FOREST PROTECTORS

AUGUSTA, MAINE 1966

NURSERY

ENTOMOLOGY

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

PUBLIC LOTS

FIRE CONTROL

MANAGEMENT

PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Grow More Trees

KEEP MAINE GREEN
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COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Last Wednesday, August 17, 1966, by Governor and Council confirmation I am privileged to serve another four year term as your Forest Commissioner. My public service of forty years with the Maine Forest Service has been most rewarding. Thinking of the last decade, it is a record which reflects progress and many accomplishments; it is a clean record without blemish of public scandal, investigation or any other misconduct; it is a record of cooperation with the press, radio, television, legislature, wood-using industries and the public in general; and best of all it is a record of cooperation and loyalty of members within the Department.

The past can be reviewed many times over but my thoughts are about the four years ahead in which you and I continue our public service in the Department. I do not contemplate any major changes but I have formulated certain plans which call for an assessment of some of the present duties and responsibilities of our staff members; establishment of general policies; a framework study of our organizational setup; preparation of a yearly and long range plan of projects and programs; a careful look toward improving cooperation and better understanding with federal, state and private agencies. I have some other ideas in lesser categories.

The start of this new look and study of how we can function more efficiently and effectively will begin with the renewal of monthly staff meetings, appointment of sub-committees with special assignments, and key staff member talks with the commissioner. This whole approach may sound rather ominous to some but my intent is the sincere effort to strengthen our department in all aspects in order to better serve the public. To accomplish this, we must recognize our duties and responsibilities more clearly, accept them, and then execute them to the best of our ability. I ask your full support as we face together what I hope will be another pleasant and successful four years.

AUSTIN H. WILKINS
Forest Commissioner
"If the dadblasted whirl-ybird had really busted the remote line when it set down on it instead of just breaking the wire without cracking the insulation, I'd a'fixed it days ago. Fixed now, tho! Take it out of George's pay!"

Merrill D. Randall, Watchman
Dead River Dist. - June 4, 1966

"Flew District with Johnson. Moved boat to Richardson Lake. The Beaver is a nice plane and I enjoyed the ride very much. Surprised to see so much snow still on north slopes of mountains. I don't think Worcester enjoyed his plane ride too much. He used his socks in place of air sickness bags which made Ken Smith turn rather green...."

Don Wilcox, District Ranger
Rangeley District - June 6, 1966

"Had a wonderful rain and no lightning. We have had quite a bit of rain but always with some lightning. Went to town Sat. Got a truck load of supplies. If I can keep them from the Bear, I'm all set for some time."

Edward L. Lambert, Watchman
Spencer Mtn. - June 11, 1966

"232 called and said my dad called and they found my dog in Shirley. He had left Boundary Bald camp 9 days before, and headed home, quite a little trip. I guess he was hitchhiking."

Bob Irvin, Watchman
Boundary Bald - June 11, 1966

"Aroused at 1:45 A.M. by Clerk at Levesque's Camp. Fire started in hovel and spread to woods. Hovel and equipment inside destroyed and approx. 1 acre of woods; all softwood. 323 & I on fire and had it under control at 6:00 A.M. 1200' 1½" hose was laid by us, and 1400' 1½" by Levesques. Dozer was employed to keep fire from getting to gas storage tanks. Had an excellent group of men to work with on fire. Really knew how to handle nozzles."

Daniel C. Pratt, Ranger
East Branch Dist. - June 26, 1966

"The greater part of the week was spent on Spencer Mt. The old cab was in pretty bad shape thus making it quite easy to tear it down. The wind and weather was on our side, which aided in construction of the new one. I really do believe that Ed is quite proud of his new perch. We all thanked Mrs. Lambert for her hospitality and that great feed of beans and hot biscuits that wound up our stay on Spencer Mt."

J. A. Gilles, Ranger
Moosehead District - July 3, 1966

"Wednesday-report a fire to 401 and 402 on 18R11. We had 702 come with beaver. First time I ever saw rain from the plane, and he did a good job. I notice when water hit it, the fire slowed down. I didn't know anything about beaver and its a good idea when the fire is spotted to get the beaver on it the first thing and then talk turkey. It takes time for the men to get there in the big woods."

Gilbert E. Peterson, Watchman
Rocky Mt. - July 9, 1966
"At 5 P.M. had fire on Cranberry peak at 2700 foot elevation. 252 got there first and pulled back the duff which prevented the head from going up the Mt. any further. We found a wet place nearby and dug water hole which gave us 50 gal. per hour. By dark we had all blazes out and let crew from Stratton go back down over the steep part of the Mt. before it got too dark. 252, 253, 2 fire fighters, and I stayed in the burn all nite and when we heard a blaze, we put it out. After daylight we did a lot of good applying water and swampig. We were relieved by 251 and fresh crew about 8 A.M. Bigelow tower clocked 47 mph winds Sun. during the fire. Fire was caused by kids using fire crackers as we found several at rear of burn."

Duluth Wing, District Ranger
Dead River District - July 10, 1966

"This has been sort of a hectic day. One family of campers with six sons which were transferring to Roaring Brook for a couple of nights, despite the protests of a twelve year old son. Discovered as they were about to leave that the boy was missing. A search party was organized and after 1½ hours of hunting, he was located ½ mile up our water supply brook. The parents made him come in and apologize for the trouble he had caused.

"Later on in the day, a loud explosion was heard in the campground. After some searching and discussions with different persons, I felt I had pin pointed the guilty party. Soon, after accusing and after much denying, the party turned over part of a box of cherry bombs.

"At 4:15 p.m. another party reported that his wife had left to gather firewood better than three hours previous and had failed to return, which was causing him some concern. She was finally located well up on the Howe Brook Trail. A heated discussion followed between man and wife as to whether she had gone on a hike or to gather wood, whereas, I quietly made my exit."

Ellsworth Damon, Ranger
Baxter Park - July 10, 1966

"Monday night another bear got into our spring and got our meat. The next morning I sat at old table out in the camp yard. Put some meat scraps on the table, piled a lot of empty tin cans around the meat, opened a window, loaded Mother's rifle, and went to the tower. Five hours later the phone rang. She had another bear. This is two in thirty eight days. Both shot in the head. Folks wonder why I behave so well, huh?"

Edward Lambert, Watchman
Spencer Mt. - July 16, 1966

"Well this has been a week that I will not forget. The lightning storms started the first of the week and lasted until Friday night, one or two every day. Wednesday one started at 4:00 A.M. and we were not without one until 8:30 P.M. one right after another. I was on one that I picked up off the lake and while I was on it we got 1.84" rain. I think I got more water on me than the fire did. Went back to check it and found another one about 150 yds west of the one I checked. Not much to it - hit a big spruce and went down into the ground. Dug it out and put one tank of water on it. My lines are all out as we had a big wind with some of the storms. One day I know we had a 40 mile per hr. wind for about one half hour. Hope this will be a better week."

Rudolph Dunphy, Ranger
East Branch Dist. - July 16, 1966
"Heavy showers this week kept everyone pretty much on the ball. We had heavy rains with the shower Wednesday and a lucky thing we did the way lightning showers were showing up. As usual, cooperation with company men is very good and several of their important men, to us at a time like this, volunteered their services and we took them up on their offer. Everyone seems to realize that if we can hit these things while they are small, it is less costly and less work. A very good job."

Vaughn Thornton, District Ranger
Seboomook District - July 17, 1966

"I guess I've got to start shooting song birds, etc. over here. They seem to be neurotic or something. Have a woodpecker that loves to drum on steel roofing. The other morning I saw a robin picking a fight with a hub cap. Not succeeding there he tried the front bumper for a while with the same results. I didn't suppose the summer visitors would affect the birds that way too!"

H. Charles Clark, Watchman
Pleasant Mt. - July 17, 1966

"Checked on fire at Little Kennebago and it was o.k. Returned to Hdqtrs. and checked over weather station with Al Willis. Went over to Richardson Lake to return a lost boy to his family. The boy, 6-7 years old, had walked about 1/2 miles out of the woods. Got back to Hdqtrs. in time to check out another smoke. Didn't find anything."

Donald Wilcox, District Ranger
Rangeley District - July 17, 1966

"Wednesday, left for Baie Comeau, Que. for meeting. Enjoyed trip very much. Seemed like we were in a different world altogether. Can understand why they have trouble with fires - lots of undeveloped country. Thought demonstration went over very good.

"Fred finally found out how to get scrambled eggs for breakfast. Ken is buying all of his film from Canada from now on but he has to get it developed there."

Carlton Merrill, District Ranger
District #1 - July 24, 1966

"There was a party lost on Katahdin Sat. night. Finally got out about 2 AM Sunday morning. Built a fire near the Abol trail and went away without extinguishing it, then made a birch bark touch and came all the way down the trail through the blow down area. Rodney Sargent had to go up and check for fires and extinguish the one that he left."

Clayton Gifford, District Ranger
Katahdin District - July 24, 1966

"Ranger Cyr Martin just knew that today needed a different approach. He loaded his horse on his trailer and headed for the DeBoulie country. After a trip to the top of DeBoulie Mountain with a load of bottled gas for the watchman and a half days work pulling logs from campsite, he started for home only to run into another LIGHTNING STRIKE. 702 informed him that there was no water in the area so he lashed backpumps to his horse and packed water to the crew on the fire the rest of the day.

"Cyr says, 'The day of the horse is not over.'"

Stanley Greenlaw, District Ranger
Fish River Dist. - July 30, 1966
"Got call from Howe Brook tower Saturday. When I got there, one of Levesque's skidders was on fire. Used powdered extinguisher I had in pickup which was very little use. Sure could use a pressurized extinguisher. Six other skidders were parked along side of the one that was burning. Had never run one before but sure learned fast."

Fred A. McLean, Ranger  
Number Nine Dist. - July 30, 1966

"Around 8 PM I had an interesting radio talk with Frankfort, Kentucky - a Mr. Nelson Hawkins. He had copied us all day and asked where I was sending everyone. Wondered if they were hanging in the trees. He is radio supervisor, Forestry Dept. from the State of Kentucky - always wants to be remembered to Russ Cram."

Helen Gifford, Reservations Clerk  
Baxter Park - August 7, 1966

"Went to St. Pamphile. They are lumbering heavy in that district. Went to two lumber camps. We are doing very well on the chain saw muffler deal. We are getting good cooperation all over the district."

Ronald Simon, District Ranger  
Allagash District - August 7, 1966

"Finished 100 hr. on Beaver, checked fire. Had call that boy on Mt. Katahdin had appendicitis so flew there with helicopter. Maximum altitude I could get was 4800 feet (full throttle). However, all I needed was 4600 at Thoreau Spring. Got boy off and to Millinocket to hospital. Returned to Greenville. Had call Harry Wiggins was sick so flew 202 to Barren. We got Harry up to Helispot and I flew him out to Greenville. Harry had a case of Tomaine Poisoning. 202 walked out with Mrs. Wiggins."

George Johnson, Pilot  
Western Division - August 8, 1966

"Got two dump trucks from Kittery Naval Yard and took to Gorham for check over. Went to Lovell Sat. for Old Home Day and helped car #22 on lightning fire in Sweden. Had good crew from girls camp. They put in good fire line and knocked fire down and held with hand tools until Town Warden got water to fire."

Carlton Merrill, District Ranger  
District #1 - August 14, 1966

Yeah! We use anyone. -H.

From June 17 Fire Report -

Story of Fire: This fire was caused by the explosion of 5 gallons of gasoline. Lawrence Tucker had just taken a load of white birch spool wood out to main road and was returning to operation with a 5 gallon gasoline can full in cab of tractor. This can slipped across battery terminals and exploded, severely burning tractor and operator. Operator suffered second degree burns on right arm and shoulder.
It's always nice to practice what you preach and apparently, Farmington area Service Forester, Walter Gooley believes this. Tree Farm number 729 in Chesterville, Maine is visible proof of this. Walt spends his days telling landowners in his district what they should be doing with their woodlots. He spends nights and weekends showing that his advice works on his own woodlot.

Walter started tree farming on approximately 20 acres of land that he has at his home in Chesterville. A small plantation, some open fields and a small woodlot came with his purchase of the property. This whole area has been intensively managed. The woodlot has been thinned and weeded with 10 MBF of logs removed. Eight acres of field has been planted to red pine. Walter and his wife, Joanne, have also pruned two acres of 12 year old red pine and pruned an older pine stand near the road.

Recently Walter purchased an additional 180 acres in Phillips. On this land he has chemically treated 5 or 6 acres of poplar which was overtopping a nice stand of growing spruce and fir. Now Walter has purchased another 80 acres in Farmington. The Gooleys plan to transfer their residence there and concentrate on raising trees and horses. They also have plans to make some maple syrup in a 15 acre maple stand on the new woodlot.

The Forest Management Division has a new forester in training. Edward M. O'Connell, currently of 65 Maple Street, Bangor, is out beating the bushes with various Service Foresters.

Ed graduated from the University of Maine in August with a B.S. in Forestry and a minor in Utilization. Originally from New Haven, Connecticut, Ed graduated from High School in Watertown, Massachusetts in 1960, then spent one year at Northeastern University in Boston and one year working before entering the University of Maine.

Ed's wife, Helen, graduated from the University of Maine in 1964 and was formerly employed by the Maine Department of Health & Welfare, Brewer office, as a social worker. She is originally from Jackson Heights, New York. Ed and Helen have a daughter, Cathleen, 15 months old and are expecting another child in late September.
A project of the York County Community Action Program is now being planned to re-open 315 miles of old County roads. Most of the County's 28 towns have at least some mileage involved in the project which will hire chronically unemployed men to do the work. Funds to do the work are available under the Nelson Amendment of the Economic Opportunity Act.

Roads not worked on or used for over 15 years will be cleared to a 12-foot width and washouts will be filled enough to make the road passable to fire trucks.

The plan is not to make boulevards of the roads - merely to make them passable to provide access into some of the "back country." The project should supply five months work for 24 men. Certainly the men will benefit from the work but all of York County should also benefit from the results.

Dick Arsenault, Service Forester in Sanford, originated the idea for the road clearing project while giving advice to the Community Action Planning Committee. Dick is well acquainted with the effect that roads have on woodland. As York County Service Forester he must travel many of these roads to examine woodlots that he is giving forestry advice on.

Roads determine the management of York County woodlots considerably. They are needed to get equipment into the woods and products back out to the mill. The roads have potential for recreational use and could be an aid to fire protection.

York County is one of the areas of highest forest fire hazard in the State. In 1947, 132,000 acres burned in two major forest fires. Former Forest Commissioner, A. D. Nutting, estimated damage to the area in timber products lost to be $1 million per year for 50 years.

Since 1947, fire control methods have improved considerably but York County is still an area of very high hazard. Fire officials feel that the opening up of roads back into the woods will help fire fighting efforts by speeding the arrival of fire equipment.

The opening of old roads should improve forest management on adjoining lots in many ways. Dick Arsenault estimates that only 5% of the burned area needing reforestation has been planted. He believes that opening roads for better access should result in more tree planting and more interest in good forest management.

* * * * At a July 27 going away party, Commissioner Wilkins presented Dave Taber with a certificate of appreciation for his work in wood utilization.

Dave has left his job as Assistant Utilization Forester to return to the ivied halls of the University of Maine. He is still firmly involved in utilization, however, and will do experimental work for his Master's Degree on development of spruce plywood. The Tabers now live at 12 Island Avenue, Orono.
FIRE CONTROL COMMENTS

Pictured elsewhere are the four division forest rangers responsible for fire control and the area they supervise.

ORGANIZED TOWNS. Ken Hinkley has responsibility for the largest area. There are 445 townships, each with a town forest fire warden (not state employees) responsible for initial action on forest fires in their towns. Twenty-nine watchmen, assisted by some nearby Maine Forestry District watchmen, are responsible for fire detection. (They have reported many structural fires as well as forest fires over the years.) Acting in a supervisory and training position with the town wardens are 24 unit forest rangers responsible to seven district forest rangers.

Fire problems are varied from Portland-sized cities to practically uninhabited towns. Last year's series of fires was the greatest in number but this year has been a bit easier. Most rangers report good cooperation with the new fire prevention laws - particularly good results have been obtained on incinerator use.

Lack of manpower capable of working on fire lines points to more mechanization in this as well as all areas of the State. A typical reaction to hand labor was demonstrated recently when a labor union representative took three strokes with a hand shovel when planting a tree, then passed it to a lady hoping her gardening experience had better conditioned her to the rigors of swinging it.

Ken has taken responsibility for initiating the Bolton Hill project. Seventeen acres of land were purchased on Route 3 & 9 (that's the Augusta-Belfast highway) and the storehouse site sits back 700' to the south of the highway. There was contribution of assistance from all fire control divisions in clearing the building site and its right of way, dozing and leveling. Several photos appeared in the last issue and current issue of FOREST PROTECTORS showing the job of erecting a steel building acquired from the Federal Excess Property program. Costs for this building were for gravel foundation and the concrete slab. Labor was from the ranger force statewide. The weather cooperated most of the time although some division projects had to be curtailed while men were at the Augusta site. This structure will be used primarily for equipment storage.

The major part of the project is yet to come from $83,000 appropriated by the Legislature for the central warehouse. Plans currently call for a structure 40' X 154' with an additional 40' x 42' two-story section for offices, conference room and some sleeping accommodations. Concrete slab, spruce plank siding, laminated roof timber interspersed with native spruce purlins and spruce plank roofers. We hope it can be built and still keep the State's good credit rating. The structure will be contracted but some interior work will have to be done by department personnel. Anybody with good finish carpenter qualifications will be considered for temporary additional duty.

As with any project the "craftsmen" seem to rule what is done. No sooner had the right of way to the site been cut than utility services said one of our best oak trees had to be cut. We haven't written Lady Bird yet.

EASTERN DIVISION. Bill Wight has the smallest division but it seems to make up for it in the frequency and ferocity of its fires. It's a fairly well "roaded" area and practically no restrictions on any of them means many people moving. It also has a persistent incendiary fire problem in the southeast corner. Bill has five district rangers with 17 unit rangers and 13 watchmen, ranger mechanic and assistant ranger.
Bud Holt from Greenville has recently started work as pilot for the Eastern Division. He will have one Beaver based at Old Town. A well protected dock has been established at the rear of the storehouse site. This should provide a good base of operations for surveillance of early spring fires in southeastern Maine.

WESTERN DIVISION. Earle Williams has six district forest rangers, 20 unit rangers, 17 watchmen, ranger mechanic and pilot. Terrain varies from swamp to the most rugged in the State. Incidence of fires over the years has been low, some sizeable blocks have very light travel or at least controlled access. Lightning fires are frequent and tend to come in bunches.

With the Beaver assigned to Eastern Division, Earle has to rely on Folsom's Beaver from the local flying service. He still has the Cessna 180 and the Bell 470 helicopter. The latter is getting old and it's difficult to get parts. Requests have been made to find a replacement through Federal Excess Property.

Earle's division has many large lakes and gets more consistent use by recreationists of all types throughout the fire season.

NORTHERN DIVISION. Bob Pendleton has seven district rangers, thirty unit rangers and 29 watchmen, assistant division ranger, pilot and radio technician. The Beaver and Cessna 180 are based at Portage.

This division tends to be rolling country for the most part with a bony ridge up through the middle of it. Some areas have controlled access which probably helps hold down the fire problem. Lightning fires are frequent through the Aroostook Waters and East Branch districts (north of Mt. Katahdin). The Allagash trip is confined almost entirely to this division. The campsite program along the waterway has been at or near standstill for reasons of State Park, National Riverway, water wilderness or what-have-you proposals.

Northern Division Notes

I don't know as there is anything alarming in the news line to report from the Northern Division.

We were very slow to get a crew on this year but after the home-sick boys, lonesome men and camp inspectors had come and gone, we finally settled down to a pretty good crew. And, it was a good thing we were settled down, for the season was a hot one for lightning fires. The storm of July 13th left twenty-four fires, enough to keep one and all busy. To date fires are up about sixty percent over last year's total. Fire acreage is good so far (and I knock on wood) due in large part to the Beaver planes which did a magnificent job on several potentially bad fires.

The men with families were busy last week getting them settled in back home as the schools in Aroostook open at their usual early date so they can close down for the potato harvest.

EMERGENCY EXTINGUISHER. Phoenix, Arizona, firemen responded to a car-fire alarm only to find that a milkman beat them to it. He had stopped his truck and put out the blaze - with five gallons of milk.
Western Division Chatter

Well, here we are coming to the close of another fire season. Gee, isn't time flying by fast? All told, I guess the season hasn't been too bad. We must be getting better. We've had our share of fires though. The majority being lightning strikes. The largest one has been 25 acres so far that we attributed to lightning.

Our usual fire prevention work has been progressing as planned. We have handled a great many people in the Division this year. It seemed that there were a lot of canoeist on Moosehead toward the last of August.

The boys have rebuilt the tower cabs on Spencer and Snow Mtns. These were the ones that District Ranger Wilcox prefabed last winter.

Capt. George made two errands of mercy in one day this summer. With the helicopter he airlifted a boy off the top of Katahdin with appendicitis and flew him to Millinocket. That evening (7:00 PM) we had a call from Peggy Wiggins (Mrs. Harry) saying that Harry was very ill, then the radio went dead. George and yours truly flew to Barren with the 'copter prepared to carry Harry to the top to be airlifted off, but found he was able to walk with gritted teeth. The doctor diagnosed it as ptomaine poisoning. Harry spent a few days in the hospital and was back on the tower in a week. Oh yeah, guess who walked back? Not George. Oh, well!

We finally were able to hold our watchman's meeting. The weather man cooperated with a little rain, so all the boys (mountain men, that is) got together at Bingham for one fine meeting. Franklin Sargent, Bill Connor, and Russ Cram did a nice job presenting their material.

Division training the last two months has been devoted mainly to compass work and scouting fires. Problems were set up prior to the meetings. The men have been doing great. We are still taking up some phase of the fire organization at every meeting.

Before the Beaver was transferred down to Old Town, George made several battery drops on Squaw. With the wind in the right direction, George was able to set them down close to the tower. As Bob has three radios on Squaw, this was a great help to him.

By the time that this goes to press, we are in hopes to say that we have had three driveways tarred this summer - Eustis, Greenville, and Moose River.

August 27th will wind up the season for our Neighborhood Youth Corp boys. These young men have done quite a job this summer. What with painting, building, raking, office work, tower work and mechanic work they have been busy. Thanks for the help boys. We hope to see you again next summer.

If you hear Boat 1 go 10-8 with 701, don't be confused. That's not a flying boat, it's only Ace Markey. As yet Ace doesn't have a call number, but we're working on it Ace. Asa reports that he and his crew have all the toilets erected on the Lake. His crew, in their spare time, have started painting the buildings at Squaw Brook.

Now it's time to close the book for another year. Our thanks to all who have helped to make this another good one. We hope to see all you seasonal men next spring.
It looked like we would have a real early spring when it warmed up in early March and the snow started to leave, but it cooled off and we started our fire season in early April as usual.

We had the training session in early April after locating three Rangers to replace George Thompson who retired last fall, Roger Milligan who was drafted right after Christmas, and a third man who got through. We also have three new Watchmen this year. That is, two new men and "Don" Smith is back on Schoodic after a year's absence.

We have purchased four new Mark 3 Pacific Pumpers and mounted them on tank trucks. Two are new units that were built up during the winter and the other two on trucks that were rebuilt to use these pumps. From what testing we have done, this seems to be a good pump for use as a tanker.

The Mark 3 will fill a 1000 gallon tank in 12 minutes and has good pressure for pumping out of the tank. We will know better what these pumps will do after they have been used on a few fires.

Speaking of fires, we are still replacing and receiving equipment that was lost on the Centerville Fire. I believe about everything has been replaced except Forestry shovels and hose. The hose has not arrived as yet.

Our D-6 and operator spent several days at Augusta grading a road to the site of the new warehouse and grading the site for the building.

We have had twenty-two fires this spring. This is a little more than usual, but not too bad considering the lack of rainfall for last year and so far this spring.

The way everything looks now, I would say we were going to have a long dry summer in this area unless we get considerable rain during the month of June.

This seems like a good chance to thank everyone who helped us on the Centerville Fire last year. We hope we don't have another session like that this year, but would appreciate help if we do. We would be glad to help any one on fires during the season as we think someone else should have the fires this year.

--- The following notes will be a P.S. to those above. Above notes were sent in earlier but became lost, strayed, or stolen!

The big news in the Eastern Division this summer is the arrival of the Beaver and pilot, Bud Holt. Bud and the Beaver arrived on Sunday the 7th of August and were socked in for the rest of the week with a real heavy cloud cover and in general not very good flying weather, which I think Henry Trial and Bill Cross will vouch for.

The campsite program has been booming in the Eastern Division this summer with the construction of a new road at Sabao and a new parking area and road at Long Lake among the most impressive of the improvements made, and of course, there is always the job of keeping the many sites cleaned.

The house at Indian Twp. is pretty well completed with the finishing touch of a new lawn. Also there has been a lawn put in at Wesley which should improve the looks of the headquarters there.
Notes From Eastern (continued)

The fire situation as of August 19, 1966 has not been too bad with 52 fires which haven't burned nearly as many acres as by the same date last year.

We hope everyone has a very pleasant fall and winter and hope to see everyone return in the spring.

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Maine Forest Service Wood, Picnic Table, and Plane Serve Non-Resident Well

The boy and his father had gone cruising on Moosehead Lake in a brand new 17-foot boat powered with a 35 h.p. outboard motor. Noticing the High Bank area, which had no occupants, they pulled ashore and looked around. Returning to the High Bank they discovered their boat had washed away and was drifting fast toward Sugar Island, across the bay.

To this nonresident and his boy it was all forest and water around them. They settled for the night, made a windbreak with the picnic tables and, with a supply of wood that had been made up by the Forestry Department, managed to keep warm as night brought temperatures close to 40 above. They hadn't expected this turn of events, wore only light shirts, shorts and saddle shoes.

Morning finally came. From a different shore angle they saw the Forest Park boathouses, but a half-mile of water lay between those and them. The nonresident resorted to making a raft, using a long log which he thrust between the legs of a picnic table. He and his son picked up a couple of boards, launched the raft and started paddling toward the boathouses. Their shouts, on the way, were heard by Phil Jardine, Forest Park caretaker, who chanced to be at the dock that early in the day.

Jardine hurriedly boarded a boat and picked them up. The nonresident's first request was to be taken to where he had left his wife and other children. The wife had spent a frantic night, wondering what could have happened.

Following a happy reunion, the next move was to try and locate the boat. Moosehead was still very rough. Jardine contacted the Forestry Department which immediately had Asa Marquis, the patrol warden, and a plane searching for the craft. It was found resting on a sandy beach near Porcupine Point, and didn't have a scratch. It had drifted about three miles.

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Ken Day has a new "jiger" to play with. What is a "jiger?" A glorified bath tub on wheels that will climb steep hills, swim very slowly in water and go through snow if not too deep.

Wayne and Smokey (Ryan) tried it out the other day and found that it will not work upside down in mud. They both enjoyed a mud bath, came out looking like tar babies. They have kept very quiet about this. Anyone want to try it?
Skills of French Chef. I have always assumed that fire tower personnel, along with trappers and prospectors, live on a meager diet of beans and salt pork with an occasional batch of biscuits thrown in for variety. Not so on Mt. Bigelow, one of the tallest and roughest peaks in western Maine.

I arrived at the 4,100-foot summit after hiking 13 miles over the toughest terrain since Mt. Katahdin. Fire Warden Bill Connors, who had been watching my progress from the fire tower door, greeted me and showed me around the tower.

During this time the wind was sweeping across the bare summit and dark clouds were rolling in. To avoid getting caught in a thunderstorm, Bill locked up the tower and we rushed down to the trail lean-to and warden's cabin.

Bill offered to let me use one of the bunks in his cozy cabin and I didn't hesitate a moment in accepting. As I sat exhausted, doing nothing in particular, Bill indulged in one of his hobbies — cake baking.

Allowance for Altitude. With all the skill of a French chef, but none of the conveniences, he measured the ingredients (making correction for high altitude), whipped them by hand, and had two layers in the oven in far less time than it takes most housewives.

The so-called oven was located inside a large, old-fashioned woodstove. His efforts to keep this at a constant 375 degrees were like trying to tune a television with just the on-off control. But he succeeded and the layers were perfect.

In the meantime, I had regained some energy and prepared supper for us. Later, while I walked down to the crystal clear spring for a bucket of water, Bill topped his masterpiece with frosting — his own recipe.

Enjoyed Contrast. Then I enjoyed the contrast as we sampled the cake while the wind whistled angrily past the cabin and on to the next mountain. Bill insisted that the cake would go stale so I pretended to be reluctant as I accepted two more chunks.

This commentary may sound like a Betty Crocker cook book, but finding an excellent pastry chef on top of a mountain is like stumbling onto a wine cellar in the Sahara Desert.

Bill Connors has been manning the Bigelow tower for nine summers. The rest of the year he teaches geography at a college in North Carolina.

'Only 2 Seasons'. He became fascinated with Maine after hiking the Appalachian Trail across the state. He has also hiked several hundred miles of the trail in other states. Of the climate here he says "there are only two seasons in Maine — winter and July."

After the hospitality I received, I felt almost reluctant to push on the next morning. However, I did get a farewell present — two more pieces of cake........
District 5's Youth Corp enrollee, Francis Burgess, started with us the first of July. Francis lives in Corinth and is a Junior at Corinth High. He has had a multitude of assignments since coming to work for us including tower, radio, patrol, repairs, general maintenance and office. It has been said that Francis, as a forestry man, this summer has seldom seen the forest.

Construction on the addition at Newport is in the final stages and we wonder if 52 isn't considering an addition (family that is).

We hear that Supervisor Hinkley has extended his golfing to the Dover area. There seems to be quite a few different opinions as to why but we think it is because he hit that little white pill so hard at Augusta that he had to finish play at Dover.

Don Norris, watchman on Harris Mt., hit the sick list earlier but is back and going strong.

Robert Merrill, better known as 53, has been the cause of some concern of late due to the fact that he is indulging in both fishing and golf. We understand that there has been about 50 fish hit the pan so far this season. (Not bad Bob.) Also his golf runs to about the same figure. (Score or divots?)

Corinth headquarters was visited by an U.S. Forest Service official recently and we were not too happy with the impression he must have received. We are happy to say that the situation is being corrected as fast as weather and manpower allow.

During August 51, 54, and 62 gave instruction on pump, hose work, hand tools and their use at the Penobscol Conservation Club Camp at Branch Lake.

The Heart of Maine District constructed and entered a float in the annual Old Home Day parade and celebration at East Corinth. Plans are in the works to have an exhibit at the Springfield (Maine) Fair in conjunction with the Eastern Division.

Norris Harrington (51) and Bob Reed, Watchman at Medford, attended the 8th Forestry Field Day at Hebron.

Not too much has been said about District Ranger Irvin Caverly but do not really have to. What with supervising construction at Newport and Corinth; repairs at Dover, Enfield, Hi Cut, Harris and Rollins; normal inspection of records; inventory; maintenance of vehicles, buildings and property; Federal Service acquisitions; planning for winter and spring activities; meetings and office work; and at the end, the biggest job of all - keeping the troops happy - he is the busiest fellow around.

HEARD VIA THE AIR WAVES

We wonder if the radio at Spencer Mt. has stopped its wandering. Seems like it has taken a liking to the Northern Division F-l and Watchman Ed Lambert wonders if the boys at the Radio Lab haven't got a radio down there that is halter broke.

--- Bob Reed
Many of the staff, including all of the forest insect rangers, except Frank Manning and George McGinley, spent a good part of the summer in Aroostook on spruce budworm surveys under John Coughlin and just recently finished the important egg mass survey. Results of this combined with stand conditions will be the basis of determining if control action is necessary in 1967. Manning's District #2 was taken over by the new man, James McMullen. Frank is to give more time to southern Maine and work on general projects out of Augusta. George McGinley finds severe larch sawfly populations in eastern Maine as do other rangers in Aroostook (Jim Holmes and Rex McBreairty) and in western Maine (Maynard Atwood and McMullen). A valuable European larch plantation in Bingham was sprayed aerially with Malathion and successfully so in late June. Frank Manning handled this with S.D. Warren Company, the owner, contributing funds. European parasites of the sawfly are being obtained for release next spring. Harold Bullock spent some time again this year familiarizing ranger John Lavigne with District #5.

Test sprayings were made for control of the oak leaf miner in the Androscoggin Valley area - applications being by both truck mist-blowers and by aeroplane. This is the insect George LaBonte and Louis Lipovsky have been working on and found to be a new species. Doug Stark has been trying land lime around maples showing a declining condition in tests to arrest the decline.

Richard Dearborn of Orono joined the staff in late June as an Entomologist II thru federal cooperative funds provided for increased insect and disease detection, assessment, and prevention work. Dick obtained the B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees at the University of Maine and has completed his course work at Cornell for the Ph.D. degree in entomology. He has still to complete his thesis and has done much work with wood borers. Presently Dick is working with Dr. Brower at the lab identifying material received in the detection collections and other material in our reference collection.

Some of our work caused many questions at Reid State Park this summer. Greenhead flies breed in the nearby marshes and cause real annoyance to people by their painful bite. The females are attracted to black color. Our attempt was to cut down populations by trapping. Traps consisted of a black base over which was a cone shaped plastic hood leading up into a collecting jar with a small entrance. Flies move in and follow their natural tendency to go up, thence into the jar, and are unable to escape. Two traps caught some 7000 flies which indicate the desire of using more traps in a concentrated campaign next year to knock populations down presently and in the future.

Dutch elm disease is thriving in communities which have no control program. Further testing was done by John Chadwick et al with injections of Bidrin into elms. In general many groups of insects and diseases have been unusually abundant this year.

Participation by our group was made at the Bryant Pond Conservation Workshop and the Annual Forestry Field Day at Hebron.

The contraption in the photo looks like an imitation of a space capsule but it's actually a trap to catch Greenhead flies. Insect Ranger Frank Manning built the ingenious device. The flies are vicious biters and have been particularly pesky at Reid State Park where acres of human flesh lies exposed all summer.
THIS IS NOT A WINTER SCENE.

It's a picture of Dutch elm disease in progress at Minot, Maine.

Six trees are dead in this one area and dozens more are dead and dying.

Here's something for Bob Nash to look into for the next spruce budworm spray project.

An aerial spray company in Arizona gives S & H Green Stamps for prompt payment of spraying costs. A fairly modest project on an Arizona farm might yield enough green stamps for the farmer's wife to buy an electric dishwasher.

Maybe we could start saving for a new plane?

NOW Stamps With the Dead Bugs

NEW FACE AT THE LAB

Mrs. Nathalie Page of Riverside Drive in Vassalboro was recently hired to fill the vacant Clerk Stenographer position at the Entomological Laboratory in Augusta.

Nat was formerly employed by the Augusta State Hospital and is the proud grandmother of two grandchildren. She will work for Dr. Brower and the other boys at the Lab.

Welcome to Forestry, Nat.

"I sprayed it for aphids, spider mites, Japanese beetles, leafhoppers, thrips, mealy bugs, Dutch elm disease, and caterpillars. A beaver got it."
LETTER RECEIVED IN AUGUSTA:

Dear Al:

Recently at Ironbound Lake, Penobscot Lake Quadrangle, son-in-law Herb Hodgkins, Frank, Russell and Dean Bailey had the experience of trying to put out one of those fires that was feeding upon the peat that had accumulated over the years. We could not completely put out the work of a careless fishing party. However, it was reported by Herb and your Jackman Station manager wrote Herb offering to pay for our "blood, sweat and tears." This was very kind and thoughtful of him. We appreciate the opportunity to roam our woods. Any time we can assist the Forestry Dept. or the land owners involved to preserve our Maine Woods we like to do what we can with the hope our forests will be just a little better for the next visitor.

Sincerely,

DEAN M. BAILEY, Augusta, Maine

* * * * * * * * * *

20 Ways To Get Along With People

1. Develop the ability to accept criticism without being hurt.
2. Be enthusiastic — and show it.
3. Keep your dress, physical presence and appearance in top form.
4. Use tact in dealing with others.
5. Be thoughtful — avoid the "big I and little you."
6. Have a sense of humor — smile.
7. Take the time to be courteous.
8. Be a self-starter and show initiative.
9. Face up to problems — don't duck them.
10. Get cooperation by giving lots of it yourself.
11. Be loyal and spread the feeling to others.
12. Have confidence in yourself.
13. Be honest — there's no substitute for it.
14. Be economical and efficient — be a cost cutter.
15. Develop your memory for names and faces.
16. Systematize — be orderly.
17. Weigh facts — curb prejudices.
18. Express yourself clearly — get your ideas across.
19. Be patient with the shortcomings of others.
20. Be flexible — adjust to change.

June 21st Commissioner Wilkins attended the Region 9 Fire Control Annual Meeting at Higgins Lake, Roscommon, Michigan. Mrs. Wilkins went along and met Michigan's Smokey Bear. Something he said must have tickled her - or was it all that hair?
RADIO STATIC

The long green snake, each vertebra of which is a new pickup truck, has made its way to Windsor once again signifying another fire season will soon become merely a page of statistics in the history book of the Maine Forest Service.

All indications are that lightning will be the domineering factor in the memory of this 1966 fire season. Lightning not only starts forest fires in the most difficult areas to reach, it seeks out remote control telephone lines, especially rubber covered, and the results can, and usually do, lead to a very interesting sequence of events before normal operation is restored.

Although lightning has caused some remote control failures, we have had no damage to the radio units and there is no indication at this time that the present method of protection is not adequate.

We have finally assembled the last of the scheduled remote control units and all indications are that the start of the 1967 fire season should see this project completed.

-- Russ Cram

Radio Operators' Meeting

On July 29th a radio meeting was held at Bingham. Watchmen in the Western Division turned out in force giving us 100% attendance. The main subjects covered were: operating procedure; radio coverage; care of radios; remote control of the packset; and duties of the towermen.

The last radio meeting was in 1964 so 8 out of the 18 watchmen in attendance had not attended the previous meeting. The program instructors were Russ Cram, Franklin Sargent and William Connor. Along with the lecture portion of the program was a question and discussion period which I believe was beneficial to all. The radio coverage obtained by all towers and storehouse units was recorded. It is hoped that this information can be included in a revised Radio Manual for use next year.

These radio meetings serve several purposes. The radio operators have a chance to bring out problems or suggestions which may clear up the subject for others in attendance. The main purpose is to come to a common understanding on how our Forestry Network is set up and how we can make it as efficient as possible. One of the big factors that all of us seem to enjoy is meeting in person the neighbor whose voice you have been hearing for several seasons.

The Weekly Reports indicate that all Watchmen enjoyed the chance to get together and talk over mutual problems. The discussion on use of maps by Bill Connor apparently was well received. The majority seemed to want more of it at some future date.

Russ and I have enjoyed putting on this continuing series of meetings and hope to get in one or two more before the season closes. We wish to thank all Division and District Rangers for the fine cooperation we have received.

-- Franklin Sargent
The State of Maine over the years has lived up to the traditional motto: "Dirigo - I Lead" by a number of firsts. The Maine Tree Farm Program has several:

1. Maine was the first state starting in 1954 to make an annual award for the Outstanding Tree Farmer. This program was sponsored by The Grange Herald and the Maine State Grange in cooperation with the Maine Forest Service.

2. Maine was first to have two Tree Farm dedication ceremonies in foreign countries:
   b. In 1965, Governor John H. Reed on his trip to the Orient presented a Tree Farm sign to John Rich, a Maine man working in Tokyo as Far East Correspondent for the National Broadcasting Company. His Tree Farm is located in Standish, Maine, and has been in his family over 125 years.

3. The Great Northern Paper Company lands of 1,408,245 acres was the largest woodland in the Nation to be dedicated at one time as a Tree Farm.

4. Maine claims the oldest living Tree Farmer in the Nation. Jesse Scribner (shown at left with Commissioner Wilkins) of South Paris (95 years young) has Certificate number 714.

5. Maine has a few tree farms which have been in single family ownership longer than others in the Nation. Oldest is the "Oaklands" of the Gardiner Estate in Gardiner, Maine, with title dating back to a Grant by the King of England in 1754. The Gardiner Estate is represented by the 7th generation of Gardiners.

6. Maine's Tree Farm Standards are rated among the best and most rigid in the Nation and we are proud to continue these high level goals in the interest of sound forest management practices to produce and meet future wood production needs and prosperity.

7. On July 16, 1966, with the dedication of the Eastern Woodlands of the Standard Packaging Corp. Maine was the first state in the Northeast to go over the two million acre mark in the Tree Farm Program.

8. The dedication of 165,293 acres of Eastern Woodlands of Standard Packaging Corp. made it possible for Maine to claim the most Easterly Industrial Tree Farm in the United States.
8TH ANNUAL FORESTRY FIELD DAY

Over 200 people attended a Forestry Field Day on the grounds of the former Western Maine Sanatorium in Hebron Saturday, August 20. No degrees were issued but the audience got quite a comprehensive course in Forestry from the day's events.

The former tuberculosis hospital has been turned over to the Maine Forest Service for operation as a State Forest. The 165 acres of fields and 235 acres of woodland will be managed as a demonstration area to show people modern forest management methods.

The State Forest was dedicated to the memory of Ernest A. Rand as part of the morning program. Rand was an industrial forester and pioneer in Forest Conservation who devoted his career to the husbandry of Maine's forest resource. A native of Cumberland County, he contributed untiring efforts in providing leadership in forest protection as Chairman of the Keep Maine Green Committee of American Forest Products Industries from 1955 to 1965.

A 50 tree state forest was also started in the morning with trees from nearby New England states being planted. Eventually, Commissioner Wilkins hopes to have representative trees from all of the United States planted on the State Forest grounds.

In the afternoon, the public toured the State Forest. The visitors heard brief lectures from the following experts: Wilbur Libby, District Ranger; Walter Gooley, Service Forester; Bob Nash, State Entomologist; Doug Stark, Pathologist; A. Temple Bowen, Campsite Coordinator; Ancyl Thurston, Service Forester; Tom Rupers, Service Forester; Bill Adams, Service Forester; Dick Arsenault, Service Forester; Douglas Marston, Regional Biologist, Inland Fisheries & Game Dept.; Dave Stewart, BRC District Leader; Joseph Lupsha, Utilization Forester; and Floyd Farrington, Assistant Service Forester. Each stop was located in the forest in an area showing examples of the subject discussed.

It looks like the forest will make a fine area for demonstrating good forestry practices to the public and showing how and why certain things should be done to the average woodlot. In a State such as Maine, where our major resource is the forest and most of the land is privately owned, it is important for the man on the street to have some knowledge of forestry. The new Ernest A. Rand State Forest showing the living results of Forest Management can greatly further the public knowledge on this subject.

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Aerial view of Ernest A. Rand State Forest.
BETTER JOB ATTITUDE

It has been aptly said that attitudes cannot be taught, they are caught.

They are caught from exposure to proper supervision. We unconsciously imitate those in authority. If a foreman or supervisor, tries to out-shout and out-cuss those working under him, he soon has a work force that does the same.

If company officials try to out-smart the men, they soon find their force practicing deception on them.

If a man respects his boss, he will follow him anywhere. Respect for authority cannot be bought with higher wages, it has to be earned.

What makes men respect you?

They must have confidence in your ability. They have a right to expect that you know more about the job than they do.

They must have confidence in your integrity. You can't lie to anyone and expect them to respect you.

They must know that you will give fair and impartial treatment to everyone.

Each has a right to expect that in all of your dealings with him you will always maintain his dignity as a man.

They expect you to control yourself first and maintain a firm steady hand on the helm. No crew ever felt very secure with a captain that rocked the boat.

Workers expect you to respect their confidence. There is, in every man, something that makes him want to confide in others. When he selects you, you should feel honored and guard very carefully the trust he puts in you.

Be generous in your praise for work well done. A pat on the back is appreciated by everyone but it must be sincere. Flattery or insincerity will get you nowhere.

From FLEET SAFETY NEWSLETTER
National Safety Council

* * * * * * * * * *

Early in his career Henry Ford, in granting a subcontract for engine parts, specified that these parts were to be delivered in wooden boxes of a certain size, held together by screws, not nails. He even indicated the exact size and location of the screws.

In order to receive this lucrative order the subcontractors willingly accepted the conditions, although they privately agreed that "this guy Ford is slightly batty." Many of his own employees felt that the "old man" was being unnecessarily dogmatic about the shipping cases, too, but they chalked it up to erratic genius.

Come delivery day -- and revelation. Henry Ford's "whimsy" had been the work of genius all right, but hardly erratic. The sides of those precisely measured wooden shipping boxes were exactly the size of the floorboards of Henry's Fords. With each screw hole correctly spaced and drilled, and the boards were ready to be slipped into place.

-- George Relf, quoted by Helen Houston Boileau
HIGHWAY SAFETY ALPHABET

A is for ACCIDENTS, fatal and frequent: Here are some causes, both pithy and piquant!
B is for BRAKES - You'll be in a sad spot, if you want to stop, and your auto does not!
C is for COURTESY - COMMON SENSE - CARE. Use them on highways, drive safely, play fair.
D is for DRINKING. Remember this rule: A driver who drinks and then drives is a fool.
E is for EVENING, when darkness is falling. Deaths on the highway at dusk are appalling.
F is for FAILURE to signal. You'll find other folks seldom can read your mind!
G is for GRADE CROSSINGS. Drivers with brains . . Stop, look and listen for oncoming trains.
H is for HILLS - it is folly to pass on 'em. Just take it easy - don't step on the gas on 'em.
I is where streets INTERSECT. Experts say smart drivers always will yield right-of-way.
J is for JAYWALKING: People in haste wind up in bed with a lifetime to waste.
K is for KNOWLEDGE of rules for safe driving. It's wise, when you start, to be sure of arriving!
L is for LICENSE to drive. Does your state have high license standards? Or leave things to fate?
M is for MECHANICAL failure. Inspection required for all cars is worthwhile protection.
N is for NO-PASSING signs - your cue to stay on your side of the road and not stew!
O is for ONE-EYED cars, coming at night. Is the rest of the car on the left or the right?
P is for PEDESTRIANS, give them a break. Patience is virtue, when lives are at stake.
Q is for QUICK-STOPS, and let us remind you, you can get rammed by the car close behind you.
R is for RED LIGHTS; they always mean stop, whether or not you're observed by a cop.
S is for SPEEDERS - and driver take warning. Drive at safe speeds, or your wife may wear mourning!
T is for TIRES - if one bursts like a bubble, chances are good you are in bad trouble.
U's UTMOST care when the highways are slick. You can skid on a curve in an eyelash's flick.
V is for VISION, and vision's a must. Keep windshields clear of all ice, rain and dust.
W is WEAVING thru traffic-jammed streets. Death and destruction await such mad feats.
X MARKS THE SPOT where a guy in a huff, passed on a curve, there was not room enough.
Y is for YOUTH - the hope of our nation. Do your schools give courses in driver education?
Z is for ZONES where the kids are at play. Drive slowly here, if it takes you all day!

--- Nationwide Mutual Insurance
"Fill it up!"

"Fill it up!"

"Fill it up!"