FOREST PROTECTORS

Vol. VII - No. 3 - 1959

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL - MANAGEMENT
INSECT & DISEASE CONTROL
BLISTER MIST CONTROL
BAXTER PARK
GENERAL
Land Office - Public Lots
Forest Nursery

Maine Forest Service
Augusta, Maine

NOV 20 1959
Austin H. Wilkins, Maine Forestry Department commissioner, was chosen Thursday night by the Kennebec Valley Chapter, National Secretaries Association, as boss of the year.

With him is his secretary, Mrs. Theodore Tschamler.

The chapter held Bosses' Night at the Augusta Country Club. (KJ - Oct. 23)
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As we approach the winter season most divisions have a period in which to review the season's work while it is reasonably fresh in their minds.

Such a period of reflection is necessary to evaluate where we have been (whether we have really seen the countryside or whether we are merely passing through) and, what is more important, where we are going.

Few of us have the ability to transfer all our thoughts to others (and it's probably well that we don't). However, each of us has his own ideas and we have a real responsibility to pass them on to our boss for what they are worth. He may not use the idea but at least you have the satisfaction of expressing a thought which may balance his judgment in use of another person's ideas. We all need good balance wheels based on practical operations in the field.

So what we are fishing for here is your summary of good and bad features of our everyday operations as you see them in your area. Put this summary on your weekly report when you end the season or at the end of the calendar year.

Let's keep in balance - with your help.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your interest and enthusiasm during the past season.

To the seasonal employees in particular, we hope you find satisfactory winter employment and that you will find it possible to return to the job next spring.

Fred E. Holt
Deputy Forest Commissioner
John Coughlin assumed duties on September 14 to replace Stan Hood who left March 23. John is a 1959 graduate of the University of Massachusetts majoring in entomology for the Master of Science degree. As an undergraduate he majored in forestry. He has been a frequent visitor to Maine, having relatives here plus his interest as a hobby in the "Street Car Museum" at Kennebunk.

Dr. Allen Thomas started October 1, as replacement for Dr. John Dimond who left August 28 to become a professor in entomology at the University of Maine. Allen was an undergraduate at University of Rhode Island as a respected classmate of John's and did his entomology graduate study at Rutgers.

Incidentally, those of you who have wondered just what a "professor" was like can now bask in the knowledge that you knew and associated with John Dimond. We expect that he will be the same capable gentleman as a professor as he was with us. It was hard to lose both him and Stan Hood. Stan is enjoying his duties as Chief of Pest Control, Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources. The parallel work insures close contact with him.

The staff is presently engaged in taking field data from the numerous permanent sample or study plots of various insects and diseases over the state. As usual there is a rush to get plots in hardwood stands done before leaf-fall.

Rangers Gibson, Holmes, and Joy have concluded their duties for the year. Albert Gibson is scaling in the St. John-Allagash area. Jim Holmes should soon be back on potato-grade inspection work. At present Henry Joy hasn't found winter employment.

Carlton Merrill and Horace Bell were part of the crew handling the departmental exhibit at the Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., in September. Ed Duda (1946-1951) was a visitor and is now with Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories of Stamford, Connecticut.

Jim Bean (1942-1946) visited in September. He is now an entomologist with the Lakes States Experiment Station, U.S. Forest Service, in Minneapolis and is closely occupied with spruce budworm infestations in that area. His visit was had with Lonnie Jones (1936-1942, 1946) now with the Foreign Plant Quarantine Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture in Boston, as is Elmer "Al" Hodson (1930-1933).

TV PROGRAMS FEATURED DURING FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Smokey, the Bear, appeared on Channel 6 and Channel 13 in Portland; Channel 5 and Channel 2 in Bangor; and Channel 8 in Poland Springs during the week of October 6-10.

A Maine Department of Fisheries and Game survey revealed that there are 1,675 miles of forest industry roads passable to automobiles and 87% are open to free public use.
DEDICATED TO THE CHIEF WARDEN'S WIFE

I know a grand person who has what it takes
She stews and she boils, she fries and she bakes,
She sews, cans, and pickles, and washes the clothes,
Hoes, mows and irons and stirs up the doughs.

She keeps the Forestry Boys happy, with laughter and wit
Also with the public she makes a big hit,
Dishing out permits and weather combined,

Mapping highways and byways, camp sites and the slash.
Tells the sports and the bums where trout jump and splash.

Warns all of the road, it's so crooked and narrow,
Watch out for the log trucks, but follow the arrow,

It points to the pond where this permit is for
Keep your campfire small and well out on the shore.
Above all, before leaving drown it with care.

Stir and mix, mix and stir, 'til no heat is left there.
This protects our wildlife, our trees and our land,
And all nature's beauty from rock slides and sand.

Just one careless camper can cause a disaster,
FIRE is a good servant, but a most ruthless master.

She hello's and ten eight's, goodbyes and ten seven
And really deserves the best seat in heaven
For spreading prevention from April until fall
And helping keep the District personnel on the ball.

"Skippling" - A Warden

RECORD HOP-HORNBEAM TREE LOCATED IN WINTHROP

Several years ago Marty Calderara, White Pine Blister Rust District Leader from Auburn, located an unusually large hop-hornbeam tree (Ostrya virginiana) in the Metcalf Cemetery in Winthrop. After making a positive identification and inquiries from the U. S. Forest Service in Washington, it was determined that this tree was the largest on record for this species in the United States. The tree is approximately 31" in diameter, 60' crown spread, and approximately 70' tall. Usually, this species when found in the woods is a small tree and rarely reaches over 12" in diameter.

On October 6, Joel Marsh, Supervisor of Information and Education, was a guest speaker at the Kennebec River Valley Garden Club. The tree was discussed and the club members showed a great deal of interest in it. A committee was formed and the Garden Club plans to carry out a definite project to preserve this tree. The tree will be properly pruned and fed and a plaque erected near its base for a permanent historic record.

The publicity obtained will not only be of a benefit to the local garden club but will be of interest to many people on a state-wide and national aspect. The Maine Forest Service will be cooperating with them in this well worthwhile endeavor.
Helen Seaburg and her daughter decided to pick apples in the pasture one day recently. Her daughter climbed the tree and Helen was picking them up when she looked up and shouted. A herd of cattle led by an angry bull was coming toward them. They just made it crawling under the fence with the apples rolling behind them.

BARGAIN BASEMENT THRILLS

Many of the thrills humans experience are God-given and priceless, available by doing just what comes naturally. Most folks get a lift from such things as:

- The first robin's song in spring.
- The sight of a pretty girl.
- A beautiful sunset.
- A child saying, "I love you."
- The full moon on a lake.
- The smell of flowers on a summer evening.
- Lovely music.
- A compliment on a job well done.
- A favorable report on a physical exam.
- The birth of a child.

But, these days, such thrills aren't potent enough. Folks have to get their kicks in other ways.

Ever watch the sparkle in a guy's eye when he tells of going 90 mph, blows a tire and skids through? Ever notice how the mention of such an episode in a group produces an endless series of comparable tales by others. Suddenly, the group is alive. Everyone gets in on the act — with animation.

One guy nearly drowned; another was poisoned; one cracked up his car; someone nearly suffocated; one fell off a roof. A brush with death is exhilarating; one with life seems a dull bore.

Each of us tries to achieve some mark of distinction in this world. It's too bad a close call with disaster is often our only claim to fame.

Taken from Safety magazine.
"August 13th we carried a boy down from Chimney Pond on the stretcher, who
had an acute attack of appendicitis. He was operated on as soon as he reached
the hospital and came through all right. August 28th a boy fell and broke his
arm on the Knife-edge Trail and had to be carried down. It was a bad break but
he is coming along all right, too. Considering the roughness of our trails and
the number of people that climb our mountains, it is amazing to me that so few
of them do have accidents. It is also amazing to me that so many people can
enjoy our Park under the crowded conditions we have had this past month with so
little fuss and confusion. I think much of the credit for this should go to
our Rangers for the way they organize and handle them."

"Our wild animal friends are putting on a good show this year. At Katahdin
Stream Susie Q is as tame as ever. Bear are often seen but none are tame this
year. Perky, the tame fawn is very friendly and is a great attraction. When
Mrs. Scott sounds the dinner call he will go through a group of campers like a
streak of greased lightning and he doesn't care if he goes around legs or be­
tween them."

"One day at Abol a man was stealthily creeping up to Thumper (Ranger Sprague's
tame fawn) with a camera. All of a sudden Thumper dodged under his camera and
made for the camp, cleared the porch at one bound and disappeared within. When
the man peeked in, Thumper had his knees on the edge of the kitchen sink and
was partaking his noonday bottle of milk. The man said, "Well, I'll be. I
thought he was a wild deer." Ranger Sprague also has a pair of tame coon that
make a general nuisance of themselves but the campers love it."

"At Roaring Brook there always seem to be a few moose at Sandy Stream Pond for
people to see. Cookie, the tame deer, is often around looking for a handout.
Two cub bear are quite tame and are not a bit bashful about helping themselves
to food if people do not offer it fast enough. One of them accidentally stepped
on a man's air mattress in the wee hours and punctured it with his claws.
Sssss't and the man was al-, laying on the hard boards. Oh well, all campers
should be on the same level in a wilderness area anyway. Mama bear is not so
tame and comes only at night. She has a weakness for camp ice boxes and
carries them off intact. They are never seen or heard from again. Even Ranger
Werler has been unable to track her to where she deposits them. Some think
maybe she is making a collection and hiding them in a cave on the side of
Pamola. And the funny part of the whole thing is, people never complain about
it. Even the ones that lose the ice boxes."

"August 27th I got word that a man was looking for me with blood in his eye.
He had left his car at Roaring Brook while camping at Chimney Pond and a bear
had broken all the windows, tore out all the upholstering, damaged a door and
scratched the paint, and had stolen all his food. I made a quick study of our
Maine laws and was all set to tell him he couldn't sue the State, this was a
Wilderness Area and we were not responsible for what bears did to parked cars
and he shouldn't have left food in his car with the windows down a crack so the
bear could smell it anyway. But when he came in, his complaint was that he had
made a reservation to stay one more night at Roaring Brook, the bear had stolen
his food so he could not stay and could he have his $3.00 back. To heck with
the car. It was an old one anyway. I made a hasty guess that the Park
Authority would honor his request for a refund and gave him the proper forms to
fill out."

"Last, but not least, here at Togue Pond Mrs. Taylor's tame chipmunk has suc­
cceeded in stowing away twenty-eight full grown peanuts in his chops at one
setting. This should be a record of some kind."
DON'T MOVE -- YOU' RE COVERED!

THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DILEMMA

If he is late in the morning, he is taking advantage of his position.
If he leaves the office without any homework, he has a sinecure.
If he gets to the office on time, he's an eager beaver.
If he's friendly with the office personnel, he's a politician.
If the office is running smoothly, he's a dictator.
If he keeps to himself, he's a snob.
If the office is a mess, he's a poor administrator.
If he holds weekly staff meetings, he is in desperate need of ideas.
If he works on a day-to-day basis, he lacks foresight.
If he doesn't hold staff meetings, he doesn't appreciate the value of teamwork.
If he spends a lot of time with the boss, he's a back-slapper.
If he never with the boss, he's on his way out.
If he goes to conventions, he's on the gravy train.
If he requests a larger appropriation, he's against economy.
If he never makes a trip, he's not important.
If he tries to do all the work himself, he doesn't trust anybody.
If he delegates as much as possible, he's lazy.
If he tries to get additional personnel, he's an empire builder.
If he doesn't want more employees, he's a slave-driver.
If he has lunch in expensive restaurants, he's putting on the dog.
If he brings his lunch to the office, he's a cheap skate.
If he takes his briefcase home, he's trying to impress the boss.

If he makes decisions quickly, he's arbitrary.
If he doesn't have an immediate answer, he can't make up his mind.
If he works on a day-to-day basis, he lacks foresight.
If he holds staff meetings, he doesn't appreciate the value of teamwork.
If his name appears in the newspapers, he's a publicity hound.
If no one ever heard of him, he's a nonentity.
If he requests a larger appropriation, he's against economy.
If he doesn't ask for more money, he's a timid soul (or stark mad).
If he tries to eliminate red tape, he has no regard for system.
If he insists on going through channels, he's a bureaucrat.
If he speaks the language of public administration, he's a cliche expert.
If he doesn't use the jargon, he's illiterate.
If he enjoys reading this, he's facetious.
If he doesn't think it's funny, he is entitled to his opinion.

Taken from the MAINE TOWNSMAN

UNIFORMS

Year round personnel were measured for uniforms at the Entomology Lab in Augusta, and also at Bangor on October 6 and 7.

It is hoped that the woolen uniforms will be received in time to wear at the Annual Staff Meeting in December.

Comment: Mrs. Fowler, clerk at the Entomology Lab, said, "I would like to be measured, too, ---- but the tailor is not my type."
When a group of fire control men get together and discuss the problems of fire suppression it is generally conceded that every fire is different. However, basically, they are very much the same, detection, size-up, plan of attack, and suppression. Rarely does one occur when the crew is prohibited or held back from making the initial attack. However, such was the case of a fire which occurred on T. 5, R. 12, at the head of Chesuncook Lake, September 21. There were unusual circumstances connected with this fire which were brought about by a murder and suicide perpetrated by a hermit living on the shore of the lake.

I received a telephone call stating that the recluse, Hiram Johnson, had shot and killed Leslie Spear, a woods operator, and had set fire to his own two camps which was spreading into the adjacent woods. Pilot Johnson and I flew to the area, sized up the situation, then continued on to the Chesuncook headquarters to transport Chief Warden Gagnon and Patrolman Stanley Clark with equipment back to the fire. The plane landed about a mile south of the fire where several armed lawmen were assembled. At the time, it was thought that Johnson was at large in the woods, armed and considered dangerous. The law enforcement officers prohibited our wardens from going directly to the fire and told them to wait until the area was safe to start suppression action. Later the remains of Johnson were found in one of the burning cabins, and it was at this time that the initial attack was started on the woods fire.

Spear, who had a logging operation some distance from Johnson's cabins, had prepared to move his equipment to a new location some miles away. In order to shorten his hauling distance to the new location, he had planned to cross the clearing where Johnson lived. The hermit objected, threatening to shoot Spear if he attempted to cross his land. Spear called for a deputy sheriff and upon his arrival they went to the Johnson cabin to reason with him. It was at this time that Spear was shot. Later that day Johnson set fire to his two cabins, in one of which he committed suicide by cremation.

This is the only fire on record where Forest Service men have been held back by law enforcement officers from making an immediate attack.

by Robert Hutton

It is expected that the helicopter will be used in eastern Maine the last week of October to familiarize chief wardens in its use and to look over inaccessible areas for possible landing spots.

During the first week of November, when the deer hunting season gets underway, it will be used for patrolling to determine origin of fires which have given considerable difficulty during past hunting seasons.

Seven-thirty one morning the following remark was heard on the radio, "Tramway to Deboulie - Come in Tramway."

"Did you get Pauline's teeth yet?"

We hope that Pauline got her teeth in time for the Saturday night dance at Churchill.
FROM WASTE TO PLENTY

Hats off to the Leeds Sand and Gravel. For many years the southern half of the town of Leeds has been supplying road and building material in the form of hot top, crushed rock, and sand for the Lewiston-Augusta area. As a result there are about 40 acres of exhausted gravel pits dotted along the main highway.

The company has an agreement with the town. If they will hold title to the land and continue to pay taxes on it, the town will not raise the valuation on the areas not yet opened.

That's good but, as a company in business to make money, holding non-productive land is poor management. And so they decided to do something about it. Trees were the answer. In other sections of the country where strip mining is done the spoil banks have been reforested with good success. Why not try it in the old gravel pits!

Before the Maine Forest Service management division was called for assistance and advice, some advanced work had been done. One pit had been bulldozed so that it was fairly smooth and work was in progress on another one.

Seven thousand five hundred white pine were planted this fall. The entire plant was shut down and all the personnel were utilized as tree planters. We borrowed a technique from our European foresters in Portugal and Spain. Over there in the arid sections they place three rocks about the seedling to give it protection from the hot sun, which raises the ground level temperatures beyond what a seedling can stand, and to help hold water from evaporating too rapidly from the ground immediately about the stem. Gravel can get mighty dry in August.

The per acre cost so far runs to about $140. There is no outside assistance other than the advice we have given. The management is so enthusiastic that they want to plant a much larger area next spring. Eventually, they hope to plant every exhausted acre.

by William Adams

Bowling Season Started: Austin Wilkins and Joel Marsh have signed up on the men's State House bowling team Thursday nights as a pleasant means of relaxation.

Anna Stanley represents the department on the girls' team Monday nights.

DISTRICT 1 GET-TOGETHER

On Sunday, September 27, a lobster stew supper was enjoyed by the personnel, wives, and guests of District 1 at the Alfred storehouse.

There were about 50 people present including guests from Augusta, Jefferson, Palermo, Maine; Concord and Rochester, N. H., and the U. S. Forest Service, Alfred.

There are 2.2 million acres of farm woodlands in Maine and 4 million acres of other small ownerships.
"Went to Greenfield to check reported lightning strike which was found on T. 1. This was a hollow basswood 30" d.b.h., had been posted with a 'No Fire in this Area' the year before."

Irvin Caverly - 8/23

"Thundershow at three o'clock. Lightning came in on telephone line, blew fuses, also the wire between fuse box and telephone smoked up wall but did not cause a fire. When the lightning exploded in the wire inside of the camp it broke ginger ale bottle which was about a foot from the wire. Sure glad there was no one in the camp at the time."

Donald Cox - 8/24

"Bluehill - Marked 15 cords of fuelwood, 10 M bd. ft. of sawlogs, and 4 cords of pulpwood on 5 acres of mixed growth. The fellow doing the cutting was with me. Hit a yellow jacket's nest and got stung 4 times - one got inside my pants - new experience."

Elwin Macomber - 9/14

DID YOU EVER GET STUNG!! WELL, I DID!

Comment: Tell Dinneen to order some stingsproof field clothes.

"Bowdoinham - Marked about 15 cords. Found squirrel cache of cones in gully. Felt sorry for squirrel for we took all but about 1/2 bushel. In 40 minutes wc picked up 6 bushels."

William Adams - 9/26

"Found railroad fusee burning above storehouse in road. Culprits were found and after a fatherly talk turned over 1 fusee from under a bridge and 2 more from hideaway at home. After their confession and a talk with a railway official think we have shut off the source of supply." (Note: A good prevention job!)

Irvin Caverly - 9/19

"Rest of week spent at Springfield. We were all greatly impressed and pleased by public reaction to the Maine Forest Service exhibit. A great number of people told us ours was the best exhibit in any State Building. Many more remarked that last year's was good but this was better. One family said they always thought Maine Forest Service had great exhibits but we would have to work hard all winter to find another idea as good as this one.

Had a pleasant week's stay. Good weather and record crowds kept us tied close to building but we managed to see the other states' exhibits. Also had a few laughs, like the night that Carlton Merrill, distinguished looking in grey suit, was approached in the hotel dining room by a woman who wanted his autograph."
When Carlton looked surprised, she said, "You are Arthur Godfrey, aren't you?"
We never found out what name he signed.

And there was the day Dave Grant bought his boy a pogo stick. Seeing people look at it as we walked to the hotel, Dave said, "They probably think I bought it for myself." Entering the hotel, he carried it tight to his side to hide it. One man pointed to it and before a crowd of conventioning Shriners boomed out, "You pretty good with that thing, son?" The more we laughed the redder Dave got.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend. I feel sure we made many friends for the Forest Service."

Lloyd Shaw - 9/28

OUR WARDENS ARE TRAINED IN ALL FIELDS!

David Grant bought his son a pogo stick when attending the Springfield Exposition.

We understand he made quite a scene in the Sheraton-Kimball hotel lobby.

Comment from celebrating Shriner: "Hey, son, you're pretty good with that thing."

THE WONDERFUL TREE

Trees are more than mere green things. They have been man's friends ever since the human race began. In all ages and in every land they have been giving valuable service to man. They are among the best friends and greatest helpers.

They produce many of our most useful and helpful gifts and grace the earth with their beauty. They are truly the wonderful handiwork of a beneficent God, designed primarily for a life of service and to bring happiness and comfort to all the people of the earth.

The delight and service the trees bring to us begins with the cradle and ends with the grave. In the fall of every year Mother Nature gifts us with a beautiful picture that no artist may ever paint. The leaves have some remarkable colors that man may never duplicate, and then they are gone, but yet the tree itself still stands. In the winter months we may look up into old and twisted limbs, see nests where birds were raised within. Have you ever thought just how much wild life has found shelter from a storm or how many feet have stood where you are now?

Who has not waited the long winter months for the springtime that's sure to come. And watched with a faithful eye to see the buds of new life to come - Mother Nature then outfits her best with a new summer outfit or dress - so you and I, and each living being, may find shade and beauty, also rest.

by Thomas Newman - West Kennebago Mt.
"WHEN THE WORK’S ALL DONE THIS FALL"

While all the forestry crew are out patrolling, watching for fires, illegal campers, etc., and the loyal mountain men in their towers are spying on smokes, other folks all over the countryside are enjoying picnics and barbecues. But, after the heaviest part of the work of the wardens, patrolmen, and watchmen is done — then comes the Annual Get-together and Picnic for all the personnel of the Rangeley District at the Cupsuptic Headquarters.

Broiled chicken, boiled lobsters, sometimes corn on the cob, coffee, (all cooked over an open fire) potato chips, salad, pickles, hot biscuit, pies and cake made by the wives, make up the menu. The cooks this year were: Don Mullen of Pine Island; Lewis Nile of Aziscoos Mt., John Hinkley and Prince Edwards of Cupsuptic.

The guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Austin Wilkins of Augusta; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hinkley and son, Kenny, of Augusta; Mr. and Mrs. Joel Marsh and two daughters, a daughter-in-law and grandchild of Augusta; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hutton of Greenville; Mrs. Lillian Tschemler of Augusta. Those present from the Rangeley District were: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wilcox and son, Nedra Wilcox; Mr. and Mrs. Waylan Williams; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Mullen; Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bean and two children; Mr. Lewis Nile; Mr. John Hinkley; Mr. Thomas Newman; Mr. Austin Silanpaa; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Spinney of the Brown Company; and Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Edwards. Callers in the afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ware of Snow Mt.

After the picnic Mr. Hutton showed colored slides of a trip taken by him and his wife in the South and West. Ken Hinkley also showed slides of a forest fire on an island. It was a very enjoyable day and no one went away hungry.

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TREE FARM PROGRESS

As of October 1, 1959, there have been 381 tree farmers certified with a total of 261,405 acres.

The distribution of certified tree farmers by counties is as follows:

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<td>Oxford</td>
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<td>Kennebec</td>
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<td>Androscoggin</td>
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<td>Penobscot</td>
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It is interesting to note that of the total certified tree farms to date, 4 were dedicated in 1952; 31 in 1953 giving a total of 35; 44 in 1954 giving a total of 79; 52 in 1955 giving a total of 131; 62 in 1956 giving a total of 193; 57 in 1957 giving a total of 250; 101 in 1958 giving a total of 351; and 30 so far in 1959 giving a grand total of 381 certified tree farms. 375 of these are still active, with only 6 dropped due to change of ownership or to other reasons.
Editor's Note: The following letter is a good example of public relations and follow-up. It is always a pleasant part of the job to receive such letters.

Little Deer Isle, Maine
September 4, 1959

Hon. Austin Wilkins
Department of Forestry
State House, Augusta, Maine

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

On behalf of myself and my neighboring summer residents, Edward Wells, Robert McClosky, and Daniel Jaquette, I want to express hearty appreciation of the wise advice and helpful suggestions given us by your forester, Elwin Macomber. Some five years ago, Mr. Macomber went over my 240 acre place and my neighbors. Yesterday he came to see us again at our request and was most helpful. We are all long time "summer people" and want to conserve and utilize our woods on this beautiful island. My family has been "summering" and "autumning" here since the 1890's, my children being the fourth generation of Howlands to return each year to their ancestry, New England.

Again, with enthusiastic appreciation of Mr. Macomber's help to us and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

(s) William S. Howland, Assistant to President University of Miami

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Association of State Foresters was held October 8, 9, and 10 at Stowe, Vermont. Attending this meeting from Maine were the Forest Commissioner and Deputy Forest Commissioner, accompanied by their wives. Representation by states was one of the best in several years. Several excellent papers were read on national forestry problems and reports of committees. Several lengthy executive sessions were held to discuss federal cooperative programs, policies, and subjects of general interest.

One of the important needs discussed was to continue to urge Congress to provide requested funds for the cooperative programs of fire control, small woodland management, planting and to support other forestry subjects.

Facilities for the meeting were excellent since the visitors enjoyed staying and eating at several famous ski motels, as well as sight-seeing trips and rides on some of the ski tour lifts. The scenery was beautiful as it was the time of the autumn fall coloration. The entire group was taken on a bus trip to visit State nurseries, plantations, and the exhibition hall in Burlington to see displays and a stage performance of the Golden Anniversary of the Vermont Forest Service.

Montana was selected as the host state for the meeting in 1960. Your Forest Commissioner was honored by being elected a member of the Executive Committee.
ACCIDENT PROGRAM

TO ALL VEHICLE OPERATORS

An extensive program toward the prevention of accidents is now underway. It is not one of those two or three week drives, but is to be a continuous effort to make each and every driver of a state owned vehicle more safety conscious. The program has the interest and full support of the Governor and Council.

You, as individuals will benefit most from this Safety Program, by retaining your full earning power, protecting your dependents and preserving your full physical well being so you can fully enjoy your social and personal life.

I am going to ask then, that each of you use care, courtesy and common sense on the highway at all times, obeying all traffic rules and regulations. I also ask that you accept the safety material to be provided and the suggestions of your Supervisors for the correction of those unsafe driving practices that too frequently lead to serious injuries. If you are involved in an accident, immediately complete the "Driver's Report of Accident" and forward to your Supervisor.

Remember that accidents just don't happen, but are caused and I am sure that you don't want to be the cause of an accident that may result in tragedy. Drive defensively, setting a good example for others on the roads and highways of Maine.

Austin H. Wilkins
Forest Commissioner

ANNUAL BAXTER STATE PARK INSPECTION

On September 25 and 26, the Baxter State Park Authority, accompanied by former Governor Percival Baxter, A. D. Nutting, rangers, and other representatives, made its annual inspection of the Park. The Authority, made up of Attorney General, Frank E. Hancock; Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, Roland Cobb; and Forest Commissioner, Austin H. Wilkins; made visits to each of the Park campgrounds. In the evening the group, including wives of the rangers, met at the Great Northern Hotel for an informal banquet and meeting.

The weather was favorable for the field inspection with an excellent opportunity to view Mt. Katahdin and the surrounding country. Reports by rangers indicated a most successful camping season. Problems presented by the rangers will be reviewed by the Authority at a later date. New entrance signs, 6 by 8', were up at the time of inspection and appreciated by the visitors.

This Wilderness Park continues to become increasingly popular for campers who enjoy this kind of outdoor living.

Talk about raising your sights!

"Went out after supper to get a partridge, came back with a bear. Want some bear meat?"

Weekly Report - Daniel Day, 10/18/59
DUTCH ELM DISEASE

New widespread outbreaks and increased findings of victimized elms in disease established areas continues the characteristic pattern of spread of Dutch elm disease statewide.

Incomplete tallies show 35 new towns and two new counties involved with first elm infections. Total diseased elms this year to date add up to 233, with more to come. Well over 500 elm samples have been checked to date.

Scouting was concentrated in the south central to northern parts of the state. Towns previously involved with the disease were required to do their own scouting, a phase of the recommended municipal elm protection program. Ten of the new towns are in Aroostook County and one in Waldo County - both new counties. Following is a complete list of towns in which new infections were found:

| T. 11, R. 7 | Island Falls | Caratunk | Lincolnville |
| T. 13, R. 5 | Medway | Bradley | Lovell |
| Caribou | Big Squaw | Embden | Waterford |
| Fort Fairfield | Elliottville Pl. | Anson | Alna |
| Presque Isle | Williamsburg Twp. | Wilton | Freeport |
| Bridgewater | Brownville | Newry | North Yarmouth |
| Littleton | Abbot | Clinton | Limerick |
| Houlton | Guilford | Fairfield | South Portland |
| Hodgdon | Monson | Greenwood |

WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS TREE

Maine, for the second consecutive year, has the honor of providing a large outdoor tree for the Yuletide Season at a nationally known place. Last year the tree went to Rockefeller Center, New York City, and this year it goes to the White House, Washington, D. C. It is a joint effort between the Presque Isle Chamber of Commerce and the Washington, D. C. Board of Trade, with the Maine Forest Service and other agencies as collaborators. A committee has been appointed by Mr. Keefe of the Presque Isle Chamber of Commerce together with consultants. Efforts are being made to find the tree in Aroostook County; if unsuccessful, then elsewhere in the state.

Maine Forest Service fire wardens have been busy cruising some of the back roads, looking for a large white spruce which will meet the specifications of a minimum height of 60 feet; diameter branch spread of 28 feet at the base, and as perfectly shaped single stem tree as possible. Several have been spotted by fire wardens and committee members. District Fire Warden Earle Williams, who helped last year, will assist in selecting the final tree.

Plans call for the tree to be shipped by rail with the various railroads cooperating. Tying, wrapping, cutting, and transporting the tree to the nearest railroad siding will start the first week in December. Some good trees are lined up and Maine will again provide a large outdoor tree for thousands of people to see and view on television.
The Maine Forest Service's contribution to the Maine Building at the Eastern States Exposition this year was a model of a winter pulpwood operation. Many will remember this exhibit as it was used for in-state exhibits during 1951-53.

The exhibit at Springfield, Mass., this year was set up on a 7' x 36' sand table. It showed a typical pulpwood camp layout with bunk houses, cook shack, hovel, etc. Another section of the exhibit was devoted to the cutting end of the operation and yarding the wood on one and two horse sleds to a boom laid out on the ice.

Hauling the cut pulpwood on one and two horse yarding sleds to a loading platform and transferring the load to a sled train hauled by a tractor was shown in another section of the exhibit. A main haul road ran the length of the exhibit, showing a tractor sled train, road icing equipment and a combination snowplow and rutter.

Models of a four horse roller, one and four horse road sprinkler, road breaker, snubber and tote sleds were also shown in the exhibit, giving the viewer a sample of some of the equipment that was used in the Maine woods during pulpwood operations in the 1930's.

The models for this exhibit are the handiwork of our forest commissioner, Austin Wilkins. A great deal of credit is also due the towermen in the Organized Towns for their tedious job of cutting and piling many cords of pulpwood in miniature.

John Walker, Horace Bell, Norman Withee, and Al Willis were responsible for setting up the exhibit, while Garlton Merrill, Lloyd Shaw, David Grant, and Wally Townsend were attendants and brought the exhibit back to Augusta.

There were many favorable comments on the exhibit. One question that was asked a thousand times a day, or so it seemed, was, "What do you use for snow?" Some of the answers were quite facetious and caused some laughter.

Most of the visitors believed it was either sugar or salt and some even insisted on testing the snow to satisfy their own curiosity. Actually, this new-type artificial snow is made up of a waterglass compound and is perfectly harmless. Incidentally, it is very realistic.
Personnel Changes

Ed Grove of the Management Division is leaving the Forest Service to accept employment with Saunders Brothers of Westbrook. Ed leaves us November 6.

Elwin Macomber, also of the Management Division, is leaving our employ soon to become logging engineer for Eastern Pulp Wood Company.

Marie Glidden, of Palermo, has joined the office staff to replace Errie Hasty, who resigned in July. Anna Stanley has also transferred back to Forestry.

Many of you will remember Larry Oberlander, who worked out of the Augusta office. He dropped into the office recently for a visit. After his 30-day leave is up he will be stationed in Missouri for the remainder of his time. He will leave the Service in March.

Joel Marsh has been selected as one of three supervisors in the United States to assist William Huber in forest fire prevention activities, U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. William Cross are the proud parents of a baby boy, born on Bill's birthday, October 22.

Construction going on

The Jackman living quarters will probably be completed by the time you read this so that Everett Parsons can move in.

Duluth Wing has put a new cellar under his living quarters at Eustis and has drilled a well to 300' depth where a drill was lost. A dynamite charge failed to bring forth any more water so a new well will most likely be started nearby.

Helon Taylor will have probably completed a pole barn, 24 by 36', by the first of November.

Living quarters for the radio repairman have been closed in and work is continuing at Island Falls.

Earle Williams is building a pole barn, 38 by 48', at East Corinth.

District 4 has started construction on the Alna living quarters.

Hutch McPheters cut tamarack poles and treated the base with Cemose wood preserver for use on his pole barn at Brownville. It will be interesting to note how well this structure stands up compared with the other pole barns where pressure treatment poles were used.
MAINE FOREST SERVICE CHEER FUND
Financial Statement

Balance on hand January 1, 1959

Receipts
Contributions $171.28

Disbursements
Expenditures $351.28
Bank service charge $231.99

Balance as of October 1, 1959 $119.29

Seasonal Warden School

Following the extension of the season for 12 seasonal wardens, it was determined that an instructor training course would have to be operated for the benefit of the wardens. The first one will be scheduled October 26-30. This school, primarily, will be presentation of information to use in instruct volunteer groups. District wardens will present the material followed by demonstration by the seasonal wardens. A field problem will serve as a review and summary on the final day. It is expected that other training sessions will be arranged, depending on how well the first schools of instruction are received.

Accident Report - John Ralph Hutchinson

Patrolman Asa Markey, Patrolman Fred Cash, and Watchman John Ralph Hutchinson left the Moosehead District Headquarters, Greenville, Maine at approximately 8:30 A.M., October 13, 1959. Turning off Route 15, at the beginning of the trail to Squaw Mt. camp and tower, they drove approximately two miles. Coming to a steep grade Cash left the Jeep to continue on foot. Asa Markey was driving and with him as a passenger was Ralph Hutchinson. The trail was wet from recent rains and covered with freshly fallen wet leaves. There was a sharp drop-off on the left side of the trail and a high cut bank on the right side. Driving part way up the steep incline the front wheel came up against a rock, resulting in the wheels of the Jeep spinning on the slippery surface. Markey had the machine in low gear, just easing it along. In order to back up so as to get around the rock, he slipped the clutch and applied the brakes. This was the first indication that he had no brakes. The Jeep continued to slide back even though it was in low gear. In order to avoid going over the steep bank on the left side, he did the only thing possible by cutting the rear end into the steep bank which stopped its movement to the rear. However, it slid downward sidewise, struck a root and rolled over twice slowly, coming to rest right side up on its four wheels. In the rolling over, Hutchinson received a skull fracture, presumably at the base of the brain, resulting in death. Markey, having the wheel to hold on to and being of shorter stature, came out of it with superficial contusions on the right side of the nose and right arm.

Cash happened to be looking down on the accident and was able to relate it
in detail from which this report is based.

The accident occurred at 9:55 A.M. and Mr. Hutchinson died at 10:10 A.M. Fred Cash was with him when he died. Asa Markey ran the two miles to Route 15 to get word out to Dr. Nickerson who came in to make an examination and give medical attention which was not necessary.

As of October 1, there have been 420 fires which burned over approximately 6,474 acres of forest land.

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Editor's Note: This drawing was sent in by Thomas Newman of West Kennebago Mt., and is quite appropriate for the season of the year.

You say a Watchman saw Smoke - and you're a Warden?