp and Oyster River in P.M. Trout Lake fire reported. Weather fair and warm. Light west in A.M. Calm in P.M.

August 15th - Trout Lake fire showing up. In Courtenay office all day signing cheques and attending to various complaints re time. One man found to claim four 20-hour shifts but on cross-examination admitted he had averaged only 14 hours. Discussed Trout Lake fire in P.M. with Conway and advised re serious situation that could develop. Plane transportation for reconnaissance of Trout Lake fire arranged. Weather clear and warm with strong west winds.

August 16th - In Courtenay office 6 A.M. Took off from Comox Harbour in Canadian Airways plane with C.O.T. at 7.30 A.M. Circled Trout Lake fire and landed at Rock Bay. Found Asst. Ranger Milnes

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tied up at Rock Bay. Terman phoned Ranger Johnson at M.R.W. woods camp. Flew to and landed at Trout Lake and C.C.F. and I walked through fire to old campsite at Mud Lake. Met Wardie McDonald and foreman of M.R.W. crew who advised M.R.W. crew of 60 men working on west side of fire. Instructed McDonald to move pump to spot fire at S.E. corner of Mud Lake. Flew to Campbell River and put pump and equipment on plane with pump man for Trout Lake. Terman returned to fire taking Langstroth. Heavy rain falling at noon, and continuing to evening. Conway drove me to Comox to pick up car. Weather fair in A.M. Rain from 11.30 A.M. to midnight. Very light wind S.E.

August 17th - In Courtenay office attending to pay off of crew. Foreman Woods quit. Filberg called and we discussed payment of Comox crew and fall slash disposal at Comox Lake and Ladysmith operations. Weather fair with light west winds.

August 18th - In Courtenay office attending to payment of Bloedel Fire crews. Phoned Conway and advised I was leaving for down Island. Visited Tansky operation re fall slash disposal. Called Nanaimo office and discussed fire situation and line-up for fall slash disposal. Arrived Victoria late P.M.

Note: This is the last day in which I had contact with Bloedel Fire. Further diary covering balance of time on Trout Lake and V.L. & M. fires being prepared.

Vancouver, B.C.

October 11, 1938.

Attached please find summary of my personal diary, in duplicate, from July 5th to August 18th, which covers the period of time in which I was engaged on control work on the Bloedel Fire. Two copies of this diary have been supplied to the Victoria office. Is it your wish that I prepare a brief history of the fire from this diary? If so, please advise and I will attend to it on my return to Victoria next week.

I will prepare and forward copies of my diary covering the period in which I was engaged on the Mud Lake Fire at an early date.

KR

D. B. Taylor

D.B. Taylor, H.
Fire Inspector.

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Oct.*

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Mr. I.C. MacQueen,
2807 Stuart St.,
Berkeley, California,
U.S.A.

October 13, 1938.

File: 0131739.

Dear Sir:

Further to our letter of October 12,
enclosed please find copy of Mr. Taylor's diary during
the Bloedel Fire.

Yours truly,

T.A. Simons
T.A. Simons,
for Forester.

TAS:J
encl