

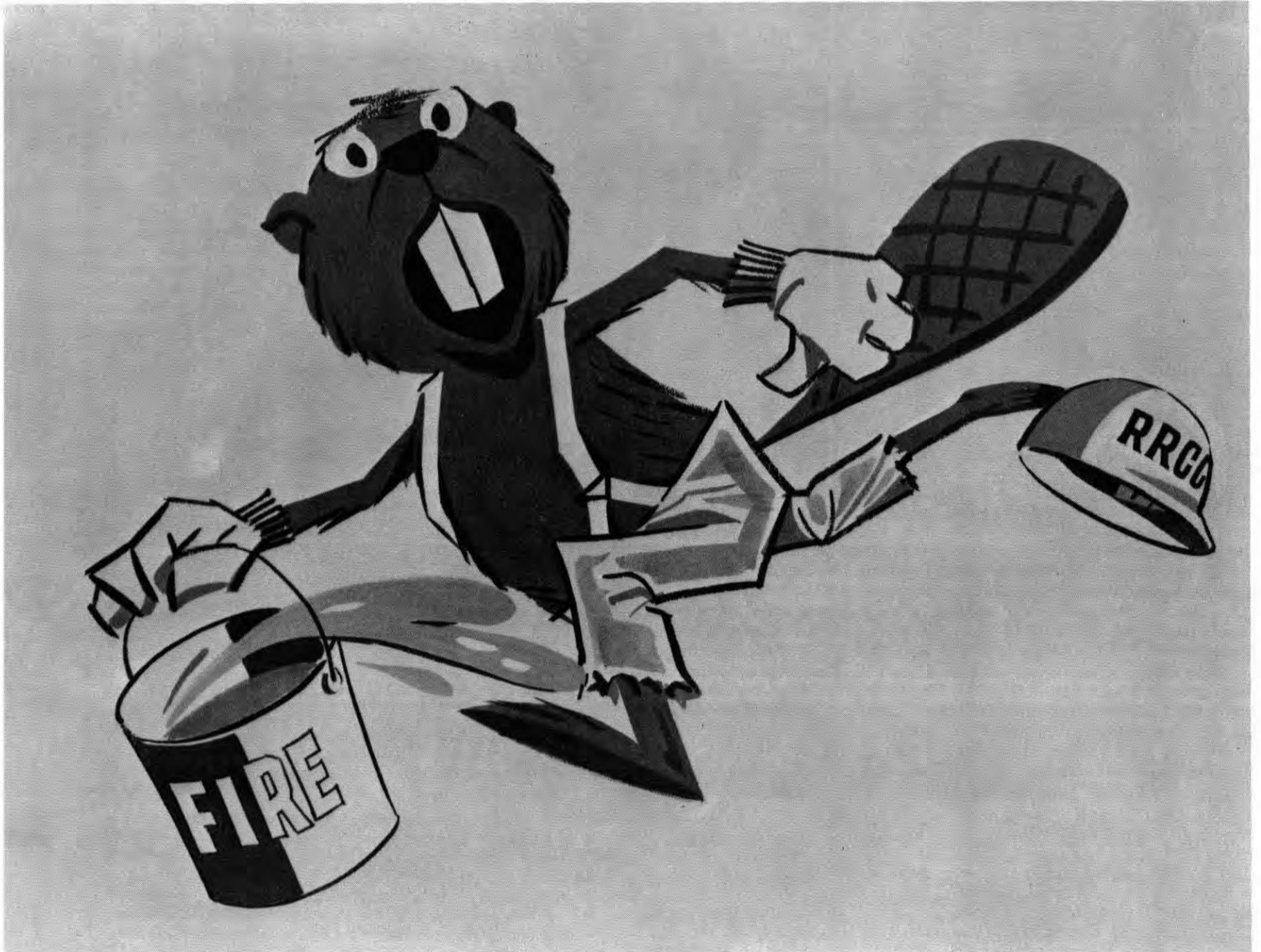
THE SUN

REDWOOD

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Benny Beaver Joins RRCC



Action Shot Shows Benny as Firefighter

Benjamin "Benny" Beaver—faller, buckler, dam-builder and member of the world-famed lumbering family—has joined the Redwood Region Conservation Council as its supervisor of forest activities.

Benny applied to RRCC headquarters for work following a six-month period of convalescence.

Last January 1 while inspecting the culinary qualities of the wood structures which support Pasadena's Rose Bowl, he was seriously mauled by a curmudgeonly wolverine. Seems the wolverine had left his home in Michigan for a trip to Disneyland and had stopped off in Pasadena for some mild exercise. A beaver with a football was all he could find to tussle with.

Healed, Benny headed back to his familiar forest where, he says, the most dangerous creatures are 21-year-old loggers on Saturday night and a funny old bear who wears a silly hat.

Benny's first assignment will be to work with that bear—Smokey they call him—in an effort to keep the Redwood Region green. But being a charter member of the "hard-hat-on-head, we're-not-dead" club, Benny indicated he would try to talk Smokey out of wearing his felt campaign hat.

"Widow-makers," he warned, "can drive you into the deck like a wicket."

Well known as an industrious woods worker, Benny has numerous qualifications for his job in forest conservation.

His great-great-great granddaddy pioneered the technique of selective logging, and early lumberjacks copied Benny's great uncle Bernard Z. Beaver's method of getting logs from the forest to the mill by river floating.

As a matter of fact, Benny's cousins still excavate canals—some several hundred feet long—to float wood for life's necessities into their communities. Their dams are engineered perfectly to keep the water in the canals at a proper depth.

Dams, however, have occasionally gotten Benny and his cousins into trouble with foresters when they flood seedling areas. But it's generally conceded that beaver dams do more good than harm.

The dams act like giant sieves to hold back the water and settle the fine particles of soil in the streams, Benny says, especially after rains. The rich meadowlands in our mountains are a result of beaver dam irrigation.

The Grolier Society of New York provided Benny with his most glowing recommendation when it said: "This continent owes a debt to the beavers."

The RRCC hopes the Redwood Region will welcome Benny Beaver. We expect him to fight wildfire, prevent litter-bugging and help us tell the public that conservation means the wise and multiple use of our natural resources.

REDWOODS ARE FOR EVERYONE

Conservation means wise and multiple use