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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October 15, 1965
Commissioner Wilkins as President of the National Association of State Foresters is presiding at the Annual Meeting at Houston, Texas during the week of October 11, 1965.

This has been an extremely busy year for him for reasons of the above office as well as having to be informed and active on state legislative programs. We need to keep this in mind when we are asked to take on an extra chore since he has always been one to do more himself than he has asked others to do. His action on the state legislative level has been effective in bringing forestry programs forward.

Pay increases, which will become effective after January 1, were supported by Commissioner Wilkins for the classified service and by his administrative action will also apply to all Maine Forestry District employees.

We should be forthright with our expression of -

"Well done, Commissioner Wilkins."

Fred E. Holt
Deputy Forest Commissioner
"The 18-inch pipe line broke in Albany Friday and dumped 20,000 barrels of crude oil in the bog above the Albany Storehouse. If we had not had rain, this would have been serious. As it was, large bulldozers were brought in by the pipe line crews. Large pits were dug and filled with oil. The brook was dammed up along it and pipes put in to hold the oil and let the water through. We are now burning the oil out of these pits and off the brook. We are burning pits at night. The brook has burned for two days, and last night we put the fire out. We will have to burn a lot more soon. About three acres of swamp we don't dare burn now."

Wilbur Libby, District Warden
District #5 - August 28, 1965

"Rains we have had this week have put us in pretty fair shape. I have been quite concerned about cut-over areas (pulpwood), where hardwood jobbers are cutting logs. I know this is the only way they can have the stumpage. On logs is after the pulp has been cut, but it is still a hair raiser to see them in last year's slash, in a dry period, with tractors and chain saws."

Vaughn Thornton, Chief Warden
Seboomook District - 8/14/65

(Ed. Note - We have some bald headed men we should send up to Vaughn's?)

"Wednesday morning I did office work - planning. After dinner I got Hebron's reimbursement certificate signed. A lady said that there is "half a mile" of currants in Hebron and directed me to where they are supposed to be. Much searching failed to find them. Perhaps later I can be shown the business."

David Stewart, District Leader
Blister Rust Control - 8/14/65

"Patrolman Clark and myself were patrolling on the Grindstone road north of Medway. We came upon a pile of litter that someone had dumped from a car. We looked all over and finally found a grocery slip where the party had purchased groceries from Moscone Market. We found the guilty party and were going to take him into court. He said he did not have much money, and that his wife was expecting a baby. What money he had he needed for that. He promised to go and clean it up which he did, so I did not take him to court. Asked him how he happened to do a stunt like that. He said that he and his friend were drinking on the way to camp, and the garbage in the back of the car was smelling bad, so they stopped and dumped it out."

Clayton Gifford, Chief Warden
Katahdin Dist. - 9/11/65

"Had very good time at fair (Eastern States Exposition) meeting everyone and all. Had no idea the Smokey program was so good, until hearing all the little ones at the exhibit. The people all commented on how nice the exhibit was. You can sure hear some funny things if you listen to them when they are talking amongst themselves explaining about what it means to them."

Clarence Clark, Patrolman
Fish River Dist. - 9/25/65
"Went to tower and when I arrived on top I met a bull moose. When he left the top of the Mt. took one telephone pole and wire with him. New pole and repaired line."

Alton F. Buzzell, Watchman
Beetle Mt. - 9/18/65

"To Abol in late P.M. and attended fall Park banquet - bean hole beans by Super Chef Clayton Gifford and all the fixings. All the Park personnel and most of the Forestry personnel in the district (24 people) were present and I am sure no one went away hungry."

Helen Taylor, Supervisor
Baxter Park - 10/2/65

"The new camp is very nice. My wife and I are real pleased with it. I'm almost sorry I have a winter job and am getting through early, but it will still be new in the spring."

Terrence Trudel, Patrolman
Caucomgomoc - 10/2/65

(V. Thornton reports Terry will be working at Squaw Mt. Ski Slope this winter.)

"The Watchman's Beef"

About this time most every fall, We always get the "boot" The inner sanctum works year round, So they don't give a "hoot." If out to pasture we must go, When the fire season's over, With no social security, To help keep us in clover, You'd think they'd put us on half pay, With a trip to the south thrown in, So's we'd be rested up in time, To go to work next spring.

By Edgar Allen Pew.

"Answer to the 'Watchman's Beef'"

You fellows think you are underpaid, it really isn't true, Right now you are getting twice as much, as you should for what you do. As far as a trip to the south for a rest, with half pay thrown in besides, You are getting more rest right now than is good, for a man who expects to survive. So just keep on, as you've done before, and come next spring, you'll be back for more.

By I. M. Satisfied.
Spruce budworm surveys in Aroostook were essentially completed in mid-August. Some remote areas will be surveyed for egg mass numbers later and as soon as water levels rise to allow canoe travel.

Insect Rangers and others then went surveying for Dutch elm disease in those towns in which the disease had not been found in previous years. Most of the staff then went onto taking the data from the birch, beech, and oak plots prior to leaf fall.

Jim Holmes of Portage took a short but forced leave of absence in late August to enjoy a hospital visit and rupture operation. It is nice to report that Jim is coming along nicely. Rex McBreaity completed his season's work September 18 to take another job for the winter. Larry St. Peter finished work September 11 to return to school - this time the University of Maine.

An issue of "Forest Pest Notes" was put out in early September. Bulletin 22, a revision of Bulletin 17 (The Planting and Care of Shade Trees) was received from the printer August 23. The "Insect Primer" was also revised and made available in May.

Dr. Brower, John Coughlin, and Hub Trefts attended the September 1 - 3 meeting of the Canadian and Acadian Entomological Societies at Fredericton, N.B. and Bob Nash was at the summer meeting of the Northeastern Forest Pest Council at Hyannis, Massachusetts, September 15-17.

Doug Stark and family moved in the summer from Davenport Street to his new (to him) home on Hospital Street - both in Augusta - and close to the Laboratory. Hub Trefts found a home in Readfield, P.O. Box 84, Telephone 685-4294; with Bill Adams as a neighbor, there should now be some real learned forestry decisions or something emanating from that township.

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COLLECTOR'S ITEM

I'll make a bug collection, dear,
And make it just for you
And I shall look, and try to find
A bug that's really new
A bug with green and orchid wings
A bug of giant size
A bug with pink and sky blue spots
That yodels when it flies
A bug that isn't hard to see
That comes in great big flocks
And when you whistle answers you
And flies into the box!
And when I find this magic bug
The choice of all selections
We'll smile, because it's only use
Is just for bug collections.

Found by Harry Wiggins in camp.
The fire season is gradually drawing to a close. Because of the beautiful summer our men were held rather close to fire suppression with the result that very few improvements to buildings and equipment have been accomplished and maintenance of buildings, trails, etc. has been at a minimum.

Cecil Dunham, Watchman on Chase Hill, does report that he now understands why bushes growing under telephone lines are known as "heart ache bushes." He has recently completed brushing out his telephone line.

The one big project equipment-wise in Organized Towns has been the completion of the seven 200-gallon slip-on units. These are mounted in Dodge 4x4 and power wagons and should be a great assist in keeping fires small next spring.

We have had a hard season fire-wise. The result being that much of our equipment, especially hose and pumps, will need replacing before spring. This is normal in that much of our equipment is getting old and should be replaced. One of our problems is in replacing or updating some of our 4-wheel drive surplus equipment.

District Ranger Waldo Clark of District 4 is retiring this month after many long years of service. Ranger Lloyd Shaw will be taking over as District Ranger. This leaves a vacancy at Union. Ranger Don Cox of New Sharon is being transferred to Union to fill the vacancy. This is a promotion for both Lloyd and Don.

The vacancy at New Sharon has not been filled. As it is a seasonal job, it will not be filled until late winter. We already have several applicants.

Forest Ranger Phil Barton of Gray in District 1 is retiring, also. Phil is a very young man for his age, only last year he rode down Ossipee Mt. road on a toboggan standing up, just to show some of the younger men how it used to be done. Phil is a prime example of how well State employment agrees with some people. The vacancy at Gray is being filled by Hollis Crocker of the Rangeley District. Hollis qualified for this job by examination and this can be considered an advancement as he will now have full time employment. He has been down to look over the area and meet some of the Town Wardens. He allows that he did not realize that there were so many roads going in so many directions.

We congratulate Waldo and Phil on their retirement and wish the best of success to Don and Hollis in their new positions.

K. A. Hinkley

Man is contrary as weather as a rule.
When it's hot he wants it cool.
When it's cool, he wants it hot.
Always wanting what it's not.
EASTERN DIVISION ACTIVITIES  
Summer 1965

This has been a dry summer in the Eastern Division with the drought index staying up toward the danger mark of 400 a good part of the summer.

The big project for us has been fire fighting. We started out with the usual number of grass fires in the spring and then went into the summer fire season in June instead of July. We had a larger percentage of lightning fires this year than any other year since I have been in the Eastern Division. The first one was reported on May 20, then only a few fires until June 21, when the lightning fires really got started. From June 21, through June 29, we had 26 fires, and 16 of these were caused by lightning.

The Centerville fire started August 4 and burned about 12,000 acres and kept some of our wardens on patrol there until about September 15. This fire started in Kelly's peat bog about 11:00 A.M. by a spark from his vehicles which are used to haul peat from the bog to the drying shed. These vehicles are all old trucks connected to a sort of half-track. They have lags on the back and dual wheels on the front to hold them up on the bog.

The peat is cut and piled on wooden racks to dry. When the fire got into these racks, the sparks from the lumber and peat made the fire very hard to control.

No heavy machinery could be used on the bog, and all water used had to be hauled by truck and pumped from the drying shed to the fire on the bog. The wind was blowing away from the buildings and the peat was so dry that the hose never did get to the head of the fire. The men on the fire stated that they could only get down 50 feet or so of fire line before the peat would dry out and reburn, or the dry peat dust would blow over the wet fire line and reburn.

This fire turned out to be a good test for many people and organizations. We had men from all divisions of fire control, as well as Service Forestry, Nursery, and Entomology. The help that these men gave us was greatly appreciated.

The equipment and manpower from industry was a big help to us, and shows the kind of cooperation given the Forestry Department and others. Equipment was loaned to us by the States of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission.

The feature item sent to us from outside the State was the Canso flying boats from Quebec. These planes carry 1000 gallons of water per load, and were reported to be very effective by the men on the fire line where they made their drops.

Our work was not finished when the fire was controlled and the equipment picked up. We had 200,000 feet of hose to wash, test, and return along with 90 pumps of all sizes. The most of this equipment has been returned except for the shortages. This means purchasing new equipment to cover the loss and return this to the proper place. We hope to get most of this equipment replaced before the next fire season.

My thanks to all who helped in any way on the Centerville fire.

W. A. Wight
BOARD OF REVIEW HELD ON BIG CENTERVILLE FORE

Firefighters fought the big Centerville forest fire all over again on September 9 and 10 in Machias, Maine. This time, however, the fire fighting tools were words and the only smoke present was from cigars, cigarettes and pipes puffed on by the audience.

The Review was held for the purpose of verbally refighting the fire to bring out both good and bad points in how the fire was controlled.

The forest fire was one of the biggest that Maine has experienced since the 1947 fires. It was started by exhaust sparks from a truck which had no muffler and was used to haul peat on a large peat bog in Centerville.

There is now a Maine law making it illegal to operate any power equipment without a proper muffler and spark arrester but this did not become effective until September 3. The fire started on August 4 and was not controlled until August 8. Estimates of the area burned total over 13,000 acres.

A review of the commitment of men and equipment to the fire adds up to a staggering total: 25 large bulldozers and 4 small ones were used to build an estimated 90 miles of fire line. 33 tank trucks of various kinds were used to haul water and gasoline. 91 pumps were used on the fire to pump water through a total of 199,800 feet of hose. 650 men and 70 supervisors worked on the fire.

Board of Review participants and observers toured the fire area for on-the-ground briefing Thursday, September 9th. The Review actually began September 10 at 9:00 A.M. when 77 observers and participants crowded into a classroom of the Machias High School.

The meeting was opened by Maine Forest Commissioner Austin H. Wilkins who read a letter of greeting from Governor John H. Reed.

William Messeck, New Hampshire State Forester, currently chairman of the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission, served as general chairman for the Review. Messeck spoke briefly on the objectives of the NEFFPC. Under the Commission rules a review is required when assistance is given to a State. The program was then opened by review chairman Kenneth Hinkley. Hinkley is supervisor of fire control in organized towns.

One of the first things discussed was, "Why did the fire get so large?" Weather data presented at the review provides some reasons.

The day that the fire started (August 4th) records show that the temperature was 78° and the wind speed was 18 MPH. The fire danger was Class 5, Extreme. The build up index (BUI) was 38. BUI applies to fuels located 1/4" to 3" beneath the surface. A BUI of 40 is considered at a crucial point.

Aircraft used for dropping water on a fire really proved their effectiveness during the Centerville fire.

Two beaver float planes with 125 gallon capacity and 2 Canadian Cansos with 1,000 gallon capacity were used to drop water on hot spots. The water drops could not put out fire this hot but did cool the fire enough to allow bulldozers to work in close and put in a fire line. It was estimated that the 2 Cansos made 190 drops totalling 190,000 gallons of water. The 2 beavers made 300 drops for a total of 38,000 gallons of water.
A complete record of the strategy discussed at the Board of Review would make a short novel but for the sake of brevity, the findings could be summarized as follows:

(1) The fire fighting team responsible for supervising control of the Centerville fire acted promptly, and correctly.

(2) Cooperation and elimination of red tape were very effective. The loan of the 2 Cansos which involved actually working through Customs with another Country (Canada) is a good example.

(3) The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission was a valuable source of aid on this fire. It is expected that under provisions of the NEFFPC our Canadian neighbors will soon be active members.

(4) The value of aerial water dropping was well established on this fire. The practice of dropping water on the fire edge to allow bulldozers to work in close to the fire was especially good.

Some suggestions for changes that might be of future help were:

(1) Standardize equipment among the Northeastern area states to prevent problems in using varied types of equipment. Different types of hose couplings pose a considerable problem.

(2) Create a top level fire fighting team that could be called upon as a unit for supervisory help on a large fire. The number of men on the Centerville fire at the top level was felt to be insufficient. Manpower as a whole was in short supply.

(3) Better control of the air over large fires is needed. Although the FAA declared restricted flying below 2000' elevation, several private and military planes presented safety hazards when they ventured into water dropping areas.

(4) More emphasis on safety. Several tractors were used without cabs and one man received several broken ribs as a result. Lack of adequate footwear was pointed out. A number of burn injuries were experienced. One person reported seeing two men who were working on the fire line in their bare feet.

In the general comments made at the end of the Review, a St. Regis Paper Company spokesman said that his company had lost an estimated 10,000 acres of growing spruce and fir. He said that while this would not have a tremendous immediate effect on the company wood supply, the effect on future wood supply would be considerable.

A Georgia-Pacific Corporation employee stated that Georgia-Pacific losses were approximately 2,300 acres.

The situation that the Centerville fire fighters were faced with was probably best summarized by Ed Peltier of the U.S. Forest Service when he said, "No one puts out a fire this large. You just stay on the fire and work at it until you get a break, then corral it to keep it from spreading."

"A woman has reached middle age when her girdle pinches and men don't."

NORTHERN DIVISION ACTIVITIES

The Northern Division had about the usual fire problems. Over half were caused by lightning and only one of all was of much consequence. I think, in view of the drought conditions that existed through much of the season, that it speaks well of the care and caution the people using the woods must be observing.

The Allagash had quite an increase in traffic from both ends. Some of the campsites we used to think of as river sites for the canoeists have been taken over by people driving up river in cars. If there was a road the length of the river, some people would drive the length of it and never take the canoe off the car.

There has been the usual shortage of manpower as the Division ran at full complement for only two weeks and never did find anyone to work on the recreation program, so the regular crew had to do as best they could. Two areas were established, one at Whetstone on the East Branch of the Penobscot and another at the CCC road on the same river. Should be able to entertain a sizable number of tourists at either place next year.

As of this writing fourteen men have left for one reason or another as they take on winter work. More scheduled to go next week as the hunting season for deer opens in this section.

In spite of drought conditions and the shortage of men, some construction went on. A new camp was built at Depot Mountain, three new tower cabs were erected on Beetle, Clear Lake and Priestly Mountains. In conjunction with the cab on Beetle, the men also put up steel for the former cab sat on the open ledge. On this job, George Johnson gave us a big hand with the helicopter which was appreciated by all. This fall we have three pole barns under construction, and if Bill Cross can get the roofing in here before any more snow comes, we should finish up storage for Hay Lake, Macwahoc and Daquam.

Robert Pendleton

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AUGUSTA OFFICE TENPIN BOWLERS

Janet Gagnon, Management Division Secretary, and Anna Stanley (you name the division) are bowling in the State House Women's Bowling League this year. Their team is CONSERVATION.

The State House Men's Bowling League has a FORESTRY team comprised of Al Willis (Capt.), Joel Marsh, John Chadwick, and Jim Elliott, with Commissioner Wilkins, Dave Taber and Doug Stark substituting when needed. At times Henry Trail lets his arm (left) be twisted into filling in for the team.
Wayne Jackson, Dick Arsenault, Walt Gooley, Cliff Fester and Floyd Farrington attended the summer meeting of the New England Section of the Society of American Foresters held in Kentville, Nova Scotia, August 18-20. It is reported that this is the first time a meeting has been held here in conjunction with the Canadian Institute of Forestry since 1926. As Lester DeCoste reported in the last issue of the PROTECTORS, some Christmas tree growing areas were inspected. We have been told that if this is the best the Nova Scotians have to offer in the Christmas tree line - we in Maine shouldn't have much to worry about. (But should we worry a little? From a former 1,000,000 tree a year business last year, we sold only 380,000 trees and Canada shipped 932,000 right through Maine into markets we formerly had.)

And speaking of what we are trying to do in the Christmas tree line, Dave Taber attended a three day training school in New Brunswick on the grading and cultivation of Christmas trees. Nothing like learning from your competition. It is hoped that the knowledge learned can be put to use to help our own industry. Two Christmas tree Grading Schools were held in Maine during the fall of this year. One was at the State Office Building in Augusta on October 12 and the other was held on a plantation at Butler Point in Franklin on October 14th. Dave spoke on the Maine Christmas Tree Law as well as similar laws of neighboring states.

It is rumored that the Service Foresters were in the White Pine cone collecting business this year. While we do not have the official tally at this date, tentative figures indicate approximately 9,000 bushels were collected by landowners, wives, woods operators, choppers, etc. At the rate of $2 per bushel, this put $18,000 into circulation in Maine that formerly was shipped out of state for purchase of seed. It was one of the best cone crops in years here in southern Maine. Again while we do not have all the figures, Tom Rupers collected approximately 5,000 bushels, Cliff Foster 2,600, Dick Arsenault 1,027, Bill Adams, 500+ with an unknown amount by Ancyl Thurston. Champion Rupers says he hopes we don't have another cone crop like it for some time. Over Labor Day he had 134 telephone calls. Of this he is sure because the other people on his line called up the telephone company and complained, listing this number to back up their point. Burlap bags to hold the cones were scarce and at a premium due to the fact that so much of the dairy feed is sold in bulk these days.

While forest recreation (fun-in-the-woods) has always been a subject foresters have been involved with, the new emphasis on recreation is creating new demands on the Service Foresters' time these days. Laying out roads, hiking and nature trails, marking camping and picnic areas for aesthetic forestry purposes, advising on tree pruning for looks and space, use of herbicides to control brush, (not to mention poison ivy), species of wood to use and design of picnic tables, fire permit information, percent of profits on concessions are all part and parcel of the job these days.

Joe Lupsha, Utilization & Marketing Forester, attended the Northeast Section, Forest Products Research Society, Fall Meeting in South Lee, Massachusetts on October 13-15. Subjects to be covered include a paper on Timber Production and Supplies in the Northeast; new developments in the processing of small diameter logs; improving serviceability of railroad ties; wood waste; pallets and pallet containers; new developments in wood finishes.
Joe Lupsha will represent State Utilization & Marketing foresters in the northeastern states at a conference in Washington, D.C. on November 1 and 2, sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service. The conference will deal with training needs of utilization and marketing personnel.

To offer Hebron area youths an opportunity to learn skills and enjoy gainful employment, the Maine Forest Service conducted a three-week forestry program on lands of Hebron Sanitarium. This is the first Neighborhood Youth Corp project for the Maine Forest Service. Local pundits predicted that not even a half dozen youths would respond to the offer. With the help of notices in the Norway-South Paris newspaper, forestry personnel were overwhelmed when some 58 boys showed up in the Town Square of South Paris in response to the notices. Some 43 youths were accepted. An average of 30 boys worked the 3 weeks. ACCOMPLISHMENTS were – nearly two miles of discontinued towns roads were brushed out for fire access and stumps treated to prevent sprouting; 1½ miles of boundary line brushed out and painted; 30 acres of weeding of young timber stands; 750 white pine trees pruned; 10 water bars and one wood culvert constructed; and 6 stone culverts reconstructed. Wayne Jackson and Bob Dinneen coordinated this project and while Jackson attended the SAF meeting, Rupers and Adams assisted.

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BRIGHTLY BLAZING CONES

Instructions on how to treat pine cones to make them burn with sunset colors. Soak them in a solution of water and ordinary chemicals obtainable at any drug store or from your kitchen. Then let them dry thoroughly and they are ready to add gorgeous colors to your fireplace blaze.

The following chemicals are recommended with the colors they produce:

- Common table salt - yellow flame
- Borax - vivid green flame
- Potassium chlorate - violet flame
- Calcium chloride - orange flame
- Copper sulphate - blue flame
- Copper nitrate - emerald flame
- Potassium nitrate - yellow flame

Mix about a half pound of chemical to a half gallon of water in a wooden or crockery container. Then dip into it the cones in a cheese cloth bag and let them soak thoroughly. Remove and spread out to dry. Don't mix the chemicals together. Use each one in a separate solution. A bag of treated cones make a unique Christmas gift.

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W. Robert Dinneen, Management Division Supervisor, received a well deserved award for outstanding work at the recent CFM Supervisors Conference held at Block Island, Rhode Island.
NURSERY ACTIVITIES - Summer 1965

Nursery activity this summer centered mainly on the construction and graveling of roads along two sides of Site II. Culverts were laid for the irrigation pipe so that access is now possible to the fields without taking the irrigation pipes apart. Eventually this system will be extended to the other fields. The Eastern Division cooperated in this project by the loan of two dump trucks.

Construction work on the greenhouse was completed with the setting of some 250 pieces of glass. This turned out to be quite a chore with a hand operated putty gun, but some strong grips were developed in the process. Installation of the heating system is well along and hopefully will be completed before cold weather sets in.

Everett Howe and Harold Kneeland represented the Nursery at the Centerville fire. Both enjoyed fire control work again.

Cone collection started with a bang the last week in August. Collections were limited to white pine with the heaviest crop being in the Gray-Cornish area. Approximately 9,000 bushels were collected in the short space of four weeks. The large quantity created storage and handling problems. Tom Rupers' barn will never be the same again. Processing the cones has begun and one truck load of empty cones has been sold to a Connecticut firm which makes novelty items.

About 300,000 white and red pine seedlings will be lifted this fall. Some will be healed in at a new location in Gray and some kept in cold storage at the nursery.

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AN ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE?

I think that I shall never see
A thing as ugly as this "tree".
Instead of needles soft and green,
It has a harsh, metallic sheen
The branches fold, its trunk is square;
No bird has ever nested there;
No fragrance as of pine or spruce
Pervades the air throughout its use.
It never felt the gentle rain,
The season's change on hill and plain,
Or sensed the tender loving care
Provided in plantations where,
Under the grower's watchful eye
The green trees thrive beneath the sky.
This thing of metal's not for me
I want a green and fragrant tree.

Woodbridge Metcalf
Activities within the radio division are back to normal for this time of the year after one of the most demanding seasons our radio system has experienced.

The Centerville Fire was indeed a challenge to our communication system in that the units were exposed to many adverse conditions. However, this only represented approximately one-eighth the total number of units in the entire system.

The fact that we had a large going fire coupled with similar fire conditions throughout much of the entire state was the real challenge to the system. Traffic was extremely heavy throughout the central, southern, and coastal areas. Once more it was evident that a multi-frequency setup such as ours does have the capacity to absorb heavy traffic with minimum interference within the system.

During this critical period, we didn't experience one major radio failure either on the fire or anywhere within the system. The technicians who service our equipment deserve much of the credit for the preceding statement. The high maintenance standard during the off season certainly is a real factor when this type of performance is realized.

Clarence and Paul both did a tour of duty on the fire - they reported the accommodations at Bog Lake were quite satisfactory - this is an indication that Charlie Coe is not only an excellent pilot but an outstanding cook as well.

Much of the field work scheduled for July and August obviously was not completed, however, weather permitting, we should get some antennas on this fall.

The radio lab is again surrounded by new and used pickup trucks as we transform our efforts from routine radio maintenance to re-installing mobile units in the new vehicles. Soon our used car lot will be full again and much time will be spent introducing the vehicles, that have served us so well, to their new owners.

Generally speaking, radio procedure was greatly improved this past season. Many of our operators did an excellent job during the critical period.

R. D. Cram

At the Springfield Exposition this year, two of our forest rangers staffing the Maine Forest Service exhibit watched the Park Ranger in charge of the State Park exhibit making daily trips to the end of the Maine building. The last day of the Exposition, they saw him come rushing through the crowd with a red face. In talking with him later, they discovered that he had been using the unmarked Ladies room all week and hadn't found it occupied until then.
The office field trip took the group to the Bryant Pond Conservation School. Yes, they're drinking Coffee!

The 7th Annual Forestry Field Day was held at the Pinkham Lumber Company mill in Nashville, Plt.

This year, the Maine Forest Service exhibit at Springfield featured aerial water dropping on fires.
When Governor and Mrs. John H. Reed visited our Springfield Exhibit, our water-bombing plane actually, by mistake, started flying backwards, but quickly turned around before dumping water on the fire. As an amusing comment, Governor Reed said, "Some pilot you have there."

This year’s Forestry exhibit at the Springfield Exposition was a real success. Over 450,000 people visited the Fair during the nine days, many of them visiting the Maine building and our exhibit. A quote from The Springfield Union, local newspaper, said, "An elaborate model of forest fire fighting techniques in the Maine build was far and away the big attraction there . . . . although on the final day of the fair the greens of the simulated forest were beginning to show signs of a New England drought."

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ABOUT THAT PAY INCREASE

The editorial page comments briefly on pay increases. As you have heard earlier with the exception of four positions in the department, all personnel will be getting a two step increase in pay.

In reviewing the legislative action a great deal of credit should go to the Maine State Employees Association. Much legislative ground work went into this increase by the officers and employees of the association. Also, to the credit of those who worked for it is the fact that a harmonious and good working relation remains for work with future Legislative bodies.

This is brought to your attention in view of reported organizational activities by labor unions and what probably will be a quite different approach to employee relations with the Legislature. For long time gains and all around good relations with the public (our employers) I believe our present association is responsive to employee needs and will continue to do a good job.

Some of you are active in your local chapters already. As the opportunity arises we urge any Forestry department employees to take part in these affairs. You will find the time spent will be helpful to yourself as well as your fellow employees.

You will be interested to know that Bill Cross of the Augusta Office was recently elected a councillor from Top-Flight Chapter and one of nine directors, the executive body of the Association.
WHAT MAKES THE YEARS GO BY SO FAST? DON'T SAY THAT WE ARE GETTING OLDER, EVEN THE KIDS NOTICE IT NOW. AND ANYWAY HERE IT IS ANOTHER FALL AND TIME TO BUTTON UP AGAIN.

WE HAD A FAIRLY GOOD SEASON ALL TOLD. FIREWISE, 57 FIRES TO DATE, SMALL TURNOVER IN OUR PERSONNEL AND WATCHMEN WITH THE AID OF OUR AIRPLANE HAVE DONE A FINE JOB SPOTTING AND LOCATING SMOKES. VAPOR COLUMNS HAVE GIVEN NEWER WATCHMEN A LITTLE TROUBLE THIS YEAR. BUT NEXT YEAR COMING UP WE FEEL THAT THESE WON'T BE THE PROBLEM THEY HAVE BEEN THIS YEAR.

NOTE TO WATCHMEN: THAT FELLOW YOU SEE COMING UP THE PATHS WITH HIS TONGUE HANGING OUT IS THE SUPERVISOR ON HIS ANNUAL TOUR OF INSPECTION. EARLE REPORTS FROM INSPECTION TOURS THAT TOWER LOCATIONS LOOKED GREAT. HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU MOUNTAIN MEN AGAIN NEXT SPRING.

CAMPSITE ACTIVITY HAS SLOWED DOWN. MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION ARE STILL GOING ON. MIKE TIBBETTS IS WORKING OUT OF GREENVILLE NOW. BILL CONNORS LEFT IN SEPTEMBER TO ACCEPT A TEACHING POSITION AT EAST CAROLINA COLLEGE, NORTH CAROLINA.

IF YOU HAVE ENCOUNTERED ANY OF US IN THE DIVISION RUNNING AROUND BARE FOOTED, YOU PROBABLY HAVE GUESSED — IT WAS INVENTORY TIME. MAKES THE COUNTING SO MUCH EASIER!

SOME OF OUR PATROLMEN HAVE BEEN RELEASED SO THAT THEY MAY ACCEPT WINTER EMPLOYMENT THAT HAS BEEN OFFERED THEM.

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GREAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THIS BLIGHTING PARASITE. IT SHOULD BE EXTINGUISHED WHEREVER FOUND, AS IT KILLS OFF LARGE AREAS OF FOREST LAND AND IS ALSO VERY DETERIMENTAL TO WILDLIFE. AN ARID PLANT, IT THRIVES IN DRY PLACES AND SEASONS BUT IS FORTUNATELY KEPT DOWN BY RAIN AND MOISTURE. MOTORISTS SHOULD BE PARTICULARLY CAREFUL, AS THE SPORES ARE OFTEN CAST FROM AUTOMOBILES PASSING THROUGH WOODED PICNIC AREAS OR DRY GRASSLANDS. CLOSELY RELATED ARE THE EQUALLY DANGEROUS STUBBITA CIGARUS AND THE PIPEASHIA, OR DOTTLEWEED.

By J. A. Chapleau
TREES FARM ACTIVITIES

As of October 1, 1965 Maine had 700 numbered tree farms with a total of 1,988,052 acres of woodlands under continuous management. It is expected that we will have over two million acres in the program before the close of 1965.

Maine's 700th Tree Farmer

Mrs. Beatrice Center & Son, owning 450 acres in Sebago, were honored as Maine's 700th Tree Farmer at the S. D. Warren Tree Farm Family Day held on September 1, 1965.

Maine Man to Get Tree Farm Award in Tokyo

During the third week of October a Maine man will receive from Maine's Governor Reed a certificate designating his property in Standish as a Tree Farm.

The unusual thing about this, Reed said, is that the presentation will be made in Tokyo.

The recipient is John Rich, Far East Correspondent for the National Broadcasting Company, who owns a farm and woodlot in Standish and has practiced approved methods of timber harvest and conservation.

Arrangements are being made to have Japan's Imperial Forester or his representative on hand for the presentation. We expect to have International coverage on NBC-TV and with Associated Press and United Press International.

Outstanding Tree Farmers to be Honored

The Grange Herald and the Maine State Grange will honor all Outstanding Tree Farmers and their wives at a banquet to be held in the Augusta House at 6:00 p.m., Friday, October 29th. The twelve tree farmers to be present will be presented with a "Wooden Bookcase," a gift from the Maine Forest Products Council. In the evening the group will appear as guests before the Maine State Grange session at the Augusta Armory. The Outstanding Tree Farmer for 1965 will be awarded the usual Grange Forestry Plaque and a new chainsaw. The winner this year is Donald Fitzpatrick of Haynesville. Commissioner Wilkins will say a few words congratulating all tree farmers for doing such an excellent job in Forest Management.

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A job applicant wrote "No" to the query, "Have you ever been arrested?" To the following question, which was "Why?," he answered, "Never got caught."
FORESTRY FIELD DAY HELD AT PINKHAM LUMBER COMPANY MILL

The 7th Annual Forestry Field Day held at the new Pinkham Lumber Company mill in Nashville Plantation, Maine drew a crowd of 158 visitors this year. The meeting, on Saturday, August 38th, featured a tour of the million dollar, pushbutton sawmill. Guests for the day were given wooden dollars as souvenirs. The "dollars" were rock maple disks commemorating the Maine lumber industry.

The program was opened by Council President Clayton O. Totman at 10:00 A.M. Totman presented Eagle Lake Representative John Martin with a bookcase of 20 Maine woods and expressed appreciation for his interest in the Maine forest products industry. Maine Forest Commissioner Austin H. Wilkins also addressed the visitors.

In welcoming the group, Thomas Pinkham, head of Pinkham Lumber Company, stated that the new mill had averaged 42,000 board feet per 8½ hour shift for the last 6 months. In the mill, all equipment is pushbutton controlled. Instead of vigorously pulling and pushing on the usual levers, the sawyer sits in a padded chair and pushes buttons to control the band saw. This saw can cut to a tolerance of 1/32 of an inch. All logs are debarked and slabs and edgings go to a chipper. The resulting chips are blown into Bangor and Aroostook Railroad cars and hauled to a paper mill.

All of the waste and sawdust from the mill goes into a giant burner which provides steam heat for the mill and dry kilns. The kilns are electronically controlled and can dry lumber to any desired moisture content.

Some of the sophisticated loading and unloading equipment was also demonstrated for the visitors in the mill yard and mill yard log piles served as perches while the group enjoyed a chicken barbecue at noon.

The field days are annual events sponsored by the Maine Forest Products Council. This year, the Pinkham Lumber Company, the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad and the Maine Forest Service cooperated to make the meeting a success.

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Another Retirement

I know all will be interested in hearing that Harrington G. Bradbury completed his duties October 14. Brad has been District Leader, White Pine Blister Rust Control, Belfast District since 1929. Prior to that he was a staff worker for 3 - 4 years.

Actual retirement will be in late November. Currently he is using up accumulated leave time. His duties will henceforth be handled by Laurence Colby of Belfast as District Leader.

R. W. Nash

(This came in too late to be put under the ENTOMOLOGY EXCERPTS.)