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Published under Appropriation No. 4145
Diversity of the Forest Commissioner's Job
Extracts From Appointment Book Covering May to September, 1968

Annual Appalachian Trail Club Meeting
Testimonial Dinner - Larry Chatto, ASCS
State Soil & Water Committee Meetings
Monthly Governor's Cabinet Meetings
St. Regis Paper Co. Annual Get-together
Dedication of Messina's Lumber Mill
N.E. River Basins Commission Meetings
Everett Greeton's Testimonial Dinner
Bowdoin College - Economic Goals Conference
Edna St. Vincent Millay
Research Committee Meeting - Pineville, Ky.
N.E.S. & P.F. Meeting, Milwaukee, Wis.
Passamaquoddy Uprising & Settlement
Crowning of Miss Maine Forest Queen
I.P. Tree Farm Dedication & Open House
Maine Xmas Tree Assoc. Field Day
Labor Union Meetings
Annual Compact Meeting, Lexington, Mass.
Retirement Banquet for Doc Brower
Field Trips to Baxter Park
Northeastern SCDA Conference
Dedication of Governor Curtis Ferry
Dedication of Popham Beach Park
Dedication of U. of M. Forest Resources Bldg.
Meetings with Federal Visitors
Hearings on Maine Yankee Atomic Energy
Monthly Forestry Dept. Staff Meetings
Governor & Council Orders
Field Trips with Forestry Dept. Personnel
Maine Mining Bureau Meetings
Mt. Katahdin Climb with Gov. Curtis Party
Meetings with Timberland Owners
Forest Products Council Meetings
Governor's Task Force Assignments
Pesticide Board Meetings
Keeping Current on Reading Material
Review of Legislative Budgets

Note: These are just a few items and in addition there is the regular work of dictation, conferences, interviews, telephone calls and other department administrative duties.
Careful readers should note, from the inside front cover, that the Chief Editor of Forest Protectors has left us. Jan Gagnon, secretary for the I & E Division, resigned on August 9 to devote all her time to her family.

Jan came to the I & E Division from the Management Division in December of 1966. She had been secretary for that division since December 1964.

Jan's work on Forest Protectors and her patience with almost constant I & E crises has been appreciated.

* * * * * * * *

NEW SECRETARY

The new I & E secretary is Mrs. Patricia Bradford. Pat returned to the Maine Forestry Department as I & E secretary on August 12. Prior to this she had worked as secretary for Fred Holt and Ken Hinkley from September, 1966 to July, 1967, and had done a short term of project work for Bob Dinneen during the first two months of 1968.

Ed. Note: After two short trips down to Banks & Banking in the Small Loans section and Securities, I am back in the woods again. I appear to be one bug the Entomologists can't seem to find a spray for.
"This is the final planting of 1968. I met the machine crew at the gate to the field. No key for gate. I went back to Phillips and got key. Back at the planting area, it took 1½ hrs. to unload the tractor and planter. The operator got his truck stuck and put a hole in his air brake system. We took the machine up to the planting site and started planting trees. The trees weren't going in the ground very well, so I decided to hand plant the remainder of this field and machine plant some smaller cultivated fields. We started planting the smaller field when one of the bars on the 3 pt. hitch broke. We were attempting to disengage the planter from the tractor when a thunder storm broke loose and it really rained. Now, I can't remember which side of the bed I got up on today, but it was the wrong one regardless. Today was the climax to a most interesting tree planting season, and the only comment I have is, I'm glad I have a sense of humor, at least I think I have."

Walter Gooley, Jr., Service Forester
Farmington - June 7, 1968

"A skidder caught fire at Round Pond in Boulets works. The skidder was a complete loss but did not get into the woods. We got the message that there was a fire through 200, via Boulet Camp to Hotts Flying Service to 200. #705 flew up to Round Pond and notified me that the fire was out. I was on my way with equipment and was not at all sorry to turn around and come back to Pittston."

Vaughn Thornton, District Ranger
Rangeley District - June 15, 1968

"Working some on the wood pile, cutting up the softwood limbs; it makes great biscuit wood."

Adolph J. Burke, Watchman
Moxie Bald Mt. - June 22, 1968

"Saw two men lying in the road at Seboomook. Didn't know but they had been hit by a car. On checking found they were hit by too much alcohol. Moved them out of the road."

Terrence L. Trudel, Forest Ranger
Caucomgomac Lake - June 29, 1968

"Woods full of visitors - already met a bloodhound named "Sam" and a poodle called "Maurice"."

Harry Wiggins, Watchman
Soubunge Mt. - July 6, 1968

"Many drop by after being up to the Park just to chat, etc. One of the funniest things I've been told was by a middle age man (a nature lover and bird watcher) who told me about a girl coming down the trail from Chimney Pond wearing a bikini and carrying two ski-poles! When asked how the skiing was she was indignant! He told me although he was a married man, he had to take the second look - bird watching?"

Scott Davis, District Ranger
East Branch District - July 27, 1968
"Everything is in good condition here (at least this was what I thought). The flagpole supports rotted off and the pole and Old Glory came crashing to the ground. A passerby noticed it lying flat in the driveway and said, "If you can't take care of it, then burn it."

Duluth Wing, District Ranger  
Dead River District - May 11, 1968

"Ashby Moody has bad hip and unable to do anything except crawl up to tower. Bartels has fluid problem in ankle and knee and not able to work Friday or Saturday. Stephenson has bad knee which bothers a lot. Danforth will be in hospital Sunday and Monday for tests on throat. Cox in Northern Maine. In the Division, 5 men out of 9 out of action. Good thing we got rain. Would have called Augusta if weather remained serious. Hope most of them will be back in action by first of week."

Lloyd Shaw, District Ranger  
Damariscotta Lake District - May 18, 1968

"If you are bald headed, I found out a kleenex tissue makes a fairly good padding. That plastic is kind of rough on your bald head. Ha! Ha!"

Clarence (Pete) Boulier, Watchman  
Storey Hill - June 1, 1968  
(Pete is referring to the plastic inside of the hard hats)

"We had a very large crowd in for the weekend. I think probably the largest I have seen. Many fire prevention talks and warnings about littering were issued from the office and field. It sure paid off. I never saw a neater crowd of people and everyone did a wonderful job with their fires. I had one party of a man, his wife and eight children in an old pickup truck; had breakfast out to Seven Mile and had napkins and paper cups scattered all over the place. The fellow didn't look as though he could afford to go to court so I gave him a lecture in front of the family and had them clean up the area. This will probably stick in the minds of the young ones for years to come.

"I am not unhappy to see the weekend draw to a close. From 3:00-4:00 a.m. to 11:00-12:00 p.m. three or four days running without a minute to call your own all day long is enough. During this time it is hard to accomplish any work. There is a steady stream of people, old friends that want to hash over the winter, people with problems such as, 'what makes my radiator heat up,' repair the transom on someone's boat so that their weekend won't be spoiled, get a raccoon out of their garbage barrel, go quiet a noisy drunk down that is disturbing the whole campground, etc. Of course, I wouldn't want it any other way. I would much rather have these people coming to me, to have their respect and cooperation. I certainly wouldn't want to go back a few years to when we had very little control over people that used the woods."

Vaughn Thornton, District Ranger  
Seboomook District - June 1, 1968

"The chief told me I could have Friday off as it was raining but Thursday my wife found a two-foot snake in the cabin so I was ordered to fill every hole and crack with oakum. Trying to get into anyplace a snake can go is no job for a 200 lb. man."

Edward Lambert, Watchman  
Spencer Mt. - June 8, 1968
"On coming out of the Bishop lot we noted some black smoke coming up from down the road. I mentioned to Smith that we had better get down there. We did, and found the machine shop on the farm ablaze. Smith and I working together were able to get a boat out and then we were driven out by the flame and heat. The only thing that could be done was to try and hold the fire to one structure. I found an Indian Pump that wasn't being used, put it on and went to work. All farm equipment, including tractor, haying equipment, eight hives of bees, old books, another boat and the building was totaled. In addition over $1,500 in special carpentry tools such as skillsaws, etc., went up. Chalk this up to 3 hours Fire Control."

Kenneth Hendren, Service Forester
Kenduskeag - April 24, 1968

"Spent much time checking and interviewing applicants for #9 Tower but it reminds me of the answer that the bachelor gave when he was asked why he wasn't married. He answered, "The ones I want I can't get and the ones I can get the devil in Hell wouldn't have."

Chester A. Goding, District Ranger
Masardis Hdgtr. - April 27, 1968

"Commenced cleaning up camp, as the last winter residents, a family of masked bandits, evidently departed in great haste leaving the place in a horrible set of circumstances. The final results tallied up to a new bathroom ceiling, kitchen linoleum, twenty-five dollars worth of groceries and many, many hard hours of scrubbing and cleaning."

Ellsworth Damon, Park Ranger
South Branch Pond - May 4, 1968

"We have just experienced a very dry week. With a lot of burning. I had a man on every burn during and after the burn. We never allowed any fire left burning anywhere in the burn. This made some burners unhappy. We made them live up to the agreement of men and equipment. This also made some a little unhappy. Letting these people know we mean business is going to make Spring burning a lot safer with fewer escaped fires."

Ashton Peasley, District Ranger
Beddington District - May 4, 1968

"Started for Jefferson, got as far as Jct. of 220 and 126 and found three men and one dog trying to round up a 40 lb. pig. Of course I had to stop and try to help, after what seemed like 10 miles, 3 more men, 1 woman, and a fresh dog, the pig was finally brought to bay under an apple tree. The pig was a little worse for wear compared with all others involved. Pig was put in a new and tighter pen and at last report the owner was hoping someone would offer to trade 1 female pig for a bull calf. Two days later I had a request to help run down a pony but refused in the best manner that came to my mind at the moment. What do we do when we aren't fighting fires?!"

Donald Cox, Forest Ranger
Damariscotta Lake Dist., May 4, 1968
"Was watching a plane land in front of the house on the landing strip Saturday morning when I noticed the plane took a bad hop and something broke off the front end of plane. I realized it was the nose wheel, so I started to run down to the plane before it stopped, thinking that the pilot might need help in a hurry. The nose of the plane hit the ground but did not dig it and it slid to a stop and was cross ways of runway. Before I got there the pilot got out and slammed the door. He was not hurt at all, but quite upset that there was a few loads of gravel on the runway that had not been spread. The plane needs a new nose wheel, new prop, and possibly a new motor. Repairs may be as much as $2,000. Quite costly when you realize he only stopped to pick up a $1.35 part for a hay bailer. I took pickup and pulled plane off the runway, gave man a cup of coffee, took him to farm machinery next door and then contacted another man with plane to fly him back to Bangor. Haven't heard if he got his hay in yet or not."

Donald Cox, Forest Ranger
Damariscotta Lake Dist. - July 13, 1968

"A Mr. Morse from Wilmington, Mass., took his six year old son fishing near Black Brook Crossing. After fishing a short time the son became tired so his father returned with him to the car for a nap. Then the father resumed fishing only to return two and one-half hours latter to find that the son was missing from the car. A hasty trip was made to So. Branch where a road patrol was organized. The boy was picked up near Dwelly Pond. He had walked approximately 7 miles. A good thing for everyone concerned that he kept to the road."

Ellsworth Damon, Park Ranger
South Branch Pond - July 6, 1968

"If you want to kill bats, put your truck exhaust in the walls of your camp. Does a good job. P.S. Better move out yourself for a couple of days."

Scott Davis, District Ranger
East Branch District - July 27, 1968

* * * * * * *

We like the remark by Charles Avila, President of the Edison Electric Institute, who recently said: "There are people who want this country to look like it did in the times of the Indian, but who refuse to live in wig-wams." The same person who lives in a house surrounded by wood products, reading his newspapers and magazines, using paper napkins, tissues and towels, rarely thinks about where these necessities and luxuries come from. He should be reminded that they come from the forest. He should also be reminded that such a resource provides no lasting value except through repeated use - and renewal.
MANAGEMENT MOTIFS

SERVICE FORESTERS' TRAINING MEETING

The 18th annual summer training session of the Maine Forestry Department used Washington County's vast woodlands as a training ground for some 20 service foresters June 17-21. The foresters, from all districts in the state, examined such methods of forest management as: Forest insect and disease problems, Christmas tree management techniques and new methods of re-forestation.

A new re-forestation technique, viewed by the foresters, is of particular interest to those woodland owners who desire to bring some of their "burned out" areas back into woodland production.

The group observed variations of a technique known as "direct seeding" where, instead of using the time-honored practice of planting tree seedlings to re-forest land...the tree seed is sown directly on the ground.

One area of "direct seeding" viewed was a 350 acre tract of burned land owned by the St. Croix Pulwood Company, located in Township 6 near Grand Lake Stream. It was seeded by helicopter in 1966. An aerial seeding device on the copter applied 100,000 spruce seeds per acre at the rate of two acres per minute.

Due to the fact that spruce is such a slow growing species, it was too early for the group to judge whether the method would be a success. However, another similar project, done in 1962 on gravel barren lands of the St. Regis Paper Company, appeared to be a success with some treatments. The project in question is located in Township 30 near Wesley. Red pine seeds were applied by hand-sowing and treated with rodent and bird repellant. The foresters observed that in the areas where the soil was harrowed, several thousand red pine seedlings per acre now flourish. The two field studies were done cooperatively by the Maine Forestry Department, the University of Maine School of Forest Resources and the paper companies involved.

Woodland owners may conclude, at least in part, that if they should have cause to ask a service forester for advice on tree planting, the land owner may expect to receive a package of seeds.

* * * * * * *

Raymond Goulet of Currier Corner, Sabbatus, Maine started work as a Service Forester in August, 1967. A graduate of the University of Maine Class of 1967, he is working in training at this time with Clift Foster. He has been employed by the State Highway Commission in the Right-of-Way Division since graduation.

Cummings Lothrop, Ass't Service Forester in the Cumberland District, who has been assisting Clifton Foster, resigned September 1, 1968, to go to work for himself in the wood production and timber stand improvement business. Lothrop, a University of Massachusetts graduate entomologist, was formerly self-employed as a logger and lived in Windham, Maine.

After working for the Forest Management Division of the Maine Forest Service for 20 months and seeing the many opportunities in timber stand improvement work in this area, he has decided to go back into private work. It will be good to have a full-time person doing this type of work in the area.
FIRE CONTROL COMMENTS

ORGANIZED TOWNS. After a very busy early spring fire season, we enjoyed a period of hot humid weather with only a few fires. This has allowed us to do many jobs that were badly needed.

District #1 has completed their new storehouse at Alfred and they are very proud of it. They have some more work to do but not planning on it until winter.

District #2 has accomplished much general work, mostly on roads and trails. They have a job coming up of shingling the roof of Speckled Mt. tower and painting the cab. This is about a 16 foot cab in which the watchman lives and is one of our more accessible towers.

District #3 has been fixing up storehouses, watchman camps and doing other general maintenance.

District #4 has been busy solving the puzzle of erecting a Butler Building that has been kicking around for the past several years. They hope to have it solved in time to occupy by the time snow flies, if only the weather will continue to cooperate.

District #5 is still more or less involved with excess property. They hoped to be out of the business on July 1 when Dow closed but excess property is still being screened. They have cleaned much of the excess out of Corinth and hauled it to Bolton Hill. Irvin reports that he now has no more room to build storage sheds.

District #6 has been relatively quiet after a busy spring, firewise.

District #7 has not had the rain that the rest of us have enjoyed and is still being plagued with fires.

Bolton Hill is rapidly shaping up. Frank and his assistant have done a good job at storing all the equipment and excess property hauled in by District #5.

Radio boys have been moving in from Windsor. We understand they are nearly moved but still have a lot of sorting out to do. They still have the 100 ft. antenna to set up at Bolton Hill. We understand that they are a little homesick for "the hill" and its soothing summer breezes.

Organized Towns District Rangers held their July meeting at Merrill's camp on Lake Kezar, wives invited. Many administration matters were discussed and plans made.

Carleton has bought a new boat and gave some of the "girls" a ride up the lake. Being a new outfit, we assume that he underestimated the motor's efficiency; anyway he ran out of gas and had to be towed back. Needless to say he took quite a razzing.

The group presented the Merrills several pieces of Teflon cookware in recognition of their 30th wedding anniversary.

Ken Hinkley, Supervisor
NOTES FROM BOLTON HILL - The fact that we actually have a Division Warehouse for Organized Towns is still a little hard for me to believe. Prior to this we never had a place where we could store any large quantity of material. As most of you know, we now have two fairly large buildings at one location.

During the winter approximately a half dozen different rangers worked here off and on, painting, assembling shelves, etc. In February and March, material was moved in from Benton, Corinth, and the Lab garage in Augusta. The Radio Lab boys at Windsor started moving the latter part of June and are now 98% moved. The boys from District #5 have brought us in a truck load from Dow A.F.B. occasionally, just to keep us out of mischief.

Speaking for myself, I have found plenty to do and enjoy working at the Bolton Hill installation. There are times when I miss the radio at Augusta but I like the varied activities here. I get a chance to do a little of everything from changing oil to loading trucks. I still jump slightly when I hear stations calling the Augusta radio but I guess it will wear off in time. It is going to take quite some time, I feel, to get all of the material at this location stored and properly indexed. I expect to move things around a few times before the final arrangement is reached.

I have had the assistance of Bruce Turmenne, a University of Maine student, since June 10. He will be going back to school in September. Bruce has done a lot of things that don't show up too much at the end of the week but are very time consuming, I have been fortunate to have his help.

I hope all of you tower men will drop in if you are down this way. I'd be glad to see you and will give you a 10-cent tour of the buildings, if you have the time.

Franklin Sargent
Property Accountant
Above is the building that Ken Hinkley referred to as having been "Kicking around for several years" and the following will give you some idea how much work is involved in putting a building together that was in so many pieces it could be "kicked around".

The storage garage is being erected at District #4 Headquarters. Shown in the picture are Kenneth Stairs, left, and Donald Cox, who are tightening bracing rods. Robert Stephenson is operator of the fork lift. The all-steel 100 x 40 foot structure was purchased by the Department from Loring Air Force Base, Limestone. Since it had not been erected at Loring but was stored outside in wooden crates, it was necessary for the Rangers to wirebrush most of it and spray it with a rust preventive paint. They also cleaned, oiled and re-threaded about half of the 12,000 nuts and bolts that hold the building together. (Ed.Note: Doesn't that sound like great fun?)

MORE
The lot was prepared last fall and in June the foundation and cleaning work began. Lacking staging, they improvised with a surplus fork lift purchased from Dow Air Force Base and a surplus truck with a 16 ft. telescoping boom and a winch from Brunswick Naval Air Station. The beams and girders were assembled on the ground and then raised into place by the truck. The building will be 14 ft. high at the eaves and 20 ft. at the peak of the roof. It is being constructed to house 16 or more District fire vehicles and small equipment.

* * * * * * *

RADIO STATIC - June 24 marked the end of an era for the Original radio laboratory established on Vining Hill in Windsor during the fall of 1949. This was the day that "Windsor" surrendered to "Bolton Hill" and is now part of Maine Forest Service history.

The move to Bolton Hill is not complete, however, the only major item now at Windsor is the repeater which we expect to move prior to October 1; this means that we have very limited radio contact with the field at the present time and depend on telephone for scheduling service.

We plan to offer the Windsor property for sale as soon as we have vacated the building, which is expected to be this fall.

Paul Chase is back with us full time now after a real tough battle with hepatitis.

Roscoe Ryan has been working with the radio department since last fall and has played a major role in the move from Windsor to Bolton Hill.

Installation of Organized Town new mobiles is underway and, providing the weather cooperates, most units should be in operation before the close of our fire season.

New vehicles will be ordered in September instead of June this year, which means delivery will most likely be after January. Turned in vehicles will come to Bolton Hill this fall and the annual sale will be in the spring.

Although there is much to be done before the new lab at Bolton Hill is complete the move went very smoothly, thanks to the cooperation of all concerned.

Russ Cram,
Radio Supervisor
NOTES FROM NORTHERN DIVISION - Most of the activity in the Northern Division this spring was centered around the fire on T-12 R-12. This was the largest fire to occur on the Northern Division since the Division was set up with its present bounds. It was a typical spring fire in that it moved very fast and covered a large area (some 4,000 acres plus) but it was not typical in that it left lots of fire behind in the accumulated slash, faulty logs and dead stubs. Picking up these smokes lasted for a full month and made it a long session as well as an expensive one. The logistics of running this fire were complicated in that the frost hadn't left the road at that time, but did as soon as we started to move in heavy equipment.

Getting to the fire was a major problem on the T-12 R-12 fire this spring. Equipment spent a lot of time stuck in the mud.

Otherwise than this fire, things in the Division went along pretty well. For the first time in many years we had a full crew and it would appear we have chosen well as only one man has left up to this writing.

As the season moves along we are feeling the pinch on water. Many of the tower men are finding their springs barely supplying their needs. The rivers are all very low for this time of the year and, of course, lightning has sprayed the country with many fires as a result of the dry conditions. Rainfall to the present is roughly half of what we received last year.

Robert Pendleton,
Division Ranger
WESTERN DIVISION CHIT-CHAT - The air patrol detection system is working to our satisfaction. This being new to us this year may have caused some doubt, but more and more our confidence builds.

The fly boys have called in numerous 10-17's. One being our largest so far this season.

The campsite crew is doing a marvelous job on the sites this year. It seems that we are putting more and more time on campsites as each year passes.

We are holding monthly training sessions on a Division basis again this year. We believe that this uniform training program keeps all the men thinking along the same lines. Rangers Kronholm and Trudel have taken part as instructors in some of the sessions. Hot shot training was resumed again and these boys have been used to good advantage this year. At this writing we have had 28 fires this season with more than half being started by lightning.

The airboat has been launched and is in operation in the Seboomook District. The last report from Vaughn was A-OK, all systems go.

"Smokey" gets a ride on the Western Division Airboat which moves rapidly enough to blur on film. The airboat is being used to patrol the West Branch of the Penobscot and cuts down what used to be a 5-6 hour canoe trip to 1 1/2 hours.
NOTES FROM THE EASTERN DIVISION - This season started in late March with spring school attended by all Unit and Division Rangers, Mechanic and Pilot. This lasted for two days with the thought that it would serve as a refresher for some, new training for others, but would get everyone ready for the coming fire season.

The fire season got under way with our first fire occurring April 7, and by the end of May we had 27 fires reported.

The rains came about the first of June and lasted most of the month. Soon after the Fourth of July it started to dry out and has been drying ever since, with very little rain in the Southern part of the Division. There have been very few lightning storms considering the hot weather that we had in July. This has been helpful to us as we have had only five lightning fires to date.

We have two airplanes flying fire patrol this season. They flew a lot in May and July, but very little in June. The planes have done very well in spotting fires. They have reported many smokes that turned out to be incinera­tors burning in back yards. I believe that the plane checking the small smokes has been a good prevention measure. It has shown people that even a small smoke may be checked.

We have started collecting fees at four campsites, and this seems to be working well with very few complaints from the users.

In June an aircraft mechanic, Elmer Dexter, was hired to work on all departmental planes and attached to the Eastern Division.

It is expected that a new hanger is to be built on the back of our lot at Old Town will be completed by fall. This hanger will serve as a shop for maintenance of all the departmental planes.

We are improving our docking area now and will have to do considerable more work to make a suitable area for removing the Beaver aircraft from the water for work and winter storage.

* * * * * * *

(AP) IT'S DRY

Friday - August 30, 1968 - The Maine Forestry Department issued a note of caution mixed with appreciation for Labor Day weekend vacationers Friday. Maine Forest Commissioner Austin H. Wilkins stated that Department rangers would be on the lookout for an increase in the number of forest fires due to the long weekend and the long term drying trend. Forestry Department records show that Maine has had no significant statewide rain since June 28 & 29 when from 1.49 - .85 inches fell. Commissioner Wilkins said that this 9-week period, without significant rain, is setting records for dryness, particularly in Northern Maine. He said that over 300 forest fires had burned more than 6,500 acres since this spring, keeping Forestry Department aircraft in the air for a total of 105 hours on water dropping operations.

Wilkins stated that the Department appreciated the cooperation given by the public in observing fire safety thus far but stressed that the dry conditions meant extreme caution should be used with any fire.
The Entomology Division returned to full personnel roster in late August. Dr. Brower's retirement, May 31, led to filling that position with his assistant, Richard Dearborn, to handle the laboratory forest insect survey work. Dearborn's vacancy was filled August 19 by a pathologist, Dr. Clark Granger of Orono, to broaden the forest pathology work already being done by Douglas Stark.

Dr. Granger was born in Burlington, Vermont and is married to the former Rosemary Rowell of Portland, Maine. His Curriculum Vitae includes a B.S. in Agriculture from the University of New Hampshire and an M.S. in Plant Pathology. He started work on his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin and received his Ph.D. degree at the University of Maine in Orono on August 16, 1968. His thesis was on blueberry red leaf disease and its causal agent, *Exobasidium vaccinii* (Fckl.) Wor.

Growing up on a small fruit, vegetable and beef farm has given him first hand experience with the land and a stint as a 4H project leader in forestry gave him experience with trees. He has been an assistant extension Plant Pathologist, a Nursery Inspector and a Dutch Elm Disease Scout.

A man with these qualifications will be enthusiastically welcomed by our disease troubled crew. (The trees are diseased - the crew is troubled.)

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On June 15, Gerald Freeman resigned as Biology Aide at the laboratory. This position was filled August 26 with the appointment of Donald Ouellette of Biddeford, a Vietnam veteran discharged July 21. Mr. Ouellette went through Biddeford schools and graduated from high school in 1962. He received his B.A. degree in Biology from Saint Francis College (Biddeford) in June, 1966. He started training as a Combat Engineer July 1966, with the U.S. Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and served with the 15th Engineer Battalion, 9th Infantry Division with the Division Engineer, Col. Loper, from whom he received a Letter of Commendation along with the Battalion Achievement Certificate. In school he was on the track team and has hunting and fishing as hobbies along with his chosen field of biology.

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According to the Maine Forestry Department Entomologists, this year has the largest birch casebearer infestation ever recorded in Maine.

The insect can be found on most birch trees in the State but the entomologists have found severely affected areas of birch with almost total defoliation in northern and eastern Maine, with isolated spots in southern Maine.

Casebearers have caused very heavy damage in the Machias, Edmunds, and Dennysville area and the islands of Penobscot Bay have fairly heavy concentrations of the insect.

The Forest Entomologists say that owners of ornamental birches wishing to control the casebearer should apply a Lindane or Malathion spray in mid-August.
The insect feeds on the lower surface of the leaves so spray should be applied from the underside.

State Forestry Department entomologists and John Dimond at the University of Maine held meetings to decide on an economical means of controlling the insect outbreak.

On August 16, Hub Trefts, Jim McMullen, and George McGinley completed setting up of two 50-acre blocks of white birch near Beddington and determined that egg hatch was complete to justify application of sprays that date. Maine Helicopters, Inc. applied 1/2 lb. Malathion per gallon of oil solution per acre to 1 block and 1 lb. Malathion in oil solution per acre to the other block. By August 26, 99% of the newly-mined larvae in the leaves were dead versus only 18% on unsprayed areas. It was found also on August 26 that 14% of the larvae had built their cases ready to migrate to twigs to overwinter.

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Besides the unusual outbreak of the birch casebearer, several other insects occurred in unusual numbers including the Satin Moth, Saratoga Spittle Bug, and the Balsam Wooly Aphid. It has been many years since the Satin Moth was found on woodland poplar as occurred this year in the Millinocket area rather than being confined to ornamental Carolina poplar. Large acreages of plantation red pine in Washington County were killed by the Saratoga Spittle Bug which has sweet fern as the alternate host and which was intermingled with the killed red pine. One or two owners have sprayed for this insect already on recommendation and assistance by Doug Stark and Hub Trefts. Some 7 - 8000 acres containing fir in various mixtures with other trees are dead or dying in the Richardson Lake area from Balsam Wooly Aphid attack. In the past, attack in inland areas has been common but always on small local areas.

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Oak and birch leaf miners were in expected numbers in western Maine, the latter becoming severe in more northwesterly areas. White pine weevil attack was very abundant, and willows in southern Maine are severely brown from leaf mining by grubs of the willow flea weevil. Gypsy Moth showed up in several areas and the brown tail moth infestation continued in Falmouth.

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George LaBonte, Louis Lipovsky assisted by Frank Manning completed aerial spray tests on seven blocks against the oak leaf miner. Trapping for greenhead flies was again successful at Reid State Park. The summer assistant this year at the Park was John Snow under the guidance of Dick Dearborn and Frank Manning.

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An additional colony of European parasites of the larch sawfly were released in northern Aroostook to aid in their distribution over the State additional to successful releases last year in Hancock County.

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Birches in several stages of defoliation from Birch Casebearer.

Life History of Casebearer

Eggs on mid-vein
July 5 to 31

Moth
July 1 to 15

1st stage
July 25 to Aug. 15

Pupal stage
June 15 to 30

2nd stage
Aug. 15 to Sept. 10

5th stage
May 20 to June 15

3rd stage
Sept. 10 to Oct. 1

4th stage
May 1 to 20

3rd. stage larvae
Dr. A. E. Brower (Ed) of the Entomology Division, retired at the end of May after 37 years of service with the State. The month of May also marked his 70th birthday.

Ed joined the Entomology Division May 18, 1931, at the Bar Harbor field laboratory. His first work was on the birch leaf-mining sawfly, then widespread and severe in Maine. Later came the large scale rearing project of European spruce sawfly parasites at the new laboratory at Augusta. Ed’s contribution was to supervise the laboratory work and provide sufficient rearing stock for the laboratory helpers to carry out mass rearing by which some 242 million parasites were released over the spruce lands of Maine from 1938-1943.

With the impending threat of the spruce budworm, the detection program was intensified by the addition of 6 forest insect rangers. The fire ranger force was also specifically asked to send in collections of insects from their respective districts. Dr. Brower has been in charge of the laboratory phases of the detection survey in handling the collections, identifying and recording species and rearing of both pest insects for future reference and of parasites to know of their effect. It has been in this work that Dr. Brower has probably become best known to the field force through writing them about their collections.

In the process of studying and battling insects, Brower has discovered hitherto unknown species. He modestly admits that several have been named for him. Much of insect control, Brower says with a smile, "is knowing when to let nature do the work. Then you get to take credit for it."

But a good deal of Brower’s time has been taken up not with forest problems but with homeowners who report something eating up the backyard garden. Usually they’ve already sprayed and "want me to tell them they did the right thing," Brower says, adding, "I’ve disappointed a good many people, I’m afraid."

Brower’s three children are in science. One son also is an entomologist while another is in physical science. A daughter is a zoologist specializing in photomicroscopy.

Brower also has an expert knowledge of birds and plants — both of which have aided in his main field.

Even his hobby — collecting lepidoptera, (Moths and butterflies) — is closely job-related. Of more than 3,000 Maine lepidoptera, all but 86 species are moths — and moths are among the most important pest insects. Brower is generally acknowledged to have the most complete lepidoptera collection in Maine. He admits he's "worked to get every species to be found in this part of the world." And in one brightly-colored moth species — the so-called underwings — Brower feels he may have the most complete collection in the world.

Dr. Brower is still very active today. When he's in pursuit of an insect — don't try to follow him in field and forest unless you're in good physical condition.
Those Forestry workers with radios have probably noticed that the tone of our broadcasts from Augusta occasionally changes from Jim Elliott's bass to a feminine soprano. It's high time that we explained. Jim's voice isn't changing and you can stop adjusting your radios - we have a lady radio operator.

Meet Irene Bernard, the girl who makes the "tweeters" tweet over KCA 764. Irene is an Augusta girl. She attended local schools and is a 1967 graduate of Cony High. She first came to work for us in February 1967 on a part time basis as a girl Friday, to take care of extra work any of the various Divisions might have. In June, after graduation, she started work on a full time basis with the same duties. In March, 1968, she was asked to fill in on the radio when Jim needed assistance.

This may be a little late, Irene, but welcome aboard.
REDUCE HAND TOOL INJURIES

When primitive man crawled across the threshold into civilization, one of the first marks of his progress was the extension of his own hand - through tools.

Beginning with sticks and stones, bones and shells, he learned to perfect hand tools. Even today, the first thing a person learns, after sucking his thumb is to use simple hand tools.

But when we look at the record of injuries caused by hand tools, we wonder whether man does not still find them strange and forbidding. Simple as some tools are, man insists on hurting himself with them.

All of us use hand tools - hammers, screwdrivers, pliers - and we take them for granted. Is this the reason for so many injuries?

The causes of hand tool accidents boil down to:

1. Inattention
2. Using the wrong tools for the job.
5. Leaving tools where they contribute to an accident.

Because tools multiply a man's strength, a good bit of force is involved. So if you don't watch what you are doing, you will get hurt.

If you use a file or a plane to hammer a nail, you are asking for trouble. Use a hammer - the proper tool. If you try to cut a piece of wood with a dull knife, it is likely to slip and cut you. Keep all tools in good condition.

When you use tools improperly, trying to make them perform work they were not designed to do, you are setting yourself up for an accident.

Consider wrenches, for instance. There is a certain size and shape of wrench for each task. If you try to loosen a stubborn nut or bolt with a wrench of inadequate size or design by increasing leverage with a piece of pipe stuck on the handle, you are setting up an accident.

Whenever you finish a repair job, what about the tools you have used? Are they left lying around? If so, they are booby traps, since they can cause puncture wounds, or tripping. Tools should be kept in tool boxes or on a pegboard.

The real doers in industry regard tools as the workingman's best friends - the best means for increasing his strength and extending his own fingers. Why not treat them with the respect they deserve, and avoid abusing them to your own sorrow?

(From: "Public Employee Section, SAFETY NEWSLETTER" published by the National Safety Council.)
ANNA STANLEY - THE WINNER!

Anna Stanley, Commissioner Wilkins' secretary, recently appeared on the front cover of LaVerdiere's Drug Store publication. It seems that Anna won a contest to name their publication. She chose "The Prescription" and apparently it was just what the doctor ordered because she made the headlines "ANNA STANLEY - THE WINNER!" and won $10.

The article goes on to reveal all about Anna, including the fact that she has worked part time at LaVerdiere's for the past 8 years. (So that's where she goes after 5 P.M.)

"ANNA STANLEY - THE WINNER!" - We agree.

ATTENTION ALL GARDEN LOVERS!

The following item appeared in the Eastern Gazette, Dexter, Maine on August 1, 1968 - and I quote:

"Thing of Beauty, Joy Forever" -
The Dump

The Dexter Public Dump, the subject of much discussion at a recent town meeting when the question of moving the dump, closing the dump, being fined on account of the dump, or the possibility of installing an expensive incinerator all raised their ugly heads, have all been answered.

The dump now manicured and polished has resumed its pristine beauty and on the recent semi-annual check-up by the State Forestry Department was declared the epitome of dumps - in other words, extra O.K.

Credit is due the custodian, the town fathers and the public for their cooperation.

A RARE BEAR ITEM

A BARE BEAR NOT A FITTING SAFETY SYMBOL

AUGUSTA (AP) - Smokey the Bear got caught with his pants not just down but off recently.

The Maine Forest Service's version of the animated forest fire safety symbol was called upon for a speech but had to decline because his pants were at the cleaner's. The department ruled out a nude appearance.

"You don't just run out and buy a new pair of pants in a case like this," a department official said Wednesday. "Smokey's measurements are a little odd - waist 65 inches, leg 18."

(Ed. note: Smokey's mother had better get busy and run up a spare pair for her bare bear to wear.)
LOGGER KEEPS HIS COOL

A favorite columnist of ours, Bill Gold who writes for the Washington Post, recently reported a story that we thought would be of interest to AMERICAN FORESTS readers. It went like this.

"From time to time Don DuShane, of the University of Oregon, sends me a clipping of something that has struck his fancy. Don's latest offering is a column written by Don Bishoff for the Eugene (Ore.) Register-Guard.

"To illustrate a point, a luncheon speaker told about the driver of a large, loaded log truck who had stopped to eat at a roadside restaurant. Our hero had just begun his meal when a half-dozen motorcycles roared into the restaurant's parking area, and a few moments later a group in leather jackets and dirty beards came swaggering into the restaurant.

"One of the gang stopped alongside the truck driver, reached over and picked up a handful of the driver's food, squeezed it in his fist, and then let the mess fall back onto the plate.

"The driver's face clouded, but he said nothing.

"He just picked up his check, went over to the cashier and paid for the food he hadn't eaten, and left.

Bishoff concluded his report with the line: "The driver of the log truck remained calm throughout the entire ordeal - even when he ran over six motorcycles on his way out of the parking lot."

GIRLPOWER BIG FACTOR IN SOVIET FORESTS

There's about one chance in four that cries of "Timber" in Soviet forests will be soprano.

A study by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests shows that of 1.4 million workers in all areas of the Soviet logging industry in 1966, over 325,000 were women. Most of the women are in the woods laborer category.
JOYCE KILMER'S POETICAL DICTUM ON THE DIVINE MONOPOLY IN TREE-MANUFACTURE MAY HAVE TO BE QUALIFIED. THERE ARE MEN IN CANADA WHO MAKE NOT ONLY A TREE BUT A FOREST OF 1,000 TREES AND THEN CHOP THEM DOWN IN TWO OR THREE MINUTES FLAT.

They do it with a computer and it's not just a stunt. By constructing a mathematical model of a forest stand - translating tree characteristics and spacing into computer language - forest management researchers can predict whether thinning the trees would spur enough added growth to return a profit on the investment.

Hundreds of thousands of dollar-can be involved. Perhaps 100 years would be needed to get the same results by actual trial-and-error.

Researcher R.M. Newnham of Canada's Department of Forestry tells about the experimental work in a recent technical paper. Sample plots containing 20 to 100 trees are mapped. For each tree a competition circle is calculated. If the competition circles of two trees do not overlap, then they are not in competition and diameter growth is assumed to be at a maximum. If they do, the amount of competition is calculated and a competition index established for each tree.

In essence, this enables the researcher to determine the relative diameter at breast height (dbh) of each tree X years hence. The formula fed to the computer would be as follows:

Five-year dbh growth + a (regression constant) + b (dbh + c (age) + d (competition index.)

From the answers to these calculations, the computer could supply the amount of wood volume of a forest stand at a given future date. Comparisons could then be made of the expense of thinning and other treatment as against potential added yield.

Other calculations can test how productivity would be affected by characteristics of both forest stands and harvesting machines.

For example: One type of harvester can cut and pile all trees within reach of its boom at any given stopping point. Another is less cumbersome but can move only in a relatively straight line and thus would have to zig-zag more.

Which is more economical in a given type of forest? Computers can find the answers, it was said.
U. of M.
Forest Resources
Building

Opened for business at the 16th
Forestry Field Day, August 22.
Almost 2/3 of the building will
be for research facilities.

Laminated wood arches show
in the lobby of the new School
of Forest Resources building.
The design uses 27 species of
wood for interior wall paneling, floors, ceilings - sup­
ports and exterior walls.
At last a building devoted to
forest resources built of
material from that resource.
A TREE GREW IN THE ALLAGASH

My name is Fir or Spruce and sometimes Pine or Cedar.
I'm known as Beech and Maple or Poplar and Hemlock also.
My roots go down in the fertile ground of the Allagash in Northern Maine.
Decades of autumn leaves have made the topsoil thus.

Under my branches animals have waited out sudden thunder showers.
Curled up at my roots they sleep the long nights through.
Deep in my thicket they have huddled through winter blizzards.
I offer food to the deer who stand on their hind legs and reach as far
as they can for the sweetest morsels of tender cedar.
Moose love the succulent taste of hardwood and bush leaves.
They rip off and chew mighty mouthfuls of these and feel good.

Birds use the lace of my branches to conceal their nests.
I am a home for scurrying squirrels.
Owls sit in my doorways and call.
A den of gray, white tipped foxes feel out their wobbly steps over my roots
and try out a new acrobatic adventure called sitting on their haunches,
fail and fall over.
They peek from their fox hole, then rest their chins on the edge
and behold this their world with trusting dark blue eyes.

Beaver come where I stand in water and nip on bark from branches.
Dry leaves perfectly hide the badger with his striped back.
I've gone to sea as masts for ships.
Strong houses have been built by me.
I shelter the family.
I keep the food so they can feed.
I am the page of which you read.

A hot wind blew from out the east.
I gasped, I choked, I asked, "Oh, why?"
Men heard me; they came; they tried.
They came with all their tools and skills.
They worked until they stumbled, dropped;
Then rose again to try some more.

The wind seared down the hill on both of us.
It sparked my bark, it climbed my length,
It flamed my crown, it roared on high
And moments later I fell,
A burning gray-red furnace on blackened acres all around.

Ed. Note: - Margo Holden, who is the author of this poignant ode, has lived
in the Clayton Lake area for many years. After reading this, one feels like
taking an oath in blood to never again wander through the woods hurling carelessness on either side. She must hold a deep and abiding passion, indeed even a kinship for these majestic monarchs of our heritage. If each proponent of preservation of our national woodlands read this, they would perhaps add another facet to their thinking - perhaps they would at last discover the true meaning of ecology - the manner in which we treat our woodlands now will dictate perhaps even the survival of our grandchildren. We salute Margo Holden for this beautifully written plea!