DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

Maine Forest Service
Augusta, Maine
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About this time of year we ask ourselves, "Where has the season gone?" As I reflect on this, the answer adds up to busy people carrying out their regular work. It has been a full season and I say very productive.

As the field season ends for many of you I convey the best wishes of the Augusta office for winter employment and look forward to your return next spring. For regular yearly employed it means taking final inventory, preparation of reports, and closing out the season.

Looking ahead, we have the 102nd Legislature convening January 1, 1965. This means presentation of budgets for 1965-1966 and 1966-1967 covering the department's requests for current services, expansion, and capital improvement. We are both optimistic and hopeful for funds to more effectively and efficiently administer the various activities.

In addition to budget requests there will be legislative bills, especially the revision of our forestry laws. Work on the study is progressing satisfactorily and many changes will be made in the final draft.

During the session there will be other bills introduced which will be carefully reviewed.

Our office has undergone new face lifting. Those of you who visit us will not recognize the new office layout.

The department looks forward to continued cooperation with all agencies and our thanks go to all Maine Forest Service personnel for a good job well done.

Austin H. Wilkins
Forest Commissioner

September 24, 1964
"We were pleased to have George McCinley spend a few days in the district this week. He helped the patrolmen with insect collections and answered many questions that we did not understand. It is a help to all here."
Ash Feasley - July 18/64
Chief Warden - St. Croix Dist.

"Heavy lightning storms Tuesday evening set 4 fires in Scott Brook-Little Ragmuff area. Two of these were hard to get to. George Johnson and I went in to old dam on Big Ragmuff by helicopter and walked over and put out one on Little Ragmuff. This is a great way to get closer to these fires. I went in Saturday, July 4, with Ogden and Trudel and helped find one at Kimble Brook. This was a simple task with radio communications from ground to plane."
Vaughn Thornton - July 4/64
Chief Warden - Seboomook Dist.

"July 1 was quite a day. I had my first fires, all caused by lightning storms. Also my son cut his foot so severely he had to spend the night in the hospital."
Galen Cook - July 4/64
Patrolman - Seboomook Dist.

"Went with George flying, looking for lightning hits. Before landing and starting into the woods on foot, we had spotted five hits. One was in Northern Division, two in last year's cuttings on Scott Brook Road, one on Little Ragmuff Stream and one on Kimble Brook. 224, another man and I, got to Kimble Brook about ten at night. I hunted all night but failed to find fire. Thursday - hunted for lightning hit until noon and then came out. Going in again Friday, weather permitting. Friday - rain and fog, going to wait and celebrate the fourth hunting up hit at Kimble Brook. Saturday - Went into Kimble Brook with 220 and 224. Had handie talkie so no job to find fire stub when plane came over. Had spotted trail Wednesday right by stub within fifty feet of it and never saw it. Ruined my pants beyond repair - please send another pair or have the lightning hit beside the gravel roads instead of five miles back in the brush."
William Ogden - July 4/64
Patrolman - Seboomook Dist.

"Checked several past due slash notices, all but one taken care of. Out of state car drove into yard. Man carried small girl to fence to look at neighbor's cattle. Mother, an attractive blonde, called to me from car. I went over. She pointed to cow. "Is that one pregnant?" she asked. While I was trying to think of an answer, she laughed and said, "You must think I'm awful dumb, it couldn't be pregnant because it's got horns." I hurried away from there."
Lloyd Shaw - July 20/64
Warden - District 4 (Union)

"To Rum Brook and serviced campground - 2 trips to dump - home and more work in office. Many callers. Tonight we had 553 campers on the Park. Also, a girl with a broken ankle at Chimney that had to be carried down in the stretcher - got her down at 12 P.M. Also a 17 year old boy lost at Sandy Stream Pond. Our trail found him on the Russell Pond trail. He was O.K. and would have made it out all right by himself."
Helen Taylor - July 26/64
Supervisor - Baxter State Park
Extracts from Weekly Reports cont.

"To Township 35, MD fire. 29 years ago I went over the same trail to a fire on Coombs Brook. I went a little slower this time."

Emery Lyons - July 25/64
Chief Warden - Passadumkeag Dist.

"Went to Holeb to Beaudry's mill and choppings, contacted Mr. Beaudry, clerk and 2 bosses, went to cuttings and contacted choppers, found conditions good among the men, stayed at Barrett Pond at night.

Went to West Branch choppings and contacted the men, had trouble with 1 man concerning muffler on chain saw, camp foreman corrected situation. Went to Haynestown in afternoon to choppings, found conditions good among the men. Heavy lightning storms all day. Fire reported to me at 4:30 P.M. on Van Dyke Mt. Went immediately to West Branch camps. Gathered a crew of 3 and 1 truck. Left for fire at 5:30 P.M. Had received some instruction from 701. Went to Beattie Pond and was able to spot fire. Tried to continue until both trucks stuck. Traveled by compass through woods spotting trail until dark toward fire. Returned to trucks 230 arrived at 10:30 P.M. by jeep and was able to winch truck out. 230 and myself worked until 2:00 A.M. and were able to locate a nearer approach to fire. 230, myself and crew of 3 started at 4:30 A.M. toward fire and located it about 8:30 A.M. Fire under control at 11:30 A.M. and we started return trip. I took crew back to Holeb mill and from there returned to Moose River at 5:00 P.M."

Renworth L. Hollis - July 25/64
Patrolman - Moose River Dist.

Monday. "Game warden stopped in to see if I would help him dress off a moose that had fallen over an embankment and broke his back. This took most of the morning."

Everett S. Parsons - July 26/64
Chief Warden - Moose River Dist.

Sunday. "We speak of cooperation between departments. I experienced this cooperation July 19. I was out on Nicatous Lake checking campers and the Fish & Game plane flew low over me and landed at my wharf and reported a lightning strike and flew me over it. It helped me get to the fire in a short time. I wish he could be thanked from the Augusta office. Many thanks, Andy Stinson.

Monday. We see proof sometimes that we work as a unit helping one another. A fire was reported on Coombs Brook, T. 35. Lyons started from Lee. Grant started from Beddington. I started from Nicatous. Wight flew over the fire. We went to it and when we came out to the road it looked good to see five forestry trucks there. Harrington and Curtis were on their way in."

George E. Thompson, Sr. - July 25/64
Patrolman - Nicatous Dam

"At about 12:30 P.M., July 31, I saw and photographed a bull caribou outside of the tower cab. First sighting this year and first in natural surroundings. Have seen deer, moose, caribou, and need only to see a bear to fill out the list."

Daniel C. Pratt - July 31/64
Watchman - Deasey Mt.

"Picked up Scott Paper forester and checked fire equipment at Moose River camp, Somerset camp and Ellis Pond camp. Found one 'Y' pumper and two Indian back tanks out of order which will be repaired immediately by the company."

Henry Gourde - August 1/64
Patrolman - Moose River Dist.
Extracts from Weekly Reports Cont.

"It may be of some interest as to what states and countries are represented in the Moxie Bald log book of 1964. To date the count is 84. Following states and countries represented: Maine; New Hampshire; Massachusetts; Connecticut; New York; New Jersey; Delaware; Pennsylvania; Indiana; Virginia; North Carolina; South Carolina; Tennessee; Kentucky; Georgia; Florida; Mississippi; Michigan; Indiana; Wisconsin; South Dakota; Montreal, Canada; Mexico City, Mexico; Harrisburg, Puerto Rico and Ipswich, England.

Reference subjects from Montreal, Canada - husband is a high school teacher at Montreal and formerly of Wales - wife formerly of Scotland - arrived at summit of mountain with seventeen months old baby. Liked the area so well they remained three days and slept in our woodshed."

Royal Spofford - August 8/64
Watchman - Moxie Bald Mt.

"Most lightning storms bypass Spencer but the one that came through Wednesday afternoon made itself known. There were four very close hits, the question was could we find them in the fog and haze that has plagued us for weeks. By 7:00 that evening the storm had passed and the fog was lifting and as I have miles of visibility from my camp I was glassing the area. At 7:25 I found a smoke at the head of Lobster Lake. I called Chesuncook but their radio was out. The telephone is not connected with the outside after 7:00 P.M. I could have walked down the trail, taken my truck and gone to Kokadjo and called headquarters but it would have been dark by the time I could have gotten word out, so as the woods was wet, I waited until morning, climbed early, and called 220. 222 and a crew were soon on their way.

701 and 210 came over as soon as 222 was ready to go in. The fire was soon spotted and the boys were working on it. 701 and 210 spent a few minutes following the path of the storm when I received a call they had found the second strike near Deer Pond. Mrs. 216 had called me on the phone and told me a cottage had been hit on Chesuncook Point. That accounted for three, but there was no sign of the fourth.

Late that afternoon I heard Soubunge calling 215 and 216. I looked toward Chesuncook Point. There was the fourth. Smoke was coming thick and high. 210 and 212 had gone in on the Deer Pond strike, but 215 and 216 found a crew and went to work. By 6:30, 210 called his fire was out, by 7:00 the Chesuncook smoke was very small, and 216 called it was under control and they were mopping up. At 7:30, 701 dropped into Deer Pond and picked up 210 and 212 and started back to Greenville.

All strikes found and taken care of, we called it a day and went home for supper."

Edward L. Lambert - August 1/64
Watchman - Spencer Mt.

"Saturday, party stopped in to report that there had been a mishap at Holeb Falls. One person had gone over the falls and was hurt quite badly. I called the Game Warden and told him what had happened and offered to help him out. Game Warden came and picked me up and we didn't lose much time in getting there. We arrived at the falls and at first we couldn't find anyone. We finally found them at the bottom of the steep falls. After the doctor checked him over and bandaged him up we proceeded to Jackman where he entered the hospital for x-rays. Anyone that reads the paper about how high the falls are at Holeb Falls, where this fellow went over, they might have seemed 60 foot falls but are no more than 20. Even though this fellow made it with a few bruises, I think I will keep on carrying my canoe on my back around these falls."

Everett S. Parsons - August 11/64
Chief Warden - Moose River Dist.
"Worked on fire reports this week. Had review of Austin Deadwater fire. Did some patrolling, have tools and equipment all cleaned and taken care of. I think time spent on pumps, etc., is time well spent; on this last fire I had all of my pumps out on it and not one refused to start or gave us any trouble all during the fire. Our hose held up good during the fire; we lost very little, if any. Our tank truck had generator trouble but John Smith fixed that in short time and it was ready to go again. Was very pleased with our equipment and the way it ran."

Charles E. Markey - July 18/64
Chief warden - Parlin Pond Dist.

"Checked Gilbert Cyr's pulp operation on T. 7, R. 6, WEDS, contacted 19 cutters and found two men smoking while working and 4 chain saws without mufflers. I took the matter up with Mr. Cyr and I will check later to see if it has been corrected."

"I had Patrolman Robinson check Gilbert Cyr's camp on T7R6 this week and he reported that all chain saws have had the mufflers replaced except one, that will be fixed this weekend."

Chester Goding - August 15/64
Chief Warden - Number 9 Dist.

"Monday had a meeting with the patrolmen on the patrolman's handbook, then we did some pacing and chaining work out back of the storehouse. There is room for some improvement on this; will do some more of this in the near future."

Everett S. Parsons - August 22/64
Chief Warden - Moose River Dist.

"Went to White Cap, Saturday, Aug. 29, with Car 141 with load of wood, groceries and tank of gas. Road in good condition. Rocked up a few places where washouts had begun. Camp area well landscaped and clean. Camp freshly painted inside. 1 mile relay wire hung up and well bushed. Trail up mountain in excellent condition."

Ivan McPheters - August 29/64
Chief Warden - Pleasant River Dist.

"Wife and I climbed Squaw Mt. on inspection trip P.M. Camp and tower look very good, all logs and records in good shape. Harry is taking an interest and doing good job. Everyone in division is busy - good job done on campsites this season - quite a bit of construction with house at Cupsuptic, camp at kibby, addition to house at Moose River, new tower cab at Little Russell, new basement under Squaw Brook house as well as trying to protect towers with lightning protection equipment before end of season."

Earle Williams - August 22/64
Supervisor - Western Division

"I wish to thank everyone concerned for the beautiful floral tribute for my wife and for their kindness and consideration in my hour of need. The cards of sympathy were a great help."

H. Charles Clark - August 15/64
Watchman - Pleasant Mt.

"We seem to be getting more people every year, asking about various canoe trips, mountain climbing, etc. I think we should do more work on camping locations along the Saco particularly."

Gordon Eastman - August 22/64
Warden - District 2 (Lovell)
"I attended warden's meeting at Chase Hill for District 3, Monday. Painted trim on storehouse at Benton 2 days of the week. Thursday fixed brakes on dump truck at Benton. Front wheel cylinders were frozen solid on right wheel of dump truck. Went to Augusta for Smokey suit to be used in parade at Vassalboro Saturday morning. Saturday was in parade at Vassalboro with Smokey. Did weekly reports and other office work Saturday afternoon. Before leaving for Augusta Friday afternoon had a call from a neighbor who had cut her finger on a food slicer to see if I would drive her to the hospital. After the doctor examined her finger at the hospital he discovered she had cut the end of it right off. He asked if I would drive back to her home and see if I could find the end of the finger so he could sew it back on. After a search of the room where the accident happened the piece was found and is now attached to its owner. This goes to show that a fire warden's job is more than putting out fires and repairing equipment."

Daniel Day - August 8/64
Warden - District 3 (Benton)

Pouring cement at Cupsuptic -
"The crew were all here: Hinkley, Thornton, Crocker, Belanger, Smith, Hanson, and myself. We started work at 6:00 A.M. and finished the whole job at 12:00 P.M. I am very proud of this crew who worked 18 hours pouring cement without a let-up. There was not one word of complaint on the hours. Hardy of West Kennebago was responsible for all radio contact for this time. And many thanks go to my wife, Velma, who kept hot drinks and lunches ready at all times, besides getting the meals for this crew. Everyone was very tired and wet, as we got 1.06 inches of rain during the day, but it goes to show that if everyone works together--YOU CAN DO THE IMPOSSIBLE. (A contractor said it would take three days to pour the cement on this job.)"

Donald Wilcox - August 22/64
Chief Warden - Rangeley Dist.

Comment by Mike Thornton: "I wouldn't want to put in many of these days."

"The grounds and tower at Stockholm are very attractive. This is a steel tower. A new floor was recently laid and cab has been newly painted. Grounds, too, are well kept. A number of improvements in the district have been made and they would have to be seen to be appreciated. For instance, the small storage buildings have been moved back and painted and reroofed. By moving back these buildings it has increased the size of the grounds. We hope to get them newly seeded and the grass growing soon.

The gravel road leading in to Cross Lake is in very good condition and it should be noted that all the work done on this road this summer was done by the forestry crew at Cross Lake. At this time over at Cross Lake the boys are busy cribbing up the front next to the lake with squared timbers. The old front is about all gone.

In conclusion I would like to mention that a new coat of brown paint has been added to exterior of new storehouse at Portage and a new roof job (asbestos shingles) at DeBoulie camp has also been added."

Stanley Greenlaw - August 31/64
Chief Warden - Fish River Dist.

"Sunday, August 23, rain and drizzle. Raymond Porter was flying over Chamberlain Lake and spotted one of Levesque's Shackers camp burning. Porter went to Round Pond and told the warden (325) one of the men put potatoes on a gas burner, then the pilot light exploded the gas setting the camp afire. Didn't get in the woods."

Scott Davis - East Branch Dist.
"This week in the district has been a sort of salad made up of the following ingredients:

Work on inventory
Road construction on tower trails
Shingling on storehouses
Meeting at Augusta
Check and sorting of supplies accumulated over the years at Corinth. (Object, elimination of things not needed.)
Work on dismantling exhibit at Springfield
Preparation for parade in Bangor
Check and signing for supplies at Dow Air Base to take the place of those being retired at Corinth.
Transfer of supplies within area (and wheel to District 3)

Season this with the following:
Illness continuing at Dedham and starting at Enfield
Foliage change and the first frost
Participation and observation of the Bangor parade
Discovery of "Petticoat Junction" on fringes of Dist. 5 at Lake Onawa (named by my son on getting our first look, Labor Day). Resemblance is very striking water tower and all.
Received award of $10.00 2nd prize money for part in Corinth parade (this to be given to Corinth band uniform fund).

Top with continued check on interstate construction (major burning on this project is nearly done with troubles gradually being transferred to 140 and crew).

The Maine Forest Service was well represented at the Bangor parade with 3 tractor-trailer units involved, 2 "Smokeys," and "Woody." (One Smokey was to have been eliminated but sneaked in.)"

Irvin Caverly - Sept. 12/64
Dist. Warden - Org. Towns Dist. 5

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DISTRICT 1 LOSES ITS FIRST WOMAN OBSERVER

Last spring considerable difficulty was experienced by District Warden Carlton Merrill in finding a watchman for the new Mt. Hope tower in Sanford. He finally came up with a divorcee, Mrs. Stephanie Leslie. This seemed like a very good solution in that Mrs. Leslie was "down on men" and we thought she would be available for several years. She was accepted readily by the fire departments and did a very good job for us.

One of our bachelors fell hard for her. He took care of her children while she went to town. It now turns out that she not only went to town but also acquired a friend. Now she has decided to get married, and this before the end of the season. Curses! Soon there will be a new voice on the Mt. Hope radio.

Watching for fires is a lonesome business. Congratulations, Stephanie!

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Forest Commissioner Austin Wilkins has had the honor of being appointed as President of the National Association of State Foresters for the year 1964-1965. He has just returned from the annual meeting in Hershey, Pa. Congratulations are in order.
The dispatching phone at the Houlton office crackled into life. The voice in the phone was that of agent Roderick Rafford from Masardis. There was a sick child at Howe Brook, a wilderness hamlet between Masardis and Smyrna Mills, who desperately needed a doctor. Would the train stop and pick her up.

Dispatcher Lloyd Currie immediately turned from the phone and set the machinery in motion. A short time later, freight train 212 ground to a stop at Howe Brook and took the child and her family the 20 miles out of the forest to a hospital.

Perhaps it wasn't a typical day in the dispatching office or for agent Roderick Rafford who relayed the message about the child from Julia Goding. (Mrs. Goding, in turn, had picked up the message from the forestry service phone at Howe Brook.) But it certainly wasn't an unusual day, either. Emergencies are always popping up in that 30 miles of wilderness between Smyrna Mills and Masardis. People manage to get themselves lost, or injured, or ill. And the railroad is the only practical means of entry or exit from this particular stretch of wilderness. There are roads out, but none worthy of the name. So the BAR is the main link with civilization for most of the people who live there or visit it for one reason or another. Most Bangor and Aroostook employees who work in the area don't consider the occasional request for help unusual.

Neither, for that matter, do the State Forestry people who have a radio net in the area and a telephone system connecting the lookout towers with the chief warden's headquarters in Masardis.

At the turn of the century the area had all the earmarks of a boom area. Sawmills sprung up the length of it and there were even a couple of fairly respectable settlements. For a time, there wasn't a time of day when there wasn't a wagon heading out for Smyrna on the tote road or another one headed in. But after the easy picking of rich pine, spruce and hardwood was cleaned up, the people, except those whose natures it suited, drifted out and the forest slowly closed in over their ambitious scratchings.

A few people live in this remote area the year round, connected with the outside world only by railroad. Others, including Harry MacNeil, a retired Bangor and Aroostook signalman, live there for perhaps six months of the year because the quiet and the life suits them. Whatever else these people are, they are staunch individuals. They don't ask for help unless they have exhausted all of their own resources. When they do ask they need it desperately and the railroaders who work the branch understand this.

Taken from the "Maine Line"
OFFICE CONFUSION

The Augusta office is in the process of being rearranged to provide better use of the space available.

FIRE BUG IN DISTRICT 4:

Waldoboro is one of those towns that for several reasons seems to have an excessive number of fires. It has been felt for some time that many of the fires were being started by a fire bug but this is often difficult to prove.

This year many fires developed a pattern in that they were several in the same general area. It was decided by Warden Lloyd Shaw and Town Warden Bob Maxcy that when a fire was reported in this general area the first man on the fire would not bother with it but would scout the general area.

Soon another fire was reported and Town Warden Maxcy was "Johnny on the spot." In checking the area, he caught the culprit starting a second fire. He walked up and put his hand on the man's shoulder before the culprit realized that anyone was around.

This turned out to be a pitiful case in that the man was a veteran of World War II, with many decorations for bravery. About two years ago his wife died, and his health was bad, requiring attention at Togus.

Tranquilizers were part of his medicine and when mixed with alcohol gave this person the urge to start fires. We do not know just how many fires he has started in the past two years but we think at least six, plus burning two houses in which he has lived.

We got excellent cooperation from the Judge in Wiscasset but didn't get a conviction. If we had convicted the man, he would no longer be accepted at the Veteran's Hospitals. He was committed to a hospital with the stipulation that we are to be notified if and when he is released. The town officials of Waldoboro are very grateful for the good work of Wardens Shaw and Maxcy, and needless to say, so is the department as these fires have been very expensive.
FOREST MANAGEMENT DIVISION

with tree planting just about over the service foresters took off for their annual summer training meeting in June. This year it was held at Dover-Foxcroft with Jim LaCasce as the host forester. This was the first time it has been held in this area and the visiting foresters were greatly impressed with the scope and volume of the accomplishments. This is an area that has had forestry service and advice applied to it for many years. It was first offered in the area, with Dover-Foxcroft as headquarters, by the Soil Conservation Service in the late 1930's and early 1940's by Elroy Gross, a graduate forester, at which time they were called forest farming projects. About 1943-44 the U. S. Forest Service was assigned responsibility for forestry work and it became a farm forestry project with Charles Hutchinson as the forester. In both of the above, the forester was a federal employee. In 1948 the law was changed so that such projects had to become a joint state-federal government project and for a few years the work was carried on in a very extensive basis, there being only two service foresters in the state until 1952. In 1953 Blynn Merrill was assigned full time to the area and replaced in 1958 by Jim LaCasce as Merrill took over supervision of the northern half of the state management projects. We have now gone the full cycle with Jim LaCasce resigning in August, 1964, to go into the business of timber operating, and at this time the area is again without the services of a full-time forester.

Joining our group at the training meeting for the first time was Tom Rupers, a graduate of the University of Idaho. It is expected he will be assigned to the Cornish project area, one that has been vacant since Toppan Kimball resigned a couple of years ago.

Ronald Locke, a graduate of the University of Connecticut, was employed in August and is now in training.

It might be of interest to note that according to the Personnel Department only one graduate of the 1964 class of the School of Forestry at the University of Maine took the Forester I examination this year, and then he went in the Army.

Military leave is becoming a factor of importance in scheduling our work program during the summer. This year, Jackson, Thurston, Taber, Dirkman, DeCoster and Rooney were attending military training camps.


The nursery has put on a big drive for obtaining seeds for the MFS nursery from local state sources. With the nursery in charge of the over-all program, the local service forester was the referral for inquiries. Newspaper articles on the desire to purchase the cones locally apparently met with a responsive chord this year as both the Augusta office and the service foresters have been deluged with inquiries. We have not yet heard how the nursery is making out.

Due to the small supply of trees on hand at the nursery, not too much planting will be done this fall. With the idea of keeping the program as large and as attractive as possible to tree planting operators, most of the foresters feel it will be better to wait until spring.

The week of September 21 Joe Lupsha will be attending the meeting at the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, of marketing and utilization foresters working under the Cooperative Forest Management Program. This is attended by marketing and utilization foresters from all over the U. S. and gives an excellent chance to review problems of mutual concern and obtain the latest information on this important phase of forestry.
There was a dash of touch-and-go drama recently on this fabled river.

It happened when a young voyager was stricken en route by canoe to St. Francis.

The hardy lad complained of severe stomach pains. The suspicion grew that the boy was suffering an attack of appendicitis. The guides and trip escorts feared the worst, since rain and fog smothered the treetops, practically eliminating an emergency flight.

The boy's pals got him to the Maine Forestry Service Station at Allagash Mountain.

Avis Webb got the boy in a warm bed and began applying a series of ice packs. The kid was in pain, far from the warmth of his home and the hand of his mother. But he found, deep in the green jungle of the Maine woods, the comforting hand of an understanding woman in Avis Webb.

The weather continued bad all night. Daylight arrived and the matchless North Woods Communications System once again performed without a hitch.

The Webbs rang and they answered at the Tramway; the Tramway rang and Lock Dam replied; the Lock Dam gatekeeper used the Bangor Hydro-Electric Co., radio system and made contact with bush pilot Dick Folsom at Greenville. Folsom would be at Allagash Mountain the next morning at 5 a.m., weather allowing.

The Webbs had one eye on the sick lad and an ear cocked to an open window when the drone of a lone aircraft filled the heavy morning air. "It's 5 a.m.," Arnold whispered to his wife. She nodded and the kid wrapped in the blankets on the bunk cracked his first smile in 12 hours.

They loaded the young man in the airplane and Dick Folsom started the perspiration-making chore of threading his way through fog to Greenville from the rugged wilds of Allagash. He ferried the kid to Greenville and in a matter of minutes after landing, the boy was in the operating room.

"We take our hats off to those fellows who fly," Mrs. Webb was saying, "I never saw worse flying weather than when Dick took out of here with that young man. The weather was unbelievably poor with practically no visibility or ceiling. The boys who fly those airplanes have our undying gratitude."

And Mrs. Webb, so does the kid you sat beside all night applying ice packs, now you believe it.

Editor's Note: This is an example of what a watchman's wife sometimes runs up against in the wilderness area of the Allagash.

A survey discloses that women don't like to shop but consider it a duty. For the same reason, I suppose, they handle half a dozen tomatoes, peaches, or cabbages before deciding.
LETTER OF APPRECIATION

SHERATON-MT. ROYAL HOTEL
Montreal, Canada
July 6, 1964

Dept. of Forests
Augusta, Maine
Attention Personnel Director - Rangers

While travelling through Maine yesterday about two miles east of Beddington, about 1 p.m., our automobile became imbedded in soft sand when we pulled off the road to rest.

It seemed as if a Forest Ranger appeared from out of nowhere to come to our rescue. His helpfulness, courtesy and efficiency were so reassuring in what would have been a very trying experience for my wife, our two young daughters and myself.

Within ten minutes we were on our way with hardly any crimp in our travel schedule. (As you can see by the address on this letter we had a long way to go.)

In the excitement of the situation and the moment, we didn't get the ranger's name or badge number. We hope that from placing the location and time you will be able to determine who the truly good samaritan is.

If he typifies your Service you can be pleased and proud. He is a wonderful advertisement for your service and state.

Again let me express my sincere thanks and appreciation.

Sincerely yours,
S. J. Wellikson
1034 E. Phil Ellen St.

Editor's note: We are very pleased to receive a letter of the above type rather than one of complaint.

BAXTER PARK NOTES

We have had a successful season and have had more visitors and taken in more money in camping fees than ever before in the history of the Park. For the month of August we averaged 563 paying guests per night and we are about .09% ahead of last year to date. Saturday, September 15, we had an even 800 registered campers. If we could have counted those at the outlying, unsupervised campgrounds I am sure the count would have been well over 1,000 and that is not counting day visitors. On Monday, September 7, Labor Day evening, we had only 131 paying guests.

One man came into my office and said, "I have been chased by a moose." (He seemed quite proud of the fact.) I said, "Was he ugly?" He said, "Oh, no. He just wanted to come ashore where I was standing and I had to move out of the way."

We have had only one small fire, lightning strike at Lord Mountain, and no accidents or incidents worth mentioning.

Helon Taylor - Supervisor
Spruce budworm control by aerial spraying was outlined in detail in the previous issue. Since then results have been analyzed and show a 96% reduction in populations of caterpillars by effects of the DDT spray. The test spray with Malathion showed the degree of reduction of the budworm was not satisfactory.

Aerial survey for defoliation was carried out in July through the cooperation of Pilot Charlie Robinson, followed by the all important egg mass survey in August. Although there is still analyzing of egg mass data to do by John Coughlin and others, it appears now that there are presently no large areas of immediate concern in northern Maine and that if spraying is necessary in 1965 it would involve relatively small areas.

Light traps showed a lighter distribution of budworm moths than in previous years according to Dr. Brower, except for moderate catches around the Cross Lake area as would be expected. Interestingly a trap at Dover, N. H., caught around 200 male moths, plus a few females on July 23-24.

An isolated stand of hemlock, approximately 20-25 acres, was found stripped by the hemlock looper in Woolwich in early August. Knowledge of the situation was after stripping had occurred and caterpillars were pupating so that it was too late to apply control this year.

Both white birch and red oak were severely attacked and browned in August by leaf miners. Both miners are closely related species of sawfly adults. The birch infestations were in the Canton to Gilead area. Oak infestations involved the same area but extended locally to Paris, Auburn, Brunswick, Augusta, and the Upper Sandy River Valley. George LaBonte and Louis Lipovsky were assigned to ascertain habits, life cycles, and control of the insect, plus the degree of damage inflicted on infested trees.

Willow was also attacked severely in local areas, especially Bowdoinham to Brunswick, by the willow flea weevil, grubs of which are leaf miners. Leaves were browned, although from the air trees had a grayish brown discoloration as ascertained by John Walker, who took to the air for us to survey the extent of oak, birch, willow infestations.

Dutch elm disease and maple decline continued to be of major concern. Dutch elm disease is a clear cut case of a fungus disease but the maple problem is quite complex. Major trouble is with roadside maples or those growing in yards, along drives, etc., and ranges from early off-color of foliage to progressive die-back of tops to death of trees. There are apparently several factors involved alone or in combination—old age, root injury and change-of-grade injury from highway construction, soil depletion, the disease known as bleeding canker, salt from road drainage concentrations, and road chemicals in the mist arising from fast traffic on wet roads in the winter and spring. These mists also contain oils to which it is known that maples are sensitive. An added factor this year was that many maples had abundant seed production which commonly is evidenced as weakening to vegetative parts of trees.

Andra Nash became Mrs. Kenneth Kew of Manchester on Saturday, September 5, in Augusta. Both Mother Fran and Father Bob survived, although a little frayed physically, mentally, and financially. A wedding trip to Nova Scotia via George and Vena McGinley arranging motel and boat reservations prepared the new couple for the start of married life in Andover, Mass.
Sally Bell arranged an appropriate gathering with open house to celebrate Horace and Marj Bell's silver wedding anniversary on Sunday, September 6, in Augusta.

Rex McBreairty, insect ranger in the St. John-Allagash Valleys, left in early September to scale lumber in the region. We expect he will resume his ranger duties next spring for the 1965 season.

The staff reports this is a bumper seed year for most species of trees.

---

R. W. Nash

REVISION OF FORESTRY LAWS

At the Special Session of the 101st Legislature in December of 1963, $5,000 was appropriated for a revision of all the forestry laws under Chapter 36 of the Revised Statutes of 1954 and subsequent amendments.

A committee consisting of Fred Holt as chairman, Lillian Tschamler, Earle Williams, Luther Davis, Kenneth Hinkley, Lester DeCoster, Robley Nash, and Allen Thomas has held several meetings and presented its combined thinking to Attorney Richard Sanborn of Augusta who has been retained as legal counsel. At this writing Mr. Sanborn has presented his first draft of changes to the committee which has given it a good going over for approval by the commissioner.

Although a few laws have been deleted, for the most part attention was given to simplifying the language and bringing a continuity of allied functions into focus for easy reference. No attempt was made to place new connotations on the laws but clarify them for clearer understanding and enforcement.

It is the hope of the committee that all work will be completed so that the finished product can be presented to the 102nd Legislature in January of 1965 for enactment.

Insect Ranger George McGinley was called to assist a lady in getting rid of a large insect (porcupine) which was in an apple tree. George dropped his insect light trap and net, picked up his gun, and under direction of the lady shot the porcupine. (He had an aching back at the time.)

Comment: Hope George had a license.
Twenty-three woodlot owners joined the S. D. Warren Company Tree Farm Family, a forest conservation group, at its 10th anniversary birthday barbecue party in Limington on September 1.

In addition, 26 members of the Warren tree farm family received signs from and were certified by the American Forest Products Industries. Joel Marsh, supervisor of the Maine Tree Farm System, assisted in the presentation of the awards.

The new members own 5,734 acres of woodland and swelled membership in the Warren tree farm family to 219. All told, they own and manage 78,164 acres of woodland, mostly in southwestern Maine.

The American Forest Products Industries now has certified 143 members of the Warren tree farm family. To be certified, a woodlot owner must demonstrate such forest conservation practices as selective cutting and reforestation for a minimum of three years.

Austin Wilkins, forest commissioner, spoke on behalf of the department and congratulated the S. D. Warren Company for their outstanding tree farm family activities.

A man who rolls up his sleeves seldom loses his shirt.

MR. SMOKEY BEAR

My name is Mr. Smokey
And I'm quite a popular bear;
For you can see my picture
In the woods most anywhere.

The ranger puts me up there
To kinda' guard the land,
To see that people do what's right
And don't get out of hand.

I've seen a lot of careless folks
Who never give a care;
They'd just as soon start up a fire
And leave it burning there.

But mostly I see careful folks
Who feel like you and me;
They'd rather see the forest green
Then land without a tree.

So when you're walking in the woods
And see my picture there,
Just pause and think on what I said.
Signed: Mr. Smokey Bear.

By Dorothy Webb
(Weather Observer at Chesuncook Dam)
Greenfield, N. H. - There were a number of tasks half a century ago that were supposed to build character in a 12-year-old lad: turning the grindstone, cranking the churn and running the one-hole corn sheller. If you are sufficiently encrusted with the patina of time so that you recall these three operations of farm life, you probably know what I mean by bucking wood.

In the days when a good farmer was proud of his woodpile, and a woodburning kitchen range and woodburning parlor heater were basic for comfortable living, it took a sizeable pile of fuel to last through a winter and to provide fuel for summer cooking. A fore-sighted farmer and a good housewife wanted dry wood. That meant that each winter an ample supply was cut in the woodlot, hauled to the back­yard and stacked.

Strictly One-Man Operation

A bucksaw is an efficient instrument—no question of that. The saw blade was set in a curved frame and one could tighten the tension of the blade by a turn-screw arrangement. It is an entirely different feeling instrument from a two-man crosscut saw. A bucksaw is for a one man, or one boy, operation.

From what I have read, credit for inventing the bucksaw with its raker teeth goes to a D.D. Terrill of Bangor, Maine. In the good old days when men went into the woods in the fall with the big lumbering companies, they had saws with regular cutting teeth such as one finds on hand saws. Mr. Terrill conceived the idea that a bucksaw with raker teeth would be an easier and faster cutting tool than a saw with regular teeth.

He began experimenting. He sharpened several teeth in the regular way and then made a wider cutting tooth to take out the sawdust. This is the principle that is behind the two-man crosscut. The bucksaw caught on and so it was in the 1912 era that I began a period when the bucksaw became a part of my life.

No Beatle Infestations in 1910

I don't know how many men use a bucksaw today. Sometimes I try to list the ways that life is different today from what it was half a century ago. In 1910, women folks didn't toss wiry, bushy parsley over good meats and mashed potatoes; we didn't go through infestations of Beatles; we did not listen to half a dozen commercials before a program got started on a moving picture machine in the living room.

I also know that a young teenager in my youth did not get a dollar an hour for mowing a lawn. But I know that I received a dollar a cord for bucking wood and that cord was a good day's work. As a man looks back over the decades, he is certain that bucking wood was just as efficient a character builder as turning the grindstone or cranking the one-hole corn sheller.

As a matter of fact, bucking wood is excellent exercise. It strengthens the arm and shoulder muscles; it gives tone to the stomach muscles. Naturally, you want a sharp saw with the raker teeth set correctly. As you bend up and down in rhythmic action, you will feel the muscles in the back of the legs begin to talk. I feel certain city and suburban citizens would improve their muscular tone if they arranged for a cord of wood and then bucked it into lengths for the fireplace. What's that? No, it wouldn't be right for me to do it. The man who supplies wood depends upon my business and I want to help keep the nation's economy booming.
CHANGES, REASSIGNMENTS AND REDUCTION IN PERSONNEL
IN WESTERN DIVISION

Over the years some pretty big changes take place in any area and this seems to have been the case with us in the western division. Roads have opened up areas that used to take three days to visit. Cutting operations have all but stopped in some areas and some companies have really stepped up their operations in others. Airplanes and air travel have made it much quicker to visit remote areas and more important to bring in crews to quickly suppress fires that once would have taken two days just to reach. Because we can get there so much quicker, and can get the men working on the fires so much quicker, there are fewer acres of land lost. Water bombing will be very beneficial in the future on remote fires. All these changes have a direct bearing on the workload in any one chief warden district--how many men it takes to cover adequately the area involved--how much need there might be for a tower in that area and the number of people generally using the area.

The above brings me to the point I'll make and justifies, I hope, some of the changes we have made over the past four seasons. Four towers have been eliminated. This doesn't seem to have affected our detection efficiency at all because of airplane coverage normally used during hazy and dry weather. We have made some shifts in manpower, concentrating on the areas of greatest use. Next season we will eliminate No. 4 Mt. As of this date, it doesn't look as though we would eliminate any others for a number of years, but changes could make it necessary to man some of those eliminated or add or subtract others.

Since 1961 the Chesuncook District and Moosehead District have been joined to make one district. In 1964 we operated with five fewer people in the division than we did in 1961. I believe we should be flexible enough in our thinking so that we make changes when changes are needed, not make them just for the sake of a change. Earle Williams - Supervisor

MOTHER, DAD, AND THREE BABY BEARS

Last July Joel Marsh made a visit to the King and Bartlett Camps, located in the Spencer Stream country north of Eustis. The purpose of the visit was to take some bear movies. Marsh used an old oil barrel to hide behind which was located near the trail where the bears were traveling.

During the middle of the afternoon, with good sunlight, one bear was especially photogenic. He came out of the woods diagonally toward Marsh, who was grinding out the movie film. When the bear approached too close (about ten feet) Marsh stood up and with a wave of the hand drove the bear back into the woods. Again the bear came out along the trail with more movies filmed. Three different times Marsh stood up and waved the bear back so more footage could be taken. Finally the bear got disgusted and lay down by the edge of the woods waiting for Marsh to leave.

One of the sports from King & Bartlett camps, standing in the background, later asked Marsh if he were an animal trainer as he seemed to have full control of the bear's actions.

Later in the day more movies were taken of other bears and also some black and white pictures. Just before dark Marsh got a beautiful shot of three cub bears playing on the lower trunk of a large pine, also a picture of the mother bear who came over to investigate the flash.

Our photo file now includes some exciting bear pictures.
The Sixth Annual Forestry Field Day was held at Old Town, Saturday, August 22, 1964. The program was built around forest products and forest fire prevention.

The program started at 9:00 A.M. with registration at the Joseph Leonard Junior High School. Clayton O. Totman, president of the Maine Forest Products Council, called the meeting to order. In the absence of Mr. Joseph Sewall, president of James W. Sewall Co., and Old Town councilor, Mr. Carlton Young of the Sewall Company welcomed the group to Old Town.

Following a few announcements by Austin Wilkins, program chairman, Mr. Philip A. Gatz, president of Alanzo Harriman Associates, gave a short informative talk on the use of laminated wood to replace steel girders in building. The gymnasium where the meeting was held is made with laminated wood done in natural finish and shows what can be done with wood in this type of structure.

Mr. Conrad Schuerch, chairman, Dept. of Forest Chemistry, New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse, N. Y., talked on "Plasticizing Wood with Ammonia" and showed some samples of what had been done with thin pieces of wood.

Following the talk by Mr. Schuerch, Keep Maine Green Citations were presented to the following:

Louis J. Freedman, for organizing the first railroad patrol
Sherman Quimby, first watchman on Kineo Mt., 1909
Charles Robinson, Maine Forestry District pilot
Sherman Rand, State Chairman of Keep Maine Green

Noon lunch was served in the Junior High School gymnasium by the school lunch department.

The afternoon program consisted of a dedication of the Eastern Division Headquarters on the Airport Road in Old Town.

Demonstrations of a wood chipper and fire line plow, and water bombing with the "Beaver" plane from Folsom Flying Service in Greenville were given. These were watched with interest but the water bombing was the most spectacular.

The water bombing was done on a burning brush pile in a cleared area back of the headquarters where everyone could get a good view of the drop. This demonstration showed the advantages of water bombing to some people that had been doubtful about its use on forest fire prior to seeing the plane in use.

To complete the day, tea was served in the new warden home at headquarters and those interested were conducted on a tour of the University of Maine, Forestry School Forest.

Willard Wight - Supervisor

George Rossignol, patrolman in the Katahdin District, passed away Sept. 12/64.

Only those who are "indispensable" dare take long vacations, and even they often find they are not seriously missed.
Pilot Charlie Robinson (right) receiving an achievement citation from Ernest Rand at the Forestry Field Day.

New Eastern Division Headquarters in Old Town, dedicated at the Forestry Field Day.

Demonstration of the Maine Forest Service new Wood chipper at the Forestry Field Day.

Mother bear eyes photographer Joel Marsh at King & Bartlett Camp.
WESTERN DIVISION ACTIVITIES

The 1964 season has been a busy one with 68 fires to date, 48 of which have been lightning fires. All districts have been busy, too, with construction and other projects. The Rangeley District has taken over the law enforcement record with 19 violations and convictions to date. They are in the process now of building a house for Chief Warden Don Wilcox to live in. It is situated across from the present headquarters at Cupsuptic.

The Dead River district boys have built a new watchman's camp at Kibby Mt. at Moose River an addition to the chief warden's house - at Seboomook general improvement of all locations and they are now replacing the tower cab on Little Russell. Moosehead boys have dug a basement and installed a bulkhead at Squaw Brook under the house. Parlin Pond crew has a new roof on the Moscow patrolman's house. All districts have been busy installing lightning protection on towers. To date the following are complete: Soubunge, Spencer, Barren, Squaw, Little Russell, Green, Williams, Boundary Bald, No. 5, Moxie, Kelly, and Coburn; Bigelow tower and camp and Saddleback tower and camp. The four remaining will be completed early in the '65 season.

We have added four new radio remotes at the camps at Aziscoos, Bigelow, No. 5 and Coburn. With the telephone facilities being pulled out at the Grant Farm, we will need to add remotes at Soubunge and Spencer another year along with Moxie Bald and Snow Mountains. The latter two have been without telephone communications for quite a few years.

I mentioned briefly the new house at Cupsuptic. This will enable the chief warden to be at headquarters where he is needed. With all the activities and travel in the chief wardens' districts building up each year, we feel the place for the chief warden is at his headquarters.

Earle Williams - Supervisor

Several months ago Wilbur Libby's radio was turned on while visitors were in the office. One little boy started to talk on the radio, was nice about it but insistently refused to get off the air. Finally the watchman on Streaked Mt., after listening to the juvenile conversation, shouted, "GET OFF THE AIR, YOU LITTLE MONSTER."
SELLING OF CAMPS IN THE EASTERN DIVISION

Due to the change in roads and ease of travel to most areas in the division now, it seemed advisable to change the location of some patrolman and chief warden headquarters, as well as discontinue the use of some towers.

This changing of locations gave us some buildings that were no longer needed in their locations and, due to the type of building, it was not practical to move them so the solution was to sell.

The chief warden headquarters was moved from Princeton to Topsfield, this being nearer to the center of the district and at the four corners. When the headquarters was put at Princeton it was necessary to maintain a large boat for use on the Big Lake and this was stored at the headquarters. Due to roads that have been built around Big Lake it is no longer necessary or practical to maintain a large boat. A 16 ft. metal boat and outboard motor on a trailer can be taken to the lake at various locations when needed.

We are planning to sell a watchman's camp, a combination watchman & patrolman's camp and a patrolman's camp.

The watchman's camp is for a tower that has not been used for at least five years, and the tower can be manned for short periods if necessary by traveling from the highway.

The other two camps were built for a combination towerman and patrolman in the days when patrolman traveled by boat. These camps have not been used for ten years as the patrol and the telephone lines have been discontinued. The last that these camps were used was for a short time when the lines were being repaired.

Someone might ask what about keeping the camps in case of a fire in the area. The camps would only house a few men and if it were necessary to use them we probably could get permission from the owner. If not, we could move in tents, etc., cheaper than we could maintain camps.

The camps are all on leased land and before we could make plans to sell them we had to get an O.K. from the companies to be sure that they would lease the land to the new owners.

Willard Wight - Supervisor

NORTHERN DIVISION NOTES

The new camp that is being built at Rocky Mt. is well along under construction. The new breakwater at Cross Lake is complete except for hauling in a couple of loads of loam. The old storehouse at Portage is down and cleaned up--only need gravel now. Work will be done on inside of new storehouse when fall rains come.

In another ten days work should be completed on the 60 by 40' pole barn at Island Falls. Should be able to move out and sell old buildings this fall. Work here has been done by the Mattawamkeag District crew.

This has been a season of heavy lightning fires--to date 50 out of a total of 70.

The turnover in manpower has been a big problem this summer. We have had a tremendous number of new men coming and going all summer and haven't been at full strength for more than a couple of weeks.

Robert Pendleton - Supervisor
ACTIVITIES OF THE MAINE FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL

The Maine Forest Products Council has had many activities over the last few months. They include:

Products Show Exhibit: Products from over 25 different companies were put on exhibit at the Portland Products Show in August. The exhibiting companies received a good number of requests for information as a result of the show. This same exhibit will also be at the Springfield Exposition, September 19-27.

Forestry Field Day. The field day was quite successful this year despite cloudy weather. A crowd of close to 200 attended the Old Town function. The morning program included inspection of the wooden interior of Leonard Junior High School gym, comments by the architect, a lecture by Prof. Conrad Schuerch on plasticizing of wood, and presentation of citations.

The afternoon program included dedication of the new Eastern Division headquarters of the Maine Forestry District, and a demonstration of the new water bomber. After successfully bombing the fire, the pilot bombed the crowd to impress upon them the fact that he really was dropping water. A demonstration of a wood chipper and a fire line plow followed.

Bookcase of Woods. The bookcase is well on its way to completion and will be an attractive case with books made of wood from Maine's major timber species. Information about the species and wood products in general will be printed on the books. These will be sold as informational and educational material.

Lester A. DeCoster

ONE OF THE LESS PUBLICIZED HAZARDS OF FORESTRY PATROL

Although Aroostook County, and Molunkus Lake in particular, may be considered by some as being remote and isolated and a mere dot on the map, there are some exciting prospects to be encountered in the routine performance of the duties of fire warden.

Last July, while on a patrol of the lake, Bill Lane and Don Pratt were cruising along, checking camp lots which were being cleared of brush. In the distance, they saw another boat with two passengers trolling. As they drew nearer, it became very evident that one of the "figures" in the other boat was female, and she was attired in one of the new topless bathing suits.

Since the West Coast styles have found their way into the woods, it is doubtful that the boys will have to be prompted to tend to the lake patrols in their respective areas.

Al Willis heads up the Forestry bowling team participating in the State House Men's League. Presently they are tied for second place. Team bowlers are - Al Willis, Doug Stark, Joel Marsh, John Chadwick, Louis Lipovsky; spares are - Bill Cross, Austin Wilkins, Henry Trial. We know that other MIS people are bowling for other teams throughout the state and we would appreciate knowing how they make out.

John Chadwick and family spent two weeks in August in Bermuda. By the way he visited relatives there, in case anyone thinks he is rich. (This is the first time that John has had two weeks vacation together and he highly recommends it.) One of the things he did was learn to water ski. Natives could not believe he had never skied before---he was too scared to fall off!
NEW NATIONAL FOREST FIRE DANGER MEASUREMENT SYSTEM
ADOPTED BY MAINE FOREST SERVICE DURING 1964 FIRE SEASON

The Maine Forest Service started the 1964 fire season with a new forest fire danger system. This National System, developed by the U. S. Forest Service, was adopted by many of the fire protection agencies throughout the United States. This achieves a long standing goal of having a universal forest fire danger measurement system. Fire control personnel from different state or federal agencies will now be talking the same language when discussing and comparing danger ratings and fire behavior.

The National System is not entirely new to the Maine Forest Service as there have been two experimental stations located at Eustis and New Gloucester. These stations were set up during the summer of 1962 and operated the remainder of that year and also during the 1963 fire season. These experimental stations, located in Maine and other states, allowed the U. S. Forest Service to make minor adjustments and gave the Maine Forest Service the opportunity to compare the new system with the so-called Type 8 System that had been in use since 1954.

The basic measurements of weather data used to arrive at an index in the National System are much the same as the data used in the Type 8 System. The basic difference is in the measurement of fuel moisture. Use of wet and dry bulb thermometers have been substituted for 3 basswood sticks and a scale balance. All stations were changed to open type stations to give uniform wind exposures.

The National System adopted this year expressed its final result as a "Spread Index." (A number related to the relative rate of forward movement of surface fires.) Unfortunately, there was no direct relationship between this Spread Index and the Burning Index in the Type 8 System. This factor provided the biggest stumbling block to the wardens using the new system. There was some correlation if the Spread Index was broken down into "Class Days." These "Class Days" had about the same broad fire behavior patterns under both the new and old systems. With continued use, wardens will become more familiar with more specific fire behavior patterns based on the Spread Index itself.

How good was the new system? One year's use doesn't really give the new system an adequate test. However, general reactions of wardens have been favorable. During the past spring we experienced a slightly higher than normal fire occurrence rate. The "Class Day" based on the new National Index followed the occurrence rate more closely than the "Class Day" based on the old system.

Build-up Index, especially during the spring fire season, followed the occurrence rate more closely. It didn't have the characteristic extreme high peak of the Type 8 System.

Observers found a few problems in using the new system at the start. The use of tables is definitely not as easy to use as the circular slide rule type with which they were familiar. Most of these problems have been overcome at this time. Care on the observer's part is still required if we are to maintain a high degree of efficiency in the fire danger measurement system.

A recent letter from Mr. Ralph M. Nelson, Research Forester for the U. S. Forest Service, Asheville, N. C., after checking over reports from Maine, stated that the reports on the whole were good. He did point out some common errors: (1) Wet-bulb depression incorrect - subtraction errors, (2) errors in correcting for rainfall.

Comments from wardens on their reactions to the values of the new National System will be appreciated. These should be sent to A. Willis, at the Augusta office.
"Is it real?" "Where did you cut a tree like that in Maine?" Regardless of our explanation people viewing the exhibit at the Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., this year would not believe that the eight-foot pine cross section of a tree was artificial.

The theme of the exhibit was "As trees grow so grows the Maine Forest Service." The eight-foot model has real bark and 144 rings, each one representing a year in the Forestry Department history. Some of the more important years in the historical background of the Maine Forest Service were depicted by an arrow transparency built into the eight-foot model. As the arrow would light on the model a scene projected automatically and simultaneously would depict the historical event. Another screen explained the historical event.

Russell Cram was the wizard who devised the electrical device to operate the projectors and the lighted arrows. John Walker, Phil Barton, and Malcolm Lane did the construction of the eight-foot model.

The over-all exhibit was forty feet long with the eight-foot replica centered and having a foreground of a forest floor, including small trees, mosses, and artificial rocks. The back panels supported tools and pictures of the three major divisions: Fire Control, Management, and Pest Control.

John Walker