“Tree Lady” Retires

Miss Margaret March-Mount, widely known as the “Tree Lady” because of her crusading work for forest conservation, retired in June after thirty years of service with the U.S. Forest Service.

Born in Illinois, Miss March-Mount went to the Pacific Coast early in life. She started her work with the Forest Service as a clerk in the office of the Bighorn National Forest at Sheridan, Wyoming, and was later sent to the Shoshone National Forest at Cody, Wyoming. She was responsible for the revival of much of the Buffalo Bill history, through her extra-curricular work with the Cody Club while there.

In 1928 she was transferred to Munising, Michigan, as administrative assistant and later to the public relations staff of the Regional Office, Milwaukee.

Margaret March-Mount

The “Squirrel Club,” which originated in Minnesota, is now a national organization — largely through Miss March-Mount’s efforts. Prospective candidates for membership in this Club must climb to the top of a lookout tower and sign a pledge to prevent forest fires caused by human acts. Through her activities, reforestation has been greatly stimulated. She assisted many women’s organizations in planning forestry programs, and went from town to city all over the country writing, and talking to clubs and educational groups. School children were especially enthusiastic in their response to the “Tree Lady” and planted thousands of acres of school forests in her trail.