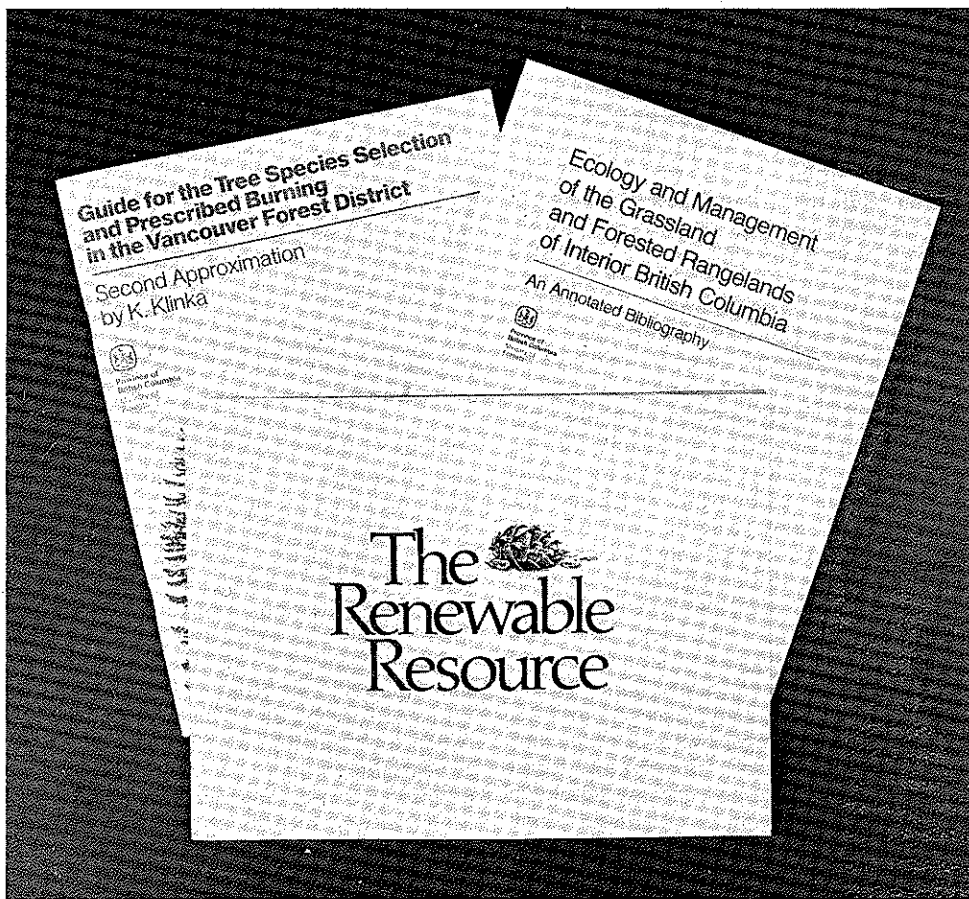


FOREST SERVICE NEWSLETTER ST SERVICE NEWSLETTER RVICE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 1977 VOL. 1, No. 5



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Recent Ministry publications:

ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF THE GRASSLAND AND FORESTED RANGELANDS OF INTERIOR BRITISH COLUMBIA:

an annotated bibliography by Dr. R. M. Strang, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia.

GUIDE FOR THE TREE SPECIES SELECTION AND PRESCRIBED BURNING IN THE VANCOUVER FOREST DISTRICT:

a second approximation by Dr. K. Klinka, Forest Research Division.

THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE

An illustrated publication featuring the integrated resource management concept with graphics, photos, and easy-to-read text. Educational. Published by the Information Division.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

During my recent trip to some of the Ranger stations I was asked a number of questions. To several of these I had no answer, but promised to "find out." This suggested a new use for the *Newsletter*. There often isn't an immediate answer to a question. Various agencies or divisions may be involved, and no one individual able to speak for a collective whole. Send in your questions and we'll undertake to find an answer (if there is one!) and print it.

—Editor

Q—Can funds be obtained, and if so, how, to provide a float for local parades or events?

A—Each Forest District if provided with a small budget for advertising and publicity. Application for funds should be directed to the District Forester.

Q—We are frequently mistaken for Conservation Officers. Is there a way to identify our position and service?

A—Yes, the recent Visual Identity Program General Manual refers to uniform insignia. Write/phone the Information Division if you haven't received a copy.

MAIR REPORT

A Review of the Fish & Wildlife Branch

There is no time to stand and stare in today's world. Certainly not for 'government.' Changing values, material demands, technical innovations, all these require a constant evaluation of established procedures. The Ministry of Forests recognized this when it commissioned the Pearse Report, which served as a guide for the new policies shortly to be released by the Minister. The Ministry of Recreation and Conservation, acknowledging the complexity of management for its Fish & Wildlife Branch, retained W. Winston Mair to provide recommendations for more effective administration of the Branch. The review is available from the Information and Education Branch, Ministry of Recreation and Conservation, Legislative Buildings, Victoria.

Profile



LOGGING IS BEAUTIFUL

by RANGER GLEN BERTRAM, HOPE

Logging has a historic and economic significance to the Hope district, and is as much part of the Hope scene as the rivers, mountains, and wildlife.

The earliest recorded logging in the Hope area was in 1858. Sawmills were operating in Fort Yale and Fort Hope in September of that year. The logging methods were confined to hand-logging and volumes removed were small. Further logging was incurred during construction of the CPR in the 1880's, but again the impact was comparatively minor.

Under the terms of the confederation with Canada, British Columbia ceded to the Dominion a strip of land 20 miles either side of the railway. This became known as the Railway Belt and the Federal Government sold tracts of timber within this area until 1930 when the railway belt was returned to Provincial administration. Many of these timber tracts or timber berths, as they were called, were bought on speculation and logging did not necessarily follow acquisition.

During the early years and up until about 1920 the industry was based mainly on the Coast and the timber supply was acquired from coastal forests. There were four mills in the Hope area in the 1920's, but their capacity was not large and logging was confined to areas local to the mills.

The development in 1939 of tug-boats capable of handling flat log booms in the Fraser River made it feasible to move logs from the Hope area to the Vancouver log market. This was really the beginning of the logging era in the Hope district. Logging has expanded to where it is denuding about 2,600 to 3,000 acres and producing an average volume of 20 to 25 million cubic feet of wood per year. This industry employs about 450 men and produces a payroll of approximately \$6.4 million per year.

There is a growing opinion that logging destroys the "pristine wilderness" that people, mostly from the urban areas, seem to think necessary for a "wilderness experience." This is not necessarily true and in most cases the wilderness is enhanced by logging activity. Roads, originally put in for the extraction of timber resources, supply access for the public and for the man-

agement of other resources such as mining, fish, wildlife, and water. The clear-cut areas produce a variety of annual plants and shrubs which are the food supply for many animals and birds. The food available in mature and overmature stands is limited and therefore the wildlife is also limited. The deciduous growth that becomes established in the logged areas supplies needed nutrients to the soil and also produces the beautiful colour combination of different hues of greens in the spring and summer and the reds and yellows of fall. Were it not for the logging there would be no access roads or even highways, as the Province could not afford to construct them without the economic returns of the industry. Nor could the urban dwellers escape their "concrete jungles" and enjoy the "wilderness experience" without the economic stimulus created by the forest industry.

We hear the comment that logging slash is ugly. It is not really different than the "stubble" left after a wheat field or corn field is harvested. Only the size of the material and the length of time between crops are different.

Before very long the area is reforested with a new crop and the green of life can be enjoyed by birds, animals, and people for about 90 to 100 years before the forest crop on that particular area will have to be harvested again.

Examine the facts and you will find that logging helps enhance the beauty of the wilderness, makes it accessible to the public for recreational enjoyment, increases the food supply to most wildlife, and supplies most of this Province's people with the economic necessities to be able to live in their cities and towns and also experience the forest environment. The next time you view a patch of logged-off area think of these things I've mentioned, think of the future of that particular piece of ground, and imagine the changes that will occur during the following years. Imagine the forest as a crop to be harvested and the land as a field to be put back into production. Look around at older logged areas and see what has happened. View them as a viable, changing environment. Do this and you will see that logging is beautiful.

Glen Bertram, Ranger at Hope, joined the Forest Service as a dispatcher at Kettle Valley. He served as Assistant Ranger in Cranbrook and Golden before attending Ranger School (Forest Service Training School) in 1956/57. Glen returned to Cranbrook as Deputy Ranger, later moving to Chatham Island, Alert Bay, and Ganges as a Ranger. He transferred to Reforestation in the Vancouver District, becoming Ranger at Hope in 1972. Mr. and Mrs. Bertram, who live in Hope, have three children, two attending UBC and one in Grade XII.

Let's hear it for "THE RANGERS"

Armed with nothing more than the personnel directory and a few calling cards, *Newsletter* editor set out, September 26, on a "get-acquainted" tour. The idea, to meet and talk to staff at some of the Ranger stations.

Five days and nearly 1,200 miles later, the editor crawled onto the ferry to Victoria with renewed awe for the beauty of the Province, and a great respect for the Rangers in their very diversified districts.

(At this point, a few words to express appreciation and thanks for the warm reception received from the stations visited.)

The experience was a not-soon-to-be-forgotten one, marred only by time limitations to each stopover.

If there is one problem shared by Rangers, it appears to be one of identification and purpose. Again and again were the same comments made: "the public doesn't know what we do"—"we are identified as fighters of forest fires and little else"—"we are frequently mistaken for Conservation Officers." *ForesTalk* magazine will try to remedy this problem by publishing an article about the role of the Ranger as soon as feasibly possible, and the new V.I.P. manual may offer a possible solution too (see Questions & Answers).

An obvious quality common to all the stations visited was attitude. Regardless of staff shortages and other similar problems, everyone pitches in; concern, dedication, and a sensitivity for all aspects of the job are very apparent. And it's quite a job—few areas have a balance in range management, reforestation, protection, industrial relationship, and other related forest management activities. The land changes from mountain to plain, from rivers to lakes, from rangeland to mines. Weather can vary between the moderate coastal regions to areas of extreme winter cold. There are fire permits, wood-cutting permits, maintenance of harvesting records, a perennial need for good public relations and, of course, the forest fires. The list could go on and on.

This month, *Newsletter* takes pleasure in saluting the Rangers and their staff.

SAFETY "FIRST"

B.C. Safety Council's Award of Excellence has been presented to the Engineering Division for an outstanding safety record—seven years and four months, or 1,448,516 hours, of accident-free work. According to the Accident Prevention Branch of the Public Service Commission, only eight awards have been presented since the program started in 1962—three to Highways and five to Forests. Congratulations, Engineering Division.

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

By JOHN NICOL

Forester, Appraisal Administration,
Victoria

We often hear the familiar rumblings of a Ranger, he has been taken over by paper, and paper, and more paper; there's not enough time in the field—the action, and it just isn't right. Perhaps, and then perhaps not. Is it his longing for the image of the old days that makes him hang onto those strange artifacts in his warehouse like the pack saddles, coal-oil lamps, cross-cut saws, those essential tools of the past, now the enchanting reminder of memorable times kept at the ready for their dreamed revival? Is his longing for more field involvement rooted in his image of himself as the pioneer whose task is to toil and sweat, and the harder the work, the wearier the muscle, the greater the challenge and the satisfaction, or is it merely that paper work by its nature is remote action that gives the feeling of being an outsider looking in? We may ponder, but we may never know the answer. We may reminisce and contrast yesterdays with todays to see if there is a difference and find the new paper-bound Ranger is no less valorous than the old one covered with sweat-caked dirt. I admit it may not be all that obvious to a ranger who spent his adult life among his peers and had the changes creep in on him gradually.

That didn't happen to me. My involvement in the Ranger district was memorable, brief, and a long time back. Nevertheless, I have remained in touch with it through "paper" ever since.

What was it like in those days? Certainly it was different then, and it was great. I could think of no more challenging or rewarding work anywhere. The Ranger was the true leader in his community, admired and respected by all. His job was to know something about everything and be master of many, from fighting ravaging fires to dealing with the entire forest industry single-handed. The job had to be done with the resources available to him. He travelled the water by riverboat, the land by horse or by snowshoe. He expected no help from headquarters and he asked for none. He suffered little interference and in return he enjoyed an enviable independence.

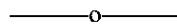
It was too good to last. The early 60's marked an unprecedented demand for timber and the start of the forestry revolution. At last, logging in the Interior became big business and its management was necessary. With it followed the sustained-yield program and an assortment of plans. The need for new utilization standards and an intensified reforestation program was imminent. The industry grew and demanded a faster response in its timber dealings. The Ranger was caught in the middle, for once the de-

mands on his services exceeded his ability to cope.

In the field, the riverboat, horse, and snowshoes made way for the helicopter. In communications, the F.S. 297 was replaced by the teletype. In cruise compilation, the hand crank adding-machine was superseded by the electronic calculator and the computer. Data had to be distributed in all directions, everyone required a copy and rapid-fire Xerox's became commonplace.

These events marked the manifestation of the paper war. The role of the Ranger changed, but so did most others. The place of business moved from the Ranger office to the district headquarters. Rangers were now required to provide a service to the District Forester and district specialists. Their recommendations and advice for the purpose of centralized decision-making were essential. The new demands on the Ranger infringed on his independence and to some extent on his freedom, but the importance of his role had not diminished.

The Ranger has had to move with the times and with the modern Ranger emerges an image that is just as strong as that of the old foot-slugging Ranger. Today's challenges are much different—it is the age of electronic data processing, environmental protection, and metric conversion. Tomorrow's challenges are still unknown. Our ability to cope with them will depend on our readiness to move with the times.

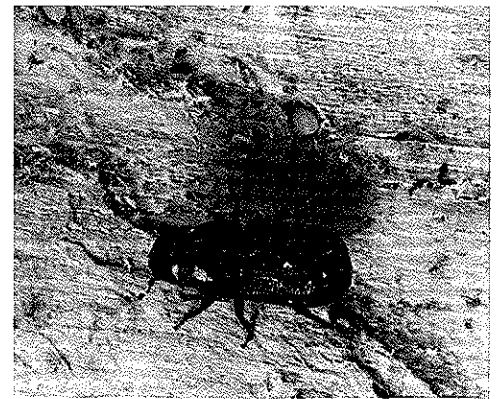


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Sixteen people, representing all six Forest Service Districts, attended a three-day Communications Seminar at the Training School, October 12-14.

Designed to improve techniques in communicating with public and media, the seminar was divided into three parts. Don Bullock, an instructor in public and salesmanship, attached to BCIT, gave a "crash" course on the art of public speaking. Effective use of slide and overhead projectors, flipcharts, and blackboards was explained by Peter Robin and Jim Challenger of the Photographic Section, and a general outline of news media, together with actual television interviews (using the school's closed-circuit TV system) was presented by Ray Wormald of the Information Division. In addition to becoming familiar with interview procedures in front of a TV camera, class members also received hints on how to use such interviews to get their "own" message across. Practical experience was provided by calling upon students to make a presentation using all the demonstrated tools of communication.

Another course has been planned for December 20-22.



Mountain pine beetle with two eggs.

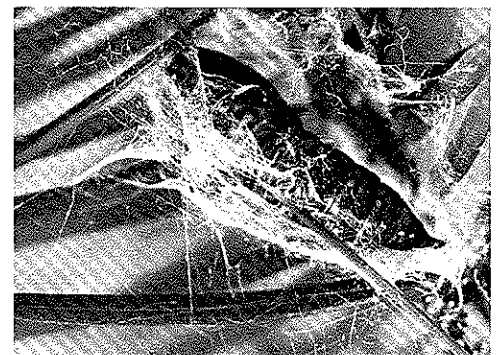
INSECTS and Disease (Part II)

Fire is only one of the many hazards threatening British Columbia's forest resources. True, in 1976 fire was responsible for an estimated damage loss of \$2.6 million, but the Protection Division reports some 400 000 hectares currently under attack by insects and the infestation is spreading. So far no actual damage loss has been determined, but a rough estimate would be an annual volume of 50 million cubic feet. Yet the tendency is to consider fire the major threat to our forests.

Extensive media coverage of the spruce budworm spraying program in the Fraser Canyon diverted attention from other serious insect attacks which are causing increasing tree mortality. No area of British Columbia is without some form of insect infestation, considered by E. L. (Ted) Young, the Forest Service's Chief Forester, as "probably the worst ever experienced in the Province."

The Pacific Forest Research Centre in Victoria, in its August 1977 Pest Conditions report, listed 15 main species of insect causing spoilage or destruction of our forest resource. This very real and serious problem is commanding the combined efforts of Provincial, Federal, and industrial agencies in the development of effective control programs for a situation which must be of concern to all British Columbians.

Western budworm, pupal stage.



"SCENE" IN PASSING

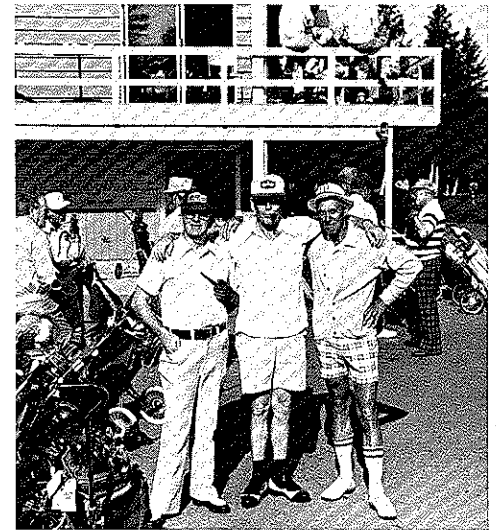


Les Underwood, newly appointed Manager of Personnel Services, is no stranger to the Forest Service. He was with the Forest Service Personnel Division from 1967 to 1972, leaving to take a senior position with another ministry. Welcome back, Les.

Two long-time Forest Service employees have retired. Frank Tannock, well-known Fire Suppression Program Administrator with Protection Division, retired after 36 years with the Ministry. Frank who started as a seasonal Ranger assistant at \$45 a month, in 1941, was honoured at a luncheon held by Protection on September 30. Also retiring, after 30 years of Government service, 23 in the Ministry's personnel office, is Archie McKeever. A cocktail party for Archie was hosted by the Personnel Division on October 20.

Early this year a suggestion for a class reunion was put forward by Ron Hawkins, P.O., Prince George. With endorsement and co-operation, plans went ahead for a 20th anniversary get-together of the Forest Service Training School Class of '57, and, on August 26, twenty of the original training class assembled at the Training School. Faculty, support and maintenance staff, and families celebrated with a banquet followed by a dance. Guest speaker at the dinner was Peter Hemphill, Headquarters' Director of Administration Services, whose topic was "The Changing Role of the Training School." The successful event was concluded with an outdoor barbecue the following day.

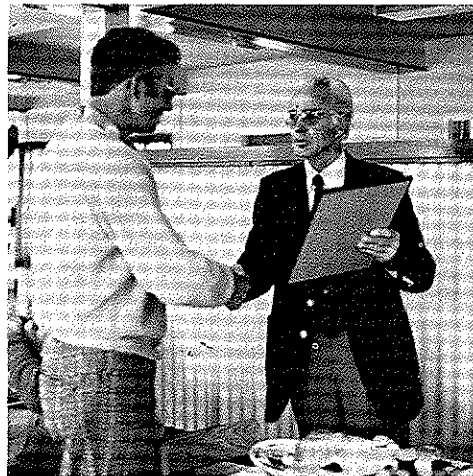
Inspired by the success of their "first" golf tournament, Headquarter's Engineering Division held another on September 17 at the Ardmore golf course, near Sidney, Vancouver Island. Thirty-six determined participants completed 18 holes in an effort to win one of a number of prizes. Winners were Ron Davis, Ron McDowell, Len Hayley, Bob Parolin, Geoff Hoyt, Eva Champagne, Elizabeth Juhaz, Peter Castley, and Janet Piasik.



Palm Springs? No, Williams Lake, and (reading from left to right): Pat Doyle, Howie Taylor, and Jack Long, outside the clubhouse while attending the 5th annual Forest Service golf tournament; 176 golfers, past and present employees, turned up to enjoy perfect weather, a wonderful course, and a great range of prizes.

One of Victoria's radio stations has a pleasant item on its program—called a Citation Rose—it's a weekly award presented to an individual upon recommendation. In September the winner was Joy Arkles . . . "a great Girl Friday" of the Communications Section of the Engineering Division. . . . "a pleasant and hard-working secretary, well-liked by all in the section . . . who will do just about anything to assist anybody reach the objectives of the Division." Along with the Citation Rose was a dinner for two, a brunch at the well-known Empress Hotel, haircut and styling, and two gift certificates. But, best of all, said Joy, was knowing her work is appreciated.

Too rarely do we take time to say thank you. A very basic human need is to know that what we do is worthwhile. Have *YOU* said thank you to anyone recently?



Jack Carradice, Director of the Forest Service Training School, receiving an award from Peter Hemphill, Director of Services, in recognition of his 25 years' service with the Ministry. Jack started working with a suppression crew at Campbell River in 1951. He has been dispatcher, suppression crew foreman, and supervisor, all levels of Ranger, including supervisor. Graduating from Training School in 1956, Jack returned as an instructor in 1972, to become director in 1975.

Kamloops Forest District held their annual Fall Fishing Derby at Lac Le Jeune, September 17. The successful event was attended by 55 people, about 45 actively competing for a variety of prizes. The women's trophy went to Leorna Hall, men's trophy to Doug Tjader; keeping up with Dad was Michael Tjader taking first prize in the 11 to 15-year category; Chris Edward won the second prize. Michael Criss took first prize and Michael Barber, second, in the 6 to 10-year category.



**Province of
British Columbia
Ministry of
Forests**

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