FOREST PROTECTORS

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Maine Forest Service
Augusta, Maine
FROM THE FOREST COMMISSIONER

Weather to date has allowed fire wardens to sleep nights and at the same time provided them with an opportunity to work on construction and put things in order for the possible dry fire days ahead.

Neat, mowed grounds, and well arranged headquarters are good means of selling the department’s work to the public. They are our bosses. The policy of gradually constructing storehouses and living quarters, as money becomes available, has made good progress. I know that wardens appreciate the improved facilities and equipment. They can help the department and themselves by carrying out a top grade level of care and maintenance and thus show the public and landowners their appreciation.

I find it necessary to give special mention to radio use. With a greater number of wardens and towers having radios, it is essential that radio use time be limited to departmental business. Too many users, including key tower operators, are asking personal questions and making comments at the beginning and end of messages that have nothing or little to do with our business. Examples – Asking other operators about local weather, such as thunderstorms and cab temperature, isn’t departmental business, or commenting at the end of the weather report on personal ideas about it. Everyone must remember that even though a distant station isn’t heard our conversation often interferes with their messages.

I am proud of our radios, operators, and technicians, but everyone must cooperate or jamming will greatly lessen the value of our excellent network. District and chief wardens are expected to correct all abuses in their areas and thus keep unnecessary conversation, including weather reporting, to a minimum.

Weather station reading hours are 10:00 A.M.; 3:00 P.M.; 5:30 P.M., D.S.T. The correct schedule is important. Radio operators have been heard asking danger station operators for their reports before the designated time. District and chief wardens are responsible to see that the time schedule isn’t violated.

The editors are trying to make FOREST PROTECTORS what you want it to be. Your suggestions will help them do this.

Austin Wilkins and I expect to see many of you during the next three months.

Forest fire wardens must never forget that forest fire prevention and putting out fires, if they start, are our first and must jobs.

A. D. Nutting
Forest Commissioner
WHAT DOES A WARDEN'S SIGNATURE MEAN ON A FOREST FIRE REPORT?

Editor's Note:

In April the state wardens in the organized town area were asked the following question: "What action on your part is implied by your signature at the bottom of the fire report?"

Fire reports are made out by the town forest fire warden in this area and are approved by the state wardens. Wardens were not asked to tell how they fought the fire.

Although the answers vary as to completeness and in the manner of expression the general intent of the signature is to show that the state warden has ascertained the facts to be correct as presented and he assumes responsibility for any errors in the report.

"My name at the bottom of the fire reports means that I have checked the fire if I wasn't on it at the time, before signing the reports and bills, also the town wardens know that my name has to be on there before the reports and bills go to the office."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have checked the number and names of men; rate of pay per hour; number of acres against the total cost; whether it was a grass fire or forest fire; what caused the fire and why."

"My signature at the bottom of fire report means that I have checked the report and bill and have looked over the fire area, etc., and this shows that, in my opinion, the town should be reimbursed for one-half the cost."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have checked the fire and then I check the fire report with the town warden to see if we agree as to what has been written on the report. If not, we go over it until we do think the same."

"My signature at the bottom of the fire report means that I have checked all items and agree with town warden."

"I believe when a warden signs a fire report he is putting himself on record saying that to the best of his knowledge and judgment the report is correct and true."

"A state warden's signature on a fire report means many things. First, it means you have had the report in your possession. It means that it is a warden's seal of approval of facts stated. Also, I believe a law was passed stating that state wardens should make a report of every fire. When we sign the town warden's report this has been sufficient to cover that law."

"My signature on a fire report means that to my best knowledge the answers given are correct and that the fire endangered the woods."

"My signature on the fire reports means that I have inspected all fires and believe this to be correct as a seasonal warden."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have all necessary knowledge of the fire and that all statements to the best of my knowledge are true."
"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I May or may not have helped put the fire out. Tried to find cause of fire. Checked the area as to acres, computed damage. Was any law violated? Checked the reporting of fire, double checked the report for errors."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have either visited the fire myself or reviewed it with one of the state wardens who were on the fire. It means that I have completely checked the report for errors or omissions. It means that a record of the fire has been made and a pin added to the fire occurrence map."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have: Checked the fire, checked the payroll, assured myself that the payroll is ready for approval and payment by the state, ascertained that the report is a true statement of the conditions on the fire under report."

"My signature at bottom of fire report means that I stand back of all the statements made and that the Augusta office has a clear picture of the fire and that they may draw their conclusions and in turn make their report."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have: Checked the date and map of the fire; cause and class responsible; acreage against my figures entire report for errors to the best of my knowledge."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have checked the report and find it correct."

"My signature on a fire report indicates I have checked all entries put there by the town warden as to their being correct and they give a fair to good report of a fire - to the best of my ability."

"My signature at the bottom of the fire report means that I have inspected this report and found it complete."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have checked if there have been any fire laws violated and for cost of fire and also if the town warden has properly filled in the report for information needed."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have witnessed the report to be a true statement and the laws of the State of Maine will be carried out for the safety of the public."

"My signature at the bottom of a fire report means that I have: A knowledge of the fire reported, checked to see if report is filled out completely, checked the report with the knowledge of the fire for errors."

"I think the signature of a warden means the warden has completed the necessary procedure and looked it over carefully."

Remarks on Fire Report of June 20 - T.2, R. 8, NWP
James Walker discovered fire 6:25 P.M., June 19, in the woods back of his camp. Had no means of getting to town to report it so he worked all night on fire keeping it partly under control. CAA reported it at 7:30 on June 20, having discovered it at 11:30 on June 19.
DONALD "DAVY" CROCKETT" WILCOX

One morning recently in the Rangeley District when Chief Warden Hinkley, Patrolmen Williams and Wilcox were driving up a woods road on Saddleback Mt., Don Wilcox noticed a small bear cub lying beside the road. We stopped the truck and gave chase.

The cub may have been small but he sure could run. As this was a cut-over area, the travelling was not too good and there were numerous piles of slash. Chief Warden Hinkley was the first one to catch up with the cub which promptly rolled onto his back and showed fight. Hinkley thought it the better part of valor to delay the capture, not having any gloves for protection of his hands.

The chase continued, the cub became winded and crawled into a slash pile. Wilcox, being hot on his trail, grabbed him by the heels and then by the scuff of the neck, and the cub was captured. The cub still had some fight left in him and sudden cuffs were the rule rather than the exception. Wilcox came out of the affair with a bear cub and a few scratches.

I might add that Hinkley and Williams had dropped out of the race from lack of wind, also Williams was very much concerned as to the whereabouts of Mother Bear. She did not show, but had been there recently as we found her footprints in the mud.

Incidentally, $30.00 was collected for this cub.

(Sent in by Ken Hinkley)

Quote: Just call me Davy Crockett.

Sketch sent in by Kip Tremblay.
There was a forest ranger who always did his best,
He wore a service uniform and badge upon his chest.
He had no interest - save in his forest.

He ate his breakfast early (three hours before daylight)
He hit the trail at daybreak and he kept it up till night,
And half the night - he'd read and write.

The ranger's life was happy; two things he wished in life.
One was to live in the forest - the other to have a wife.
He thought to marry - was necessary.

One day a tourist's daughter got lost up in the brush
They sent for the forest ranger to get there in a rush.
No need to worry -- for he would hurry.

He trailed her up a canyon and down the mountainside
And if he hadn't found her, she surely would have died.
But she was plucky - and that was lucky.

And when he finally found her, a great big grizzly bear
Had her up on a pile of rocks, and he was keeping her there.
So now the ranger - was in grave danger.

The ranger went right up the tree and pulled his forty-five,
The air was blue from the smoke of his gun; but the bear was still alive
And he was coming, and coming running.

The ranger's gun was empty, so he drew his bowie knife,
The bear was still a-coming, so he had to save his life.
As for a fight - that was all right.

The bear it hit the ranger, who fainted from the shock,
The girl ran a hat pin through his ear and beaned him with a rock.
And with the knife - she took his life.

The ranger's leg was broken; the girl broke down and cried,
She carried him for forty miles, with his compass for a guide.
She was so glad - and yet so mad.

She nursed the ranger well, and then one moonlit night,
He said, "My dear, will you marry me? You certainly can fight -
You saved my life - now be my wife."

So the two were married, and lived in a little house,
Way up in the mountains, as quiet as a mouse,
And they were happy - but oh, so sappy.

Soon they had a child, a boy just like his dad,
Who thought that forest ranging was certainly the fad,
And then one day - he rode away -

To be a forest ranger, who always did his best,
He wore a service uniform, and a badge upon his chest.
He had no interest - save in his forest.

(Obtained from Rev. Harland G. Lewis, Wilton) - Courtesy of Ed Ciddings
Editor's Note: This is a continuation of a series of feature stories and subjects. You will recall that last year we printed accounts by insect rangers and fire wardens of their most interesting experiences. In this issue, we are pleased to print most interesting contacts made by service farm foresters in the course of their regular work in small woodland management.

My most interesting contact is one that I inherited from Bob Dinneen. Bob had done a lot of woodland work with Cummings Lothrop of Windham and had helped him with selective cutting on his own land.

Lothrop decided that work in the woods was more profitable than dairying and gave up his herd of Jersey cows to become one of the first operators of small selectively marked lots in this area. Unlike many other loggers, he had never stripped a woodlot and was willing to practice good utilization for logs, pulpwood, and boltwood. He started with a small truck, Ford tractor, and power saw and now has a large truck, John Deere Crawler tractor and two men working for him.

Lothrop has a reputation for reliability, and has been willing to operate very small woodlots. He takes pride in the appearance of the woodlot he is operating and tries to do a careful job of felling and yarding. Because of this, each cutting job he completes has served as a good advertisement and he has been able to find sufficient work within a ten mile radius of his home.

Stephen Orach - Gorham

A Man With an Eye to the Future

A few weeks ago I was talking with a small woodland owner, Emile Pelletier of Hinterville, and gathered the following information.

Mr. Pelletier, a man of some 60 years of age, had just finished planting some young white spruce and red pine seedlings. Mr. Pelletier also has a small sawmill which has not been in use for the past 10 years and is now rather rusty and dilapidated. A man from a near-by town stopped and inquired about purchasing the mill. Mr. Pelletier's reply was, "Hell no, I can't sell this mill, I just planted 2,000 trees!"

Robert Locke - Caribou

One of the most interesting contacts in the Piscataquis area this year was C. H. Grey in Dover-Foxcroft. He owns over 2,000 acres in Piscataquis County. His land is stocked with some of the best timber that is left in the organized towns in this county.

I have encouraged him for some nine months to at least try selective cutting some of his woodland rather than selling his timber lump sum, or selling stumpage and allowing operators to cut as they pleased, taking everything or just high grading his woodland. Every time I would talk with Mr. Grey he would agree with me about selective cutting. He said that he had noticed
during his lifetime that if trees grow at good spacing it is a relatively short period of time before they reach merchantable size. The only thing that I could not convince Mr. Grey was that his woodland could be selectively cut on a commercial basis and he would still receive the going stumpage price.

Last October Mr. Grey said that he would be willing to try selective cutting a 150 acre spruce-fir woodlot on the Dexter road. I proceeded to mark the lot and told different operators that it was up for bid. Three different operators looked over the lot. The final bid for the stumpage was above the going stumpage price.

The operator that took the job is putting bulldozed roads through the woodlot to yard the pulpwood and logs. This, of course, will make the lot more accessible in case of fire and will be used the next time the lot is cut ten years from this date. The choppers have been skidding the pulpwood and logs in tree length, thus avoiding cutting any unmarked trees by putting in a network of skid roads.

Up to this date, over 300 cords of spruce and fir and 31 thousand board feet of spruce and pine sawlogs have been taken from 40 acres of this 150-acre woodlot.

Mr. Grey is so convinced on selective cutting now that he wants to try it on another woodlot next year. He said that he was looking at his woodland now more from a steady income basis, like a business. He recognizes that selective cutting will do this for him when his woodland is managed.

Anybody wishing to see this selectively cut woodlot, it is located three and one-half miles out of Dover-Foxcroft on the Dexter road, Route #7, on the left-hand side of the road opposite the road that goes to Macomber's siding. The lot is bounded on the west by the Dexter road, on the east by Black Stream, on the north by a field, and on the south by Hanson Brook.

Blynn Merrill - Dover-Foxcroft

The most interesting person I met while carrying on my duties as farm service forester in Aroostook is Maurice Hodgdon of Chapman. On our first meeting we talked while he filled some jugs. The story he told was so interesting that the Ford Magazine "Clues" had an article on his life in a 1952 edition.

In the early 1900's, the dream of every boy was to be a "brass pounder," better known as a newspaper reporter who clicked off the front page stories of the day on a telegraph key in code. Mr. Hodgdon had such a dream and left his hometown of Auburn at the age of 15 to work with the Postal Telegraph Company on the bottom rung of the ladder. Within a couple of years he was a professional with a telegraph key.

For 20 years radio-telegraphy was a prosperous vocation and Mr. Hodgdon was Assistant Chief Operator for the United Press. He was a close friend of Damon Runyon, and together they covered the Lindbergh kidnapping trial. The famous Judd Gray-Ruth Snyder murder trial was another high point in Mr. Hodgdon's career. In fact, he scooped the country at the latter trial with a hidden telegraph set; the noise of the key was muffled by using the eraser from a pencil. Radio and the teletype ended the profession of news telegraphy.

With Mr. Hodgdon in middle age and in a dying profession the future was
not at all bright. He had a chance of working as a telegrapher in Havana, Cuba, for the Stock Exchange pounding out sugar quotations, or returning to Maine with its woods and streams where he spent his younger years. An ardent hunter and fisherman, he decided to return to Maine. He continued his story while he packed the jugs in boxes.

The B & A Railroad was his first employer after returning to Maine. He worked as a telegrapher for them in Aroostook County. On his "off days" he spent his time prospecting for a "gold mine" which he learned about from a friend in Lewiston. Mr. Hodgdon's "gold mine" was finally located in Chapman. Its absence of mineral matter made it especially valuable from his way of thinking. Literally his "gold mine" was spring water; spring water so pure that fish couldn't live in it for more than a few days.

The heavily chlorinated water in Aroostook necessitated by the tons of fertilizer applied to the potato lands, which gradually leaches out into the streams, made much of the county's water almost undrinkable. With the last of his savings he bought 80 acres of land (75 acres of woods) with the spring. Now Mr. Hodgdon fills jug after jug with pure spring water to supply the demands of his more than 300 customers, the largest being the Presque Isle Hospital and Sanitorium.

Now, in his spare time, he is completing his house which he has built with only three tools, a hammer, a saw, and a straight edge. The last time I saw him he said he got disgusted and threw away the straight edge.

Joseph Lupsha - Island Falls

One of the most interesting persons I have had the pleasure to work with on the woodland management program was J. Malcolm Barter of Bremen. This man and his woodlot particularly interested me because of his background and what he has to work with for woodland.

Not too long ago, Mr. Barter was a reporter of some fame with the Boston Globe Newspaper. Although he was happy with this work, he always had a desire to leave the big city and go farming. Breaking all ties, Mr. Barter and his family moved to Maine and bought a typical rundown farm in Bremen.

After inspecting the woodland a couple of years ago with Mr. Barter, I informed him that his woodland was in poor condition. Some areas had been clear cut, other areas were swampy, and even pine areas were of poor quality and many trees dying of blister rust. In spite of the condition of this woodland, there was much that could be done to improve the composition and quality of the standing timber. Since the whole farm was in no better condition than the woodland, Mr. Barter had plenty of work cut out for him. The farm presented a challenge which Mr. Barter was glad to meet.

Working part time at his old profession of newspaperman in Waldoboro, Malcolm spent the rest of his time in his woodlot and improving the farm in general. Two years is a short time to cause miracles in a depleted woodlot; however, much improvement is already evident. Heavy slash left by previous owners has been worked up for fuelwood. The pine stand has been thinned and pruned. This operation greatly improved both the appearance and quality of a stand that many people would consider hopeless. By using very good utilization of each tree, Mr. Barter has realized some return from his woodland work plus a constant supply of fuelwood for his own use. With a little more time I know Mr. Barter will have a woodlot that he can be justly proud of.

Robert Umberger - West Rockport
Down on the Androscoggin at South West Bend, in the town of Durham, Lyndon Sylvester, Jr., owns and operates a sawmill. He also owns some forest land.

A few years ago he bought a lot and cut the mature timber. This timber was located on only a small portion of the lot, the remaining area was in immature pine too small for sawlogs or pulp. At about this time Sumner Burgess made his first contact at the mill. Naturally he tried to promote forest management and apparently was successful, for Lyndon had him look over this lot he had just purchased and cut.

Sumner marked an area for an improvement thinning and suggested that the crop trees be pruned. The marked portion was thinned and pruned by Lyndon's father. No more work was done for two years. During this period I replaced Sumner in this town.

Last summer at a conservation meeting Lyndon came to me and asked to have more of the lot marked. He said that he hadn't bothered to look at the area he had thinned until just now and was very surprised at the tremendous growth the trees had put on since thinning. He had decided to do the rest of the lot, 15 acres. He told me that he had made a profit of $400 on the mature stumpage and planned to reinvest it back into the residual stand. Last summer, using one of his mill hands, he thinned and pruned the 15 acres.

Early last winter we held a cooperative woodland demonstration in the lot. We stressed management and blister rust control. Fifty hardy souls turned out to the all day meeting. It was televised on a local Portland station the next evening.

It is hard to say just how much good has come from that original contact by Sumner. We have one owner sold on management, the lot is on a main road in full view for others to see, and for the first time in many years the town of Durham appropriated money for blister rust control.

William Adams - Readfield

James Pottle, of Perry, and his father, Roy Pottle, Sr., have been doing a fairly good job of single tree selection on the farm woodlot for several years. At first it was a rather easy job for them to pick out the hardwood and the poor quality and defective trees for firewood and selecting merchantable trees where the growth was heavy. When these areas were completed, tree selecting became a real problem and although the work was continued young Jim became concerned about his tree selecting.

Jim questioned his own tree selecting methods and decided to look into the matter. He had heard about a state forester who helped his neighbors by marking their woodlots and as the Pottle farm was signed up with the Soil Conservation District, Jim asked Gene Tussing, soil conservationist in the county, about the woodlot and where he could get help. This information was relayed to me and a woodland examination was made and an area for this year's cut was marked.

This contact illustrates the fact that good cooperation among the State and Federal agencies in any district is essential in the development of farm woodland operators into good farm woodland managers. This case also brings out the point that there is a potential of woodland owners who are serious about the way their lands are handled but are unaware of our service in spite of the methods.
used to reach them. This type of cooperator will make great strides towards helping the economic improvement in the county.

**Edwin Grove - East Machias**

Probably the most interesting character I have met in my farm forestry work is a trapper, woodsman, and inventor. He is at least 6 feet tall and well over 200 lbs, and as slow as he is large. He usually shaves twice a year whether he needs it or not. He doesn't drink or smoke but his wife got a divorce on the basis that she "just couldn't stand him." He lives well back in the woods on an old farm frequently visited by black bear and usually answers to the name of Percy, if you sneak loud enough. For about two years now he has done his own housekeeping which obviously doesn't take much of his time.

I called for the first time in the middle of February. He had been skinning beaver and everything but the skins was scattered around the kitchen. Percy was writing two letters; one to the U. S. Patent Office and one to the Government Mining Office. The first one needed a check enclosed for $50.00 to patent his special woods peeling tool used in chemical peeling. It cost him $.69 to make the tool which does work and which his brother, a mechanical engineer, has blueprinted for Percy.

He has prospected for gold in Alaska and is forever staking claims. It is hard to say what the Mining Bureau may suggest when they receive his letter concerning a large strike made while looking over some trees I marked on his woodlot a few years ago. Actually, he needs a biologist because the wildlife are doing more in the direction of silviculture than Percy. He has done a good forestry job as far as he has gone (just beyond the woodshed).

He has hundreds of projects, such as catching eels and shipping in barrels to distant markets. When I asked if he used a Form 1040 for his income tax, he thought I was referring to ammunition for his Winchester. He is gradually catching on to an extensive degree of forestry management.

**Elwin Macomber - Brewer**

**New Germ Eradication**

Bob Dinneen has a new technique. When sneezing, instead of covering mouth and nose with handkerchief, Bob lets the germs fall and stamps them dead with his foot on the floor.

*Comment:* Has this been approved by the Health Department?
SOME PROVEN TIPS ON HOW TO MEET PEOPLE

There is a right way to go about this "Get Acquainted" business, and fortunately it has many angles.

Some are a little unusual, others trite and threadbare but they have one thing in common - they turn the key to new friendship.

The simplest, and by far the most effective method is to introduce yourself by merely saying "My name is Whistlebrook - Elmer Whistlebrook." The other person's mouth may drop open for a few seconds, but he (or she) usually will recover from the spell of astonishment, and matter in innocent confusion: "Glad to know you. I'm Pickins -- E. Z. Pickins." Of course, this is so simple few people think to use it. But the old frontal attack is one of the best yet.

Another, rather obvious yet effective means is to get to introduce you. This may be simplified by finding someone who knows everybody in town. Then have him or her escort you on a tour of the city, performing the conventional introductions at each stop. It is advised that in introducing Mr. Brown to Mr. Jones that each be told a fact or two -- about the other. For instance, if you meet a doctor, your face will brighten and you can say: "Why doctor, what a coincidence. I've been having the most mysterious pain."

One approach that has been kicked around a lot yet is indestructible, is that of dragging the weather into the picture. "What lovely weather we're having" or "Sure been dry, ain't it" are calculated to completely disarm the stranger. The reply will be a weak, "I can't remember when it's been so nice (or dry)," but the conversational ice will have been broken. Ultimately, the party of first part can blurt out: "I'm Bill Smith!" Thus, friendly entry has been gained via the backdoor.

When the girl is taking the initiative in getting acquainted, she must be subtle about it in most cases. The definition of "subtle" usually is as follows: A method by which a young woman pursues a young man and makes it appear that he is pursuing her. A musty technique is to drop the handkerchief under the guy's nose, or back off and flutter the eye lashes. It is always possible to "mistake" the object for someone else or to turn on the weaker-sex camouflage by commenting on his intelligence or strength, etc.

If you want to use several people to perform introductions, it is possible to arrange a chain reaction. For example, the fellow with whom you drink coffee may have a sister who is a good friend of that cute little number you have had your eye on recently -- or girls, check up and see if one of your sorority sisters doesn't live next door to that tall, dark and handsome creature that you have been observing from afar.
Still another means is the little gimmick which has broken ice on other occasions. It is the timepiece approach. For instance: "What time do you have?" Or perhaps "Pardon me, do you have a match?" or "Could you tell me the way to Main Street or by chance could I be standing on it this very minute?" These always bring out the Boy Scout nature in individuals, and in their helpful spirit they are easy targets for introduction.

For the younger generation there is nothing like the blind date to get acquainted. Of course, that method is not always limited to youngsters. If you are an eligible bachelor (or an eager maiden), there is usually someone who is forever trying to get you acquainted with the right Jane or Joe. Some people can't bear the thought of a friend being unencumbered. But the blind date, while adventuresome, does have its points, provided you insist on a good description beforehand. In that way, if you are five-feet-two, you may avoid spending an evening with someone six feet-six, or vice-versa.

Parties are good acquaintance promoters. Just invite all your friends in and play blind man's bluff, postoffice, or something. Anything to mix 'em up and to stimulate new friendships. If there's enough moving around, everybody usually becomes acquainted with everyone else by the time the party breaks up. Besides they may find that they both know Joe Deaks, who is a first cousin of Susie Zitch, who doesn't matter except she's something to talk about.

But regardless of what method you use, these or your own innovations, the idea is to "Get Acquainted." If you're normal you'll get a big kick out of it. If you're not normal the experience will do much to make you so.

Taken from the Kennebec Journal

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YES, SMOKEY IS STILL IN DEMAND

Smokey made a hurried trip into Washington County to visit some of the school children before school closed early in June. Bert O'Neill, of Meddybemps, contacted the principal of the Whiting school to find out whether a Smokey showing was possible for June 9. The teacher said she was sorry but school was to close on June 10 and they had already scheduled their annual school picnic for the ninth.

She decided to let the children make the final decision and asked them whether they would prefer to go on the school picnic or have Smokey visit them. 100% voted in favor of Smokey.

Arrangements were made for an early showing at 9 A.M. so the children could have their picnic after all.
The blister rust program is now in full swing. Contact work on the part of the Maine Forest Service and our blister rust agents during the winter months has paid off. Sixty-six towns have made $18,600 available for control work. This is an increase over last year of approximately $6,000.

Work is under way in 20 towns with approximately 50 men employed. Surveys are under way to determine come back of white pine and ribes on the burned area of the Acadia National Park at Bar Harbor. This is the first effort to re-establish control on the Park since the fire of 1947. A reexamination of the University of Maine nursery at Orono was completed early this spring. A protection zone was established on the new nursery annex. A detailed map of these areas was made by students of the forestry school.

A reexamination of the Western Maine Nursery was also completed on schedule. Increased use is being made of chemical weed killer 245-T. Very good results have been reported on areas sprayed in 1953 and '54. Outstanding points in favor of chemical treatment of ribes is the complete kill with no disturbance to soil. Disturbances resulting from hand pulling encourages new growth from dormant seed stored in the soil. Future control plans call for chemical treatment of ribes wherever practical.

Blister rust men have noted considerable damage during the winter to terminal buds on white pine. Many of the new buds have dried up and no new growth has developed. The cause is not known. Pine gross beaks have also caused considerable damage to terminal buds. This has been noted both in Maine and New Hampshire.

A blister rust TV script and film is being prepared for showing over Channel 8, WMTW, sometime in August. This will be a 15-minute program of the question and answer type with visual aids and a motion picture on high lights of control work, including chemical eradication.

Comment: How about some stories from other watchmen with dogs.
Preparations for the gypsy moth airplane spraying project continued right to the start of actual spraying on May 10 at the Sanford Airport. Weather conditions were excellent through the following Monday and the project progressed excellently. Winds for the next few days in the Bridgton area delayed progress but this was again followed by good conditions and the project was completed May 23. Airports used in progression were Sanford, Limrick, West Buxton, Portland, Lewiston-Auburn, Bridgton, Brunswick, Waterville, Old Town, Bridgton, incidentally, as in 1954 saw the use of a highway section for air operations through the cooperation of the State Highway Commission.

13,493 acres in 52 towns were sprayed with 1 lb. DDT in 1 gal. fuel oil per acre for the most part, although some was done with the same mixture at 2/3 gal. per acre. Cost for insecticide, application, and marking of some areas was $1.09 per gallon and was met cooperatively by municipalities, private groups and the state which contributed 40%. All funds were sent to the state for pooling into one over-all program. Contract for supplying material and applying it with two Super-Cubs was with East Coast Aviation Corporation of Lexington, Mass.

Ground observation of spraying, and deposit cards laid in areas, enabled close checking of each job for acceptance. It was in this phase that the finest cooperation was given by the fire warden force in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 6. The spirit exhibited by the wardens was outstanding -- actually, the wardens "fought" to stay on the job to see it through as it progressed from their district into the next. Hours were long, 3:30 A.M. arising and retiring after dark at night. Wardens involved were Clayton Weymouth, Brad Woodward, Ken Day, Phil Barton, Cliff Chapman, Wilbur Libby, Perry Judkins, Stub Eastman, Howard Hewett, and Harvey Saunders. Service foresters Dick Arseneault and Steve Crach also helped at the beginning of the job. Tower radio men Mike Ferguson, Charlie Bragdon, and Cecil Thornton, as well as Franklin Sargent, aided considerably by relaying radio instructions when needed.

Gypsy moth control project also involved spraying of 96.3 miles of roadside (both sides) with mist-blower machines at an average cost of $23.34 per hour. Costs were met as above.

No spruce budworm spraying was carried on this year. However, spraying was again done in nearby New Brunswick and the Gaspe region - 1 million acres each. Increase in budworm has shown up this year in the far northeastern part of the state in T.17,R.3 and towns easterly. Parasites were again reared at the Augusta laboratory and released in northern Maine.

The birch leaf-miner on gray birch and young, open-growing white birch is locally severe in the southern half of the state, causing browning of the foliage.

The biennial crop of spruce cone-gall aphid was abundant this year on red and black spruce. These galls opened early in June but are still hanging on the trees and now of a brown color. Migrating "flies" moved to white pine to produce young which are now settled on the 1955 twig growth of pine and appear as "pepper dots" on the twigs. In places of abundance, these will cause stunting and browning of pine tips.

Sugar maples in York County are showing severe foliage browning. Cause
will be determined next week. It will probably turn out to be the same as in the Portsmouth-Dover, N.H. area, where the trouble is reported as being leaf-scorch caused by climatic conditions of high, dry temperatures suddenly following cool, wet periods during which leaves became very succulent and tender and unable to withstand hot sunshine.

Henry Willett, now retired, certainly hates to give up. Often he travels with, helps, and advises Ranger Ben Willett in the northern area. It shows our reasons for regretting Henry's reaching retirement age in 1954.

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SLASH LAW ENFORCED

Orman Fox of Lowell was arraigned in Lincoln Municipal Court, May 20, before Court Recorder George E. Edwards on a charge of allowing slash to remain unremoved within 50 feet of a public highway, Lowell-Burlington road, 30 days after having received written notice from a representative of the Forest Commissioner to remove same within 30 days.

Robert Merrill, Fire Warden, was complainant. The plea was guilty and Mr. Fox was adjudged guilty. Sentence was five days in the county jail, suspended, and placed on probation for 10 days. Terms of probation were that within 10 days defendant remove said brush to the satisfaction of complainant Robert Merrill.

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Weekly report Alton Edwards - "Bear raided my can in the spring and ate all of my fresh meat, pork, lard, butter, cheese. Came on camp porch at 4 A.M. to get some bread I had left. Shot him three times with a 22 through the window. Knocked him down but he got up and high tailed it down the trail. Hope it taught him it is wrong to steal if you are at home. Had to go to town for supplies."

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THIS IS HARD TO BELIEVE

Earl Crabb, our chief pilot, insisted on helping the crew pack some equipment up Deboulie Mt. He said it was one H---- of a job.

Comment: We understand this was done only because it meant he could head back to Augusta earlier.

Too bad there was so much work involved.
POISON IVY OUTLAWED BY MASSACHUSETTS LAW

What you've always known about poison ivy is now in a law. It's been declared a "public nuisance" by the Massachusetts legislature.

Massachusetts is following the example of a number of western states where control of "noxious weeds" is the legal responsibility of the property owner — and the law can be enforced. The eradication of poison ivy is first up to the land owner. If he does not get the job done, then the town can step in through its municipal council and local gypsy moth control authorities. The moth control superintendent can destroy the public nuisance and bill the owner. Charges for poison ivy clean-up cannot be in excess of one-half of one per cent of the assessed valuation of the property. Actually, killing a good-sized patch of poison ivy may not cost as much as the doctor and drugstore bills for one moderately severe poison ivy attack.

A most effective way to get rid of poison ivy is to spray it with either "Ammate" weed and brush killer or a combination of 2,4-D with 2,4,5-T. It should be sprayed during the summer when the ivy is in full foliage and growing well, but before it starts to change color in the autumn. A solution of "Ammate" with a spreader-sticker included, is usually more effective than the hormone-type herbicides, and it has the added advantage that it gives off no fumes to damage sensitive plants that may be in the garden or yard.

A poison ivy control program should be set up on a two-year basis. One application of "Ammate" will usually kill tops and roots of about 90 per cent of the infestation. But there may be some "misses" and some poison ivy may grow up from seed. So it is desirable to spray these in the second season.

From three-quarters of a pound to a pound of "Ammate" should be dissolved in a gallon of water for poison ivy control. Du Pont Spreader-Sticker is used at a rate of eight to 10 drops in a gallon of spray solution. The foliage should be wet thoroughly — — until the spray begins to run off. With the 2,4-D—2,4,5-T combination, about three tablespoons in a gallon of water will give the proper concentration of spray.

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HOW'S YOUR BRAIN?

READ this sentence:
FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP IS THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS.

Now count the F's in that sentence. Only once, don't go back and count them again.

You will find the answer on page 20. It will tell you something about how good your brain is.

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Harold J. Pelletier — "While patrolling along Big Black River to locate a smoke that was reported to me by Deputy Pierre Chouinard, the bracket broke from the canoe and we overturned, swam ashore, picking up the canoe and motor later, no tools or equipment lost, just a broken handle of the motor. (Oh boy, what a cold swim.) Ask patrolman Gardner and Jandreau.

Editor's Note:
Safety was one of the subjects strongly emphasized at the spring warden training schools. The following extract from one of Gene Letourneau's columns brings out the safety factor of life preservers. Fire wardens should make certain that their boats and canoes are equipped with life preservers when starting out on trips.

"Which brings us down to the subject of today's contribution, life preservers. The value of these Boaters was demonstrated at Mooselucmeguntic Lake while we were covering the presidential fishing trip. We heard about a couple and their 12-year old daughter being thrown from their boat when it struck dryki and went after the facts.

The three were in the water over two hours. All were wearing life preservers when their boat sank. Because of fog and darkness, the accident having occurred at ten p.m., searchers who heard their shouts for help couldn't locate them until after midnight. The woman couldn't swim, the child but very little.

Ronald Turmenne, veteran guide at Mooselucmeguntic, said this incident again proved that preservers should be worn or be handy at all times when you're on big water in the state of Maine."

We hope that Harold Pelletier took the necessary safety precaution of preservers.

Lionel Caron — "There were 26,840 gallons of maple syrup made in this district this spring. Went to Lac Frontiere, met Bridges and Canadian fire warden to find out what was going to be done about a new mill on the Boundary." (My part of it was inspector.)

Robert Pendleton — "Chamberlain made some very good looking truck side boxes for his trucks during wet weather. Used scrap iron and lumber he cut so cost was very low."

Duluth Wing — "Patrolled Chain of Ponds, contacted 4 fishermen and numerous picknickers. Contacted a Mr. Morin of Canada forest patrol and had interesting talk with him."

Isaac Harris — "Took French speaking patrolman and contacted Canadian contractor (pulp) on East Moxie Township. One slash violation corrected, one 30 day notice issued on Shirley Road."

Kenneth Hinkley — "Boy Scout Camporee at Cupsuptic this weekend. 137 boys attended. Very good training for any boy. We helped considerably."

Lloyd Rigby — "Moved a cook stove to Deasey Mt. cabin a distance of 6½ miles. Five miles of this is by canoe and 1½ miles by foot. We had the idea of using a one wheel deer carrier and four men, two to steady the stove and two on the handles. It was a grand success, made the 1½ miles up the mountain in one hour and 45 minutes with no one having a heavy load to pack."
Robert Pendleton - "Found slash on road at Ordway's operation and spoke to Hollis Ordway and found Davis had already contacted him. Davis gave him a 30-day notice later in week. Lots of activity in McCarty field as Levesque is starting operating for 15,000 cords. Building portable camp at the field now to haul into his new location. Found men cutting near road as I was unable to contact Levesque or Eastern's man, saw Bartley of GNP Co. Promised to take care of situation Tuesday next week. Davis or Palmer or both are to meet with him there."

Glen Tingley - "Spent the remainder of the week with Lionel Caron at Daquamm area. Lionel is doing a nice job in this district. His equipment and tools look good and kept well. His fire maps and plans show a lot of work and inspection. His telephone lines are in working order. He is getting his signs out and seems very interested in his work."

L. Tilson Palmer - "A word of warning to all patrolmen - look out for dogs around camp grounds. While checking camp fire at Soudnhunk Dam a dog rushed from under a car and sank his teeth in my heel. I got to h--- out of there fast. Harold Bullock was on hand to give first aid."

Lawrence St. Peter - "Assisted Smokey with his fire prevention programs at Blackstone, Red River and Ashland areas. I am glad to be able to help out with this program, as I feel it is part of my job. Will do my best to cooperate in making the program a success.

From the comments I received from some of the men after the program I firmly believe that we can expect grand cooperation."

Harold Pelletier - "From headquarters to St. Adelbert, P.Q., Twp. 13R16, WELS June 13 with Patrolmen Hughes and Thibodeau to organize a searching party for a 13 year old boy that was lost while fishing in the Depot Stream area Sunday, June 12. About 120 men had started the searching party before noon when a police car arrived from Lac Frontiere with the boy. A signal was given with a high powered rifle for the searchers to discontinue the search.

Patrolmen Hughes and Thibodeau worked the St. John River telephone line from Seven Islands to Simmons' farm this week. The line grounded by some little eager beavers that had fallen a tree across the line near a brook. They constructed their dam over the line but the two eager patrolmen changed the line to another place where if any trees are cut by the eager little fellows the line will not be grounded in the water. The little fellows do not need ground rods to do the job well.

Patrolman Hughes met a big, black bear while working the telephone line at Seven Islands, had no gun with him at the time. He said he wasn't too afraid but but but the bear looked as big as an elephant. That night while fishing he overturned the canoe to save some washing and embarrassment on his arrival home."

Charles Lumbert - "Collected insects and went to Appleton Twp., calling on lumber camp. 80 men here available, 2 pumpers and some equipment. 1 large bulldozer TD 10."

Waldo Clark - "Origene L. Bouffard, Lewiston, 1954 laws - Ch. 97, Sec. 36, arrested Thursday night, June 9, 1955 for setting fire in Georgetown. Jailed until Friday morning. After hearing returned to jail - could not procure bail. Had no money. Found guilty Tuesday morning, June 14, 1955. Judge of Sagadahoc County gave sentence of 5 days in jail as sufficient punishment. Released 6/14/55."
Joseph Lupsha - "Experiment - got several buckets of sawdust from a mill and mulched 60 Austrian pine, 150 Norway pine and 20 Norway spruce on Town of Island Falls planting on old garbage dump. Mulched every other tree in the rows on the driest ground. To check survival in future."

Paul Chamberlain - "I attended a Girl Scout meeting in Frenchville to show and explain to them how to build and care for a fire in the woods. They are a new troop of Girl Scouts starting out. Norbet Dubey was also there to help me out. I believe we gave them a good demonstration."

Annapa Bridg — "Tuesday, the 17th. Lionel and I met Paul Mercier, Canadian Supervisor 2:00 P.M. and inspected sawmill on bank of river at Lac Frontiere. Mr. Mercier informed Mr. Rodrique, owner of mill, he would have to construct a fully enclosed furnace. The cost would be around $2,000 or stop burning. Mr. Rodrique said he would talk with his brother that evening and they would probably stop burning and pile the slabs. Mr. Mercier would return the following day for the decision. However, Mr. Mercier did not return the next day. I had Lionel call Mr. Rodrique by phone Friday A.M. and he stated he was waiting to see Mr. Mercier again and had not made up his mind as yet. The 21st, I sent to the saw mill, power pump and 1,550 feet of 1½" hose. The 16th, I sent six back pumps."

Willard Wight - "To Ellsworth to court. Mr. Small of Ellsworth taken in for burning without permit - found guilty - fine $25, no cost."

Stanley Drake - "Congratulations to Paul Chamberlain and men for the building of one fine boat for Round Pond. I saw the other two boats that he built this spring and know that both will prove as satisfactory for the district's use for which built."

SOME HORSE SENSE

Duluth Wing's saddle horse will pack 150 lbs. of supplies. He already has been used on Bigelow, Mt. Abram, and Kibby.

Comment: Horse power has a place even in our modern times.

P.S. Arthur Evans, Radio Technician, finally made his much promised trip to Kibby.
SMOKEY'S AROOSTOOK TRIP THROUGH THE PULP CAMPS

Smokey had long been wanting to take a trip through the Great Northern Paper Company's camps in the Aroostook area. On June 13, plans were completed and he started out from Cross Lake. His itinerary was arranged and scheduled by Joel Marsh of the Maine Forest Service and Maurice Bartlett of the Great Northern Paper Co. Patrolman Lawrence St. Peter of the Madawaska District took over as Smokey's voice and button pusher, Henry Deabay of the GNP Co. Safety Division acted as chairman most of the time, Jean Paul Duval of the GNP Co. Employment Department did a fine job substituting for Henry on some of the programs, and on the final meeting at Sourdunahunk the job was ably handled by Armand Rossignol of the Canadian Immigration Service, who, with only about 15 minutes of preparation, carried on like an oldtimer. Chief Wardens Paul Chamberlain of the Madawaska District, Stanley Drake of the Allagash District, Stanley Greenlaw of the Fish River District, Harold Weeks of the Aroostook Waters District and Scott Davis of the East Branch District with their patrolmen attended the programs and rendered valuable help while Smokey was a guest in their respective districts. Bob Pendleton and Al Willis, as well as Joel Marsh, attended some of the meetings.

Smokey amazed most of his audiences with his fluent command of the French language. The programs were 100% in French. In his talks Smokey discussed many prevention measures which would affect the pulp cutters, and made suggestions as to how the workers could avoid many hazardous risks. He told some things that should be done in case fires did occur in the operations. The Fire Danger Day signs were explained. During his talks Smokey kept recognizing old friends among the crews and usually knew some amusing anecdote about them which he would tell to the delight of the groups. Smokey's singing ability became well known, and his favorite song seemed to be "Alouette." Smokey spoke to approximately 800 woodsmen, all actively engaged in pulp cutting. His audiences were from 130 to 50 men each. He was always well received, and the men are still talking about him and in some cases trying to figure him out. There is no question but that he made an impression and will long be remembered. His influence will be felt in helping to make the men more fire conscious in areas where there is a high fire hazard.

During July, Smokey is scheduled to make a trip through the Great Northern Paper Company's camps in the Pittston and St. John areas. If he keeps getting better and better, as he did on his Aroostook trip, he really will be something to see and hear when he gets through. Smokey is fast getting widely and favorably known among the woodsmen.

Many of the Maine Forest Service wardens brought their wives and families to see the program, but the special mention goes to Gilbert Gagnon, who was able to have not only his wife but their nine children present on the evening of June 22.

Prepared by Maurice Bartlett,
Great Northern Paper Company

Answer to Brain test:

There are six F's in the sentence. An average intelligence finds three of them. If you spotted four, you're above average. If you got five, you can turn up your nose at most anybody. If you caught all six, you're a genius, and a lot too good to be wasting your time on foolishness like this.
PLAYFUL JOHNNIE

One day Johnnie Walker felt playful. He got down on all fours and started butting his pet goat with his head. Everything was o.k. until the goat backed up and quickly thrust his head forward to set John on his back.

His wife's comment: "John, that job in the office is too much for you."
U. S. Forest Service Inspection

Mr. William Stahl, of the Washington office, and Karl McNasser, of Region 7, recently completed a nine-day field inspection of some of our facilities. Trips were made with each supervisor in his division. Wardens were interviewed as to their job, problems, and plans for the future. Storehouses and living quarters were also inspected.

It was a pleasure to have these two inspectors with us.

University of Maine "Hot Shot" Crew Qualifies for Certificate of Completion Training

Deputy Forest Commissioner Austin Wilkins and Supervisor Willard Wight conducted a training school for a University of Maine "hot shot" crew on the Stillwater Forest last May. The crew was put through their paces in establishing a hand fire line around the perimeter of an imaginary burn. A portable power pumper and forestry hose were also used. Following this exercise, certificates of completion cards were issued to the following men qualifying as crew bosses and pump operators:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Lane, John M.</td>
<td>Crew boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Lerandieu, Henry C.</td>
<td>Crew boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Smith, Myron L.</td>
<td>Crew boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Beyer, Frank K.</td>
<td>Pump operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Fearon, Robert R.</td>
<td>Crew boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Bourassa, George H.</td>
<td>Crew boss</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Forestry Department is appreciative of Professor Art Randall, who has done much to train University of Maine forestry students in the techniques of forest fire fighting. The department is pleased to qualify these men. Should fires occur, and their services be required, it would be very easy for the Fire Boss to immediately place these men in his fire organization once the certificate of completion card is shown him.

The qualifying of these University of Maine students should be an incentive for our wardens to do more training with industry, volunteer fire departments and other protective agencies.

President Eisenhower's trip to Maine

The Maine Forest Service had a definite assignment in the preparations for President Eisenhower's visit to Maine. It was an education in itself to see how thoroughly and carefully travel plans were made. Secret Service men arrived well ahead of time to talk with key individuals and go over every foot of ground to be covered by the President's party. The department's contribution was to provide radio communications between an island in Farmachensee Lake and the Rangeley Lake House in Rangeley.

Through the efforts of Arthur Evans, a communication system on frequency 31,740 was established and made available for the presidential party. A
directive was sent out to all Maine Forest Service personnel to refrain from using channel 2 from the period of June 20-30. This was to permit the use of this channel prior to, during, and after the president’s visit.

The Maine Forest Service was pleased to be a part of the arrangements for making President Eisenhower’s visit to Maine a most pleasant one.

The department has recently purchased a Copyflex machine. This unit can reproduce printed matter, sketches, and maps on standard 8½ x 11” and 8½ x 14” paper. Much use of this machine has already been made in preparation of the Fire Plan, maps, and material for quick reproduction and distribution.

Earl Crabb is at Camp Devens, Mass., and John Walker at Camp Drum, N. Y., for two weeks attending military training camp.

Town Warden Warren Studley, of Berwick, reported the cause of the fire of May 22, 1955: “This fire, I think, started from exhaust of a tractor.” Bradford Woodward, state warden in that area, commented as follows: “The muffler on the tractor was broken up a good deal, figured that a piece of carbon came out and that was the cause of the fire. A new muffler was installed the next day. The tractor was used during the forenoon the day of the fire and the driver does not smoke.”

This is a most desirable type of report because it gives information that supports the decision as to the fire cause. In addition it points out that the defective machine causing the fire has been repaired.

We need more such cases of effective follow up,

DR. JOE LUPSHA KILDARE

After the Service Forestry Training School meeting in Rumford, Joe Lupsha of Island Falls is now known as the Dr. Kildare of the Maine Forest Service.

Joe came out with a white apron, surgical knife, and rubber gloves to illustrate how a poison tab is inserted into the bark to kill and thin out inferior trees.

Supervisor Dinneen stated that only one of these sodium arsenate tabs is necessary to kill a small tree but a greater number have to be used for larger trees.

Comment: As long as you stick to the surgical treatment of trees we don’t mind.
MISCELLANEOUS

Firemen called to West Bridgton Saturday - 6/18/55

The local fire department was called late Saturday afternoon when a fire started along the power line right of way behind the home of Frank Moran in West Bridgton. A spray containing a high percentage of kerosene had been used on the bushes along this right of way and the exhaust from a tractor ignited a blaze which the Bridgton firemen were able to bring under control without too much difficulty.

Bull rams fence, touches off fire.

Palermo, May 20 - A bull, beset possibly by a touch of spring fever, ramed an electric fence on the Kempton Tobey farm at Parmenter Hill today and touched off a grass fire that burned over half an acre.

The fire was first spotted by the Maine Forestry Service tower personnel at Vassalboro, who put in a call to Milton Dove, the local fire chief. Firemen controlled the blaze.

The electric fence was installed the previous day.

Remarks on fire report in Bluchill.

"Percy Flood was drunk and cleaned out his stove, dumping the ashes at the edge of the road he retired to sleep. As the afternoon progressed he became more inebriated and suddenly discovered the fire but was not in any condition to subdue the fire. At six o'clock he couldn't even split wood." And we might add - "Who wants to?"

MERRILL'S BIRD SANCTUARY

Last winter Carlton Merrill and his father were hauling a house across Lake Kezar on the ice. Unfortunately, the ice broke and the house has settled, half submerged to the bottom. This spring and summer many species of birds and ducks have found a natural home.

Comment: It is rumored that Carlton is hoping that insect feeding birds will establish themselves so as to help him in reducing insect infestations in the Kezar Lake area.