

April 15, 1937

ARTICLES BY MR. SILCOX INDEXED IN THE
U. S. FOREST SERVICE LIBRARY

(including quoted statements and items
about him)

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WASH. STAR 9/23/39

Silcox Refuses Post Of Undersecretary Of Interior

Chief of Forestry
Service Decides
Against Change

F. A. Silcox, chief of the United States Forestry Service, has declined an offer of the post of Undersecretary of the Interior, vacated recently when Harry Slattery was named administrator for the Rural Electrification Administration.

Reports had been current for several days that Secretary of the Interior Ickes had sought the services of the Agriculture Department official, and late yesterday Mr. Silcox announced his rejection of the place.

"While grateful for Secretary Ickes' expression of confidence in me," he said, "I feel that under the circumstances I should remain where I am." He added that he did not "care" to elaborate on the "circumstances."

The Forestry Service has been a bone of contention between the Interior and Agriculture Departments, with Secretary Ickes favoring transfer of this unit to his department, and Secretary Wallace opposing it.

It was thought at one time that President Roosevelt's reorganization program would provide for the shift, but this feature was not included.

~~Mr. Brandt~~

~~Mr. Parkinson~~

~~Mr. Lowidge~~

~~Mr. Hammett~~

~~Mr. Granger~~

~~Mr. Clapp~~

~~Mr. Lowidge~~

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WASH. POST 9/23/39

Silcox Rejects Offer From Ickes As Undersecretary

F. A. Silcox, chief of the United States Forestry Service, confirmed reports yesterday that he had rejected an offer of the post of Undersecretary of the Interior.

"While expressing gratitude for Secretary Ickes' expression of confidence in me, I feel," Silcox said, "that under the circumstances I should remain where I am."

He said he did not "care" to elaborate on the "circumstances."

Riley's Column in WASH. TIMES HERALD
9/23/39

has a further angle. Silcox will not work with Ickes. Support for retention of Forest Service in Agriculture among farm organizations has grown noticeably lately.

School desks being moved into F Street building. Probably just another government bureau coming in.

F. A. Silcox's refusal to becoming Harold Ickes' undersecretary

Card from Jeanette C. Kelly, Patent Office, in Ireland. She says

WASH. NEWS 9/22/39

Forest Service Head Upsets Ickes' Scheme

F. A. Silcox, chief of Agriculture's Forest Service, has been offered the job of Interior Under Secretary to succeed Harry Slattery, but he has refused the offer, it was said today at Interior.

The offer was regarded as a clever

move by Interior Secretary Ickes. If Mr. Silcox had taken the job there would have been little doubt that the Forest Service would have been transferred from Agriculture to Interior.

Wash. News 9/22/39

Ferdinand A. Sileo

received an honorary
LLD degree from

Syracuse University.

about Nov or Dec. 1937

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox: A Biographical Sketch

by

Dennis M. Roth

On November 15, 1933, Ferdinand A. Silcox returned to the Forest Service after a 16-year absence to become its fifth Chief. His longtime friend, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Rexford G. Tugwell, persuaded the reluctant Silcox that he was the best man to take over after Robert Stuart's sudden death. Six years later the strain of directing the agency through one of its most frenetic periods contributed to his own death by heart attack.

Silcox was born in Columbus, GA., in 1882 and grew up in Charleston, S.C. A 1903 honor's graduate in chemistry and sociology from the College of Charleston, his interest in forestry was piqued by an article in the Saturday Evening Post. Silcox received an M.F. from the Yale School of Forestry in 1905. He became a Forest Service ranger on the Leadville National Forest, and soon after Supervisor of the Holy Cross, and then the San Juan and Durango National Forests, all in Colorado. In December 1908 he was appointed Assistant District Forester for the Northern District (now Region) in Missoula, Mont. In the summer of 1910 he, like future Chiefs Greeley and Stuart, helped to battle the enormously destructive fires that raged throughout the northern Rockies. His success in organizing logistical support for the firefighters earned him a promotion to District Forester in 1911 after Greeley's transfer to Washington.

In the spring of 1917 an event occurred which was to re-direct Silcox's career for the next 16³ years. His district urgently needed firefighters. The lumber industry was willing to provide them as long as there were no dealings with the International Workers of the World (IWW), which was organizing a strike of lumberjacks. Silcox chose to deal directly with the strikers. He earned their respect and got his firefighters, thereby establishing his credentials as a labor negotiator.

During World War I Silcox served briefly as a captain in the 20th (Forestry) Engineers. From 1918 to 1919 he worked for the Department of Labor to settle a labor and construction problem in the Seattle shipyards, and then to help re-organize the U.S. Employment Service. After that he took a position with a printers' trade association. When he joined the Forest Service, many printing unions sent him letters deploring his departure because of the fairness he had shown in labor negotiations over the years.

Silcox was an enthusiastic supporter of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. As Chief of the Forest Service, he oversaw many programs that attempted to ameliorate unemployment, reclaim denuded and eroded forest and range land, and control floods. During his tenure three million young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps worked under Forest Service direction in fighting fires, planting and thinning trees, and building roads, trails, and recreation facilities. In 1935 the Forest Service took on the Prairie States Forestry Project, to

provide employment and lessen wind erosion by planting shelterbelts of trees in the Dust Bowl. In 1938 it managed the big New England hurricane salvage job, with State help.

During the Depression, the timber industry's substantial failure to reforest land and practice sound forest management again became topics of debate. Silcox proposed, increased public ownership, public cooperation with private owners, and public (State or Federal) regulation on private lands. More funds from Congress to purchase land permitted the Forest Service to enlarge the National Forests, especially in the cutover regions of the Lake States and South, while legislation such as the 1937 Norris-Doxey Farm Forestry Cooperative Act enlarged the scope of its aid to States and private owners. However, Silcox was unable to impose regulation on the timber industry.

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was Mr. Silcox on old

Cabinet Natl. Forest, Montana
(now a part of Lola N.F.) named

for Ferdinand A. Silcox? He was RF
there.

(see photo 59299, p. 4, "In Your Service")
Taken Aug. 3, 1909.

on ^{4 items} F. A. Silcox's death

by Rexford Tugwell in
The New Republic, March 4, 1940

Excerpts in Service Bulletin
April 1, 1940

P. 2-3

by Jay Franklin
in syndicated column,
"We the People"

reprinted in Service Bulletin
Feb. 19, 1940. P. 4-5

Service Bulletin - Jan. 22, 1940 - P. 6-7 (Hammett)

Service Bulletin - Jan. 8, 1940 - P. 1-2 - E. H. Clapp

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Express (ID)
San Antonio, Tex.

DATE

LINCOLN (NEBR.) STAR
12-22-39

Let the Forests Speak

ONE of those indispensable men in public life was F. A. Silcox, whose death occurred in Washington Wednesday. His job as head of the United States forestry service was something more than a meal ticket. It was his deliberate choice and his life. He came to the top round of the ladder in the hard way, with a service record in the department covering a stretch of 34 years.

His enthusiasm was real; his love of trees genuine. He was where he belonged, directing the maintenance and the extension of those forests which come under the control of the American government. Extensive travel in many parts of the world had given him a fervor in sparing this country those mistakes which befell others that permitted the destruction of their forests without giving a thought to the day when their lands should become denuded. In a peculiar sense he was able to infuse the forestry corps with his own enthusiasm. To both the old and young men in the service their chief was their hero. They gave him a type of loyalty so rarely found in life, and out of it grew a spirit within the ranks of foresters which made the outsider feel that here was an unusual circle of men, dedicating their daily labors to the happiness, well-being, and contentment of generations to come.

For in forestry the fruits of the work done today is reserved for tomorrow. The results are not immediate. The years slip by, and the plans and the labors which were finished years before delight the eye, and give reassurance to every generation which becomes impressed with the need of tree life only after the forests are gone. That has burned itself into the consciousness of people so much in recent years, with the loss of millions and millions of trees, and with the sharp recognition that vast areas within the United States have become bare and desolate. It was a very thoughtful and stimulating sentence which appeared recently in the Kansas City Star, which recorded that in eastern Kansas hundreds of farm houses which had been hidden from the highway could be seen now. The trees which had screened them, provided shade, sheltered them from winds, were dead. On a large scale that was Forester Silcox' labors—to inculcate in the American people an appreciation and a love of tree life.

In a personal sense he was charming, delightful, scholarly and intensely human and his associates in the forestry service will mourn his passing. To his memory will stand forests all over the United States during a period when under his supervision more was done to restore the wooded hills and dells than at any time in American history.

Ferdinand A. Silcox— A Great Forester

BEGINNING HIS LABORS with the United States Forest Service 34 years ago, Ferdinand A. Silcox—who had been its chief since October, 1933—spent most of his life working with trees. To be sure, he had another occupation—printing—which he pursued for some years, and he also was nationally known as an expert in labor relations. Nevertheless, practical forestry remained his primary interest.

Dr. Silcox never could put trees out of his mind; but, unlike some enthusiasts, he was concerned with forests as an asset—a means by which people might subsist and enjoy a richer life—more than with trees for their own sake. An ardent conservationist, he spoke a timely admonition to Texans during his visit here last summer:

When a region is using up its timber faster than the woodland grows, it invites economic ruin.

During the six years in which he was the country's "No. 1 Forester", Dr. Silcox saw that ruinous policy which most of the Nation (including Texas) had pursued from colonial times, largely reversed. The Government acquired extensive wooded areas, along with cut-over timberlands and worn-out farms for reforestation, in the East, the Middle West and the South, where the forest program was weakest.

Texas shared in that sorely needed development, with the Sam Houston, Davy Crockett, Angelina and Sabine National forests, embracing 1,714,000 acres. As the Service's chief purposed, that area is being utilized effectively for timber crops, recreation, soil-conservation, experiments and demonstrations in tree-growing. The numerous like enterprises which he advanced, along with the Shelterbelt—stretching from the Texas Panhandle to the Canadian border—will stand as a worthy monument to Dr. Silcox. His death at an early age (56 years) in the midst of those constructive enterprises is a distinct loss to the Nation.

Dr. Silcox also will be remembered for his wartime services to airplane- and ship-builders. The poet's blessing upon him who plants a tree was due him a million times over.

Dispatch (I)
St. Paul, Minn.

DATE

A Great Forester

Death of F. A. Silcox, head of the United States Forest Service, removes from the government service an able and devoted servant.

Silcox brought to the Forest Service great administrative capacity, and in addition to that a real enthusiasm for the task which became his. He had a sound understanding of the forest problems of the states of this area and the policies of his organization reflected it. He had also the imagination and courage to undertake the plains shelter belt project, and the patience to stick with it until successful plantations demonstrated the practicability of the larger project which many uninformed persons ridiculed. It will be difficult to replace such a man.

Form 265—(Rev. Sept., 1923)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

DAILY ALASKA

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Where published Juneau, Alaska

Date of issue 12/21/39

Sent by Forest Service

Stationed at Juneau, Alaska

THE CHIEF FORESTER

Those of us who knew him will find it hard to realize that F. A. Silcox, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service, is dead. When he visited in Juneau a few months ago he was a man whose energy and enthusiasm were as boundless as his friendship. We expected him to go on and on.

The brief report from Washington yesterday said he died of heart disease after a week's illness. He was only 56.

Alaska may well mourn the passing of F. A. Silcox. He was a good friend of the Territory and during his visit here last summer formulated ambitious plans for development of timber and recreational industries in Southeast and Westward Alaska. This work cannot but be retarded by the death of the Chief.

Silcox was a close personal friend of Frank Heinzelman, Alaska Regional Forester. He was a friend also to hundreds in Alaska who met him this year for the first time. All these will appreciate keenly the loss to the Territory and Nation his death represents.

The silver-haired forester's achievements as organizer and trouble-shooter live after him. As labor relations expert for the great New York printing industry in the years between the end of the war and the call from Washington to head the Forest Service, Silcox was respected and honored by workers and employers alike. When a man in so difficult a position can maintain the confidence of capital and labor over a period of years, he has something. The Nation will miss F. A. Silcox.

AR. PARKINSON

MR. CLAPP

MR. SHERMAN

MR. RACHFORD

MR. LOVERIDGE

MR. GRANGER

MR. FORSLING

MR. KNEIPP

MR. COOK

MR. MARSH

MR. BUCK

MR. NICHOLSON

MR. LAUTZ

DR. SHANTZ

MR. HATTON

MR. HENLEY

MR. CODWIN

MR. HENLEY - 1229

MR. HENLEY

MR. MORRELL

MR. MORRELL - F. S. Library

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News & Courier (ID)
Charleston, S. C.

DATE DEC 24 1939

Forest Service Loses Its Chief

Frederick Augustus Silcox, chief of the United States forest service, was a Charlestonian however he was a native of Columbus, Ga. He studied at the College of Charleston and at Yale university, entering the forest service in 1905. He served in the World war as a major in the engineer corps of the American army. After the armistice he engaged in private industrial employment, relinquishing this on his appointment in 1933 as chief of the forest service.

Under Mr. Silcox the forest service has been greatly expanded. He was a great personal force for conservation and his addresses on that subject were filed with sound counsel. He emphasized that the American tree crop should be harvested with discrimination in order to assure against treeless areas where great forests had been. Wildlife conservation was not his immediate business, but his interest in and advocacy of intelligent protection for the creatures of fields, woods and streams was helpful to the movement.

The Francis Marion national forest, in Charleston and Berkeley counties came into being during Mr. Silcox's term as chief. Having lived in this Lowcountry and having a personal knowledge of coastal conditions, he was watchful of the development of the federal reservation in the Wampanoag and its circumjacent areas. Not that Mr. Silcox

played one forest project above another, for he had the reputation of striving to devote the same attention to them all.

Another Charleston tie for Mr. Silcox was that Mrs. Silcox was a Charlestonian. However he had not been resident here in many years. Mr. Silcox was cordially remembered in the circles in which he moved as a young man. America's forest service's the better for having had Mr. Silcox at its head.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICEName of paper Lincoln StarWhere published Lincoln, Nebr.Date of issue 8/18/38Sent by E. L. PerryStationed at Lincoln, Nebr.

CALLING NAMES

IF CHIEF FEDERAL FORESTER FRED SILCOX is the communist which republican Congressman Mason of Illinois by indirect intimation suggested he was then a group of substantial Nebraskans will wonder what that makes them. Mr. Silcox was in Lincoln Tuesday night on a 2-day trip through Nebraska to inspect millions of trees planted in this state under shelter belt supervision and through other federal agencies and by individuals. He spoke before fifty representative citizens. What those citizens heard was one of the most inspiring addresses upon national resources, particularly upon the relationship of trees and of timber to a nation's welfare. It was the appeal of a man who believes that a nation's progress is determined largely by the foresight shown in conserving soil, water, and forests.

* * *

THOSE who heard him in a very frank discussion got the surprise of their life when they found his name included in the list of eight Congressman Mason said were "acknowledged members" of the American League for Peace and Democracy, which he said had connections with the communist party. We don't know anything at all about the American League for Peace and Democracy or about the communist party. We only know that Forester Silcox sees the future of America in sane and rational fashion as a devoted and reverential American should. We know that he is doing a great work which will pay future generations big dividends.

* * *

WE KNOW that he entered the forestry service when that thorough-going American, the late Col. Teddy Roosevelt, was president of the United States and that he worked along side Gifford Pinchot, and that he has a brilliant record of achievement. We know that when it became necessary to battle for the preservation of governmental lands against the selfishness of individuals seeking to grab riches off for themselves, Forester Silcox, never side-stepped a fight but as a courageous and brave public official performed his duty to protect the public.

* * *

IT'S become a popular thing to call names. The "red" hunt is on in earnest. The "red" baiting has begun. The country can expect a lot of ridiculous things to be said and to be done while the simon-pure patriots are out beating the brush endeavoring to scare up a few victims. The professional patriot is a great guy when he looks in the looking glass and sees his own image reflected. He makes the rules whereby one is an American or is un-American. He decides whether one is a patriotic citizen or a bolshevist. And ever so often we have to suffer while he hunts for men he claims are trying to undermine American foundations.

* * *

AMONG those who heard Fred Silcox here was a representative of the American Legion, an organization which has interested itself in fostering tree planting in Nebraska. Another was the deputy state superintendent, who has made a valuable contribution to tree planting. A third represented the state game and fish commission—a fourth the state highway department—the county engineer was there—and more than a score of others. They were harboring a dangerous man but to his credit let it be said that he had them spell-bound and hog-tied as he projected an American prosperity resting upon the solid basis of the intelligent use of land.

* * *

FRED SILCOX believes in more trees on the prairies to break the force of wind which burns and destroys the crops. He believes that in a country so marvelously rich in land the timber resources can be increased a hundred-fold and that as a result people will live in better homes, constructed out of better material. He talks so much common-sense that those who heard him were deeply grateful for an evening during which they gained more information concerning the forest resources of this country than they ever had before.

An American You Should Know

Forest Chief Silcox Urges Reform in Method.

BY DELIA PYNCHON.

MAN must make his peace with nature. Forests, which occupy one-third of our land surface, have been despoiled. For over a century the standing army of forest sentinels have bitten the dust in proud areas of our national heritage.



F. A. Silcox.

"We must make forests contribute permanence and stability to communities and people," says F. A. Silcox, forest chief, Department of Agriculture.

"We must abandon the cut-out-and-get-out" method of the last century," he says. Permanence and stability will come with an orderly cutting of only as much timber as can be replaced by current growth, he explains.

Nearly a million people live adjacent to national forests. They are dependent either wholly or partially for their livelihood upon the fuel, wood, recreation, wild life, forage that the forests supply. When the forests are gone, erosion, floods, destitution begin. Ghost towns dot the map. "We must replace sawdust piles and shacks with geraniums and bungalows," Silcox says.

Born in Columbus, Ga.

His forestry interest has grown along with the Government's, which started 32 years ago. Born in Columbus, Ga., Silcox grew up in Charleston, S. C., graduating from the College of Charleston in 1903 at 19, slated to be a chemist. Suddenly he heard of the opportunities in the new Government Forestry Service. In a split second the pine woods won. He entered the Yale Forest School, established by Gifford Pinchot, and graduated in 1905. He has been a junior forester, forest ranger, supervisor, regional forester. The years have treated Silcox kindly. His ruddy, alert, keen face denies the evidence of his white hair.

The complete turn of fortune's wheel started Silcox in forestry, led him through labor upheavals, and returned him to forestry. During 1917 great fires raged in the West. The I. W. W. went on strike. War feelings ran high. Silcox's contract reading "We pay transportation to the fire. We pay wages on the fire. We pay transportation from the fire if you put it out" saved the day, and the forests.

Reputation Made.

His reputation as an ace-high labor arbitrator was made. The Labor Department sent him to Seattle to settle a dramatic labor situation in the shipyards. He served as director of indus-

Washington, D.C., Post, May 3 or 4, 1937.

FOREST SERVICE*Rowe 1107*Washington Office Information Digest, November 13, 1942(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Silcox-Stuart Memorial Given To Yale

A tablet in memory of Ferdinand A. Silcox and Robert Y. Stuart, both graduates of the School and former Chiefs of the Forest Service, will be dedicated on November 21 at the Yale Forest School.

The tablet is 18 by 26 inches in size, with straight top and sides but coming to a point at the bottom, an exact replica in shape of the badge of the former Robin Hood Society. The heavy tablet has been hung or fastened to the walls of the main hallway at the School.

The Robin Hood Society for foresters was founded at Yale in 1905 and existed until 1911 when it voluntarily withdrew from the School and disbanded, donating its funds to the Yale School to be used toward the purchase of land for a School forest. It was probably the first secret society to be founded in any American forestry school. It had a total of 98 members of whom 85 are still living in various parts of this country, Canada, and Cuba. Its alumni have held and are holding high and responsible forestry positions in the Federal and State Governments, as professors and deans of forestry schools, and with private lumber companies. The tablet was presented by the living alumni in honor of two of its most distinguished fellow foresters.

The Committee handling the tablet is made up of John M. Nelson, Jr., Baltimore, Class of 1905, Major John D. Guthrie, Washington, D. C., Class of 1906, Chairman, who will present the tablet and make the dedicatory address, Ovid M. Butler, Washington, Class of 1907, and Julian E. Rothery, Washington, Class of 1908.

The tablet is of heavy, specially-selected white oak, with hand-carved lettering, as follows:

"IN MEMORIAM

Ferdinand A. Silcox, Class of 1905
Chief Forester of the United States

1933 - 1939

Robert Y. Stuart, Class of 1906
Chief Forester of the United States

1928 - 1933

This Tablet Placed Here by Members
of the Former Robin Hood Society of
the Yale School of Forestry

1942"

(Over)

Dry-Kiln Survey

At the request of the WPB the Forest Service is making a survey to determine dry kiln capacity in the United States at sawmills, manufacturing plants, and industrial plants. The Survey is being carried out by mail by the Forest Experiment Stations.

Golden Anniversary of Federal Forestry in R-5

The 50th anniversary of the date when President Harrison signed the proclamation creating the San Gabriel Timberland Reserve, now the Angeles National Forest, will be December 22. The celebration will occur November 16 in order to avoid the Christmas rush and to commemorate the birth date of Abbot Kinney, an early day conservationist, businessman and author who was instrumental in the creation of the Angeles. The Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce is making arrangements for the program.

Wartimes have changed the original plan for an outdoor ceremony attended by officials from Washington at the old West Fork Ranger Station to one to be held in Pershing Square, Los Angeles, and no representation from the Chief's office. At that time the golden anniversary plaque of incense cedar embedded in a boulder will be unveiled and kept there with the sign, "This plaque will be moved to the Angeles National Forest after victory has been won." Regional Forester S.B. Show will be the principal speaker.

The Angeles extends a cordial invitation to Forest Officers and friends both in California and from other Regions.

West Named Assistant Director of Office of Agricultural War Relations

Secretary Wickard has appointed Mr. Dan J. West, former president of a group of food stores in Oregon and Washington, to the position of Assistant Director of the Office of Agricultural War Relations.

Mr. Hatcher Transfers to W.O.

Mr. John B. Hatcher, Assistant Supervisor of the Lassen National Forest, who has been on detail to the post war planning work in the San Francisco Office, is being transferred to the Washington Office to fill the position formerly held by Frank Lombard, now 1st Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. Mr. Hatcher will assist Mr. Godwin of Fire Control in war activities contacts and in the program of the Forest Fire Fighters Service created by OCD. He is expected to arrive in Washington between the 15th and 20th of this month.

Department Committee on Environmental Sanitary Engineering

The membership of the Department Committee on Environmental Sanitary Engineering, established by Memorandum No. 883 of January 6, 1941, is now as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| George R. Phillips, Chairman | Office of Land Use Coordination |
| Roy L. Roberts | Bureau of Agricultural Economics |
| Lenore Sater | Agricultural Research Administration |
| T. A. H. Miller | Agricultural Research Administration |
| J. W. Simmons, Alternate | |
| S. P. Lyle | Extension Service |
| C. A. Betts | Forest Service |
| Ivan F. Shull | Farm Security Administration |
| M. C. Merrill | Office of Information |
| Charles M. Fergusson | Office of Personnel |
| C. G. Kilbourne | Rural Electrification Administration |

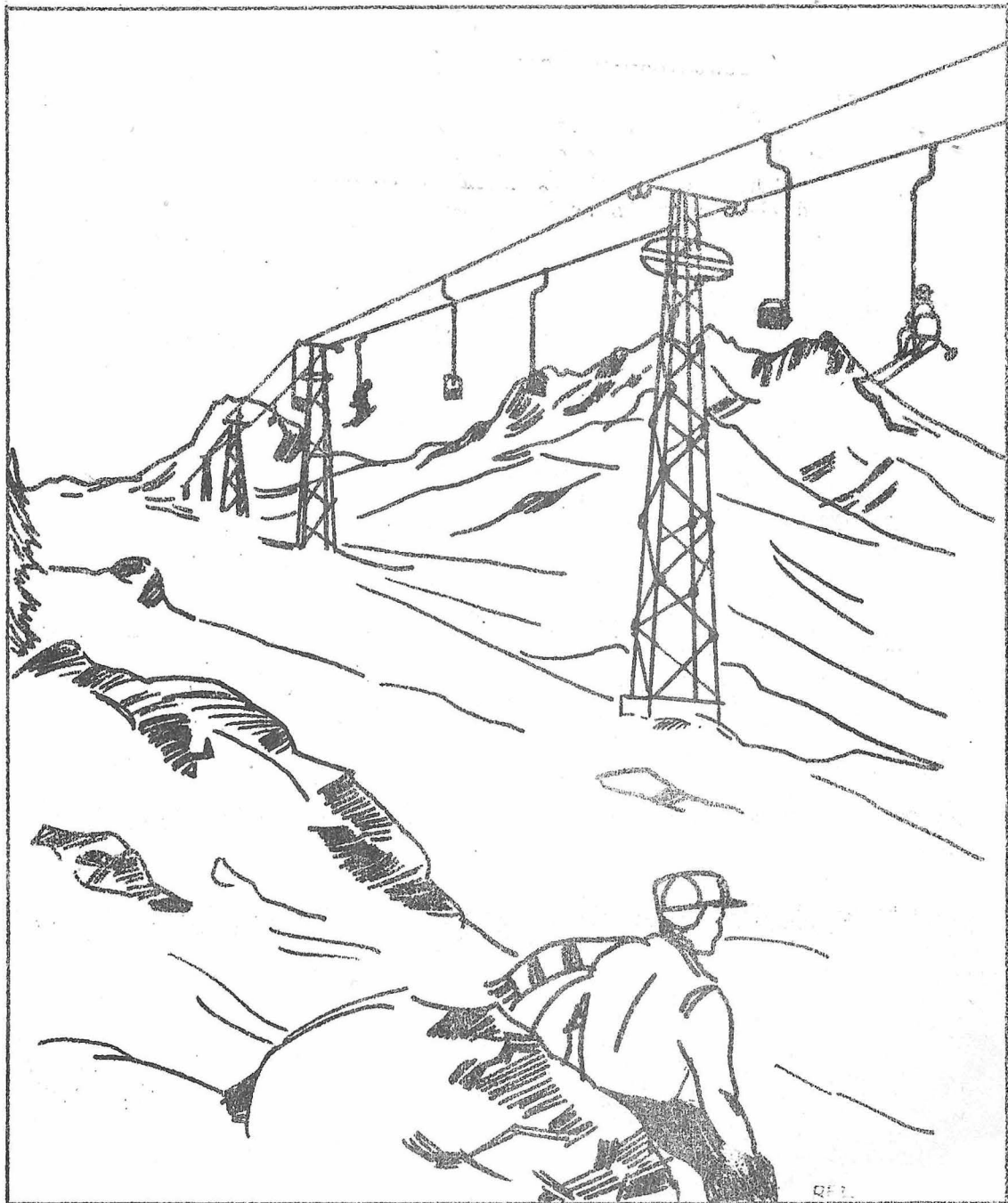
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Return 71872

Mr. Silcoy
P. 9

U. S. P. S. RECEIVED
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

JAN 22 1940
FILE CLERK

SIX TWENTY SIX



JANUARY — 1940

DESCHUTES

A Tribute. The Bend Bulletin paid tribute to our late Chief with the following editorial appearing on December 21:

"Less than two years ago Bend was incensed over a statement by F. A. Silcox, head of the United States Forest Service, in which the warning was given that unless the future of the timber supply were safeguarded, Bend's days were numbered.

Yesterday Mr. Silcox died and Bend mourned him sincerely. In the brief time which had elapsed since his once highly criticized statement, it had been recognized that there was merit in the warning and that a genuine concern had caused it to be given. There was need that methods be keyed more on the principle of sustained yield.

There has been progress made along these lines in the relatively short period that Chamber of Commerce, pine manufacturing companies and Forest Service have been working on the problem which concerns them all so vitally. As the work went on, it became apparent that Mr. Silcox, far from being merely a destructive critic, as had once been thought, was an interested ally, a friend whose cooperation came to be highly valued.

Of him it may be said that he awakened Bend to its need and then helped Bend to meet the need."

R. W. Crawford

MOUNT BAKER

"One Lick" Licks Trail Problem. The writer had some experience last summer with the one lick firefighting method in emergency trail construction, which may be of interest to others, particularly in reaching fires through brush areas.

Lightning struck and started a fire on Triad Creek, which heads on the Wenatchee-Mount Baker border, high in the rugged Cascades. The point of origin was within an old burn, well stocked with cedar, hemlock and fir reproduction, with a sprinkling of Sorbis, Salix, and Alnus. Men carrying packs of from 40 to 50 pounds required four to eight hours to cover a distance of only $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. This resulted in late initial attack, and the fire quite naturally spread.

Reinforcements were called for, at which time it was decided to spend a little time on the construction of an emergency trail through this brush patch rather than to continue wasting so much time and effort in individual buck brushing to get crews on the fire. Tools were assigned on the "one lick" basis and about five minutes devoted to explanation, following which close supervision was given as the actual work got under way. Results were highly satisfactory, the distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles being covered in 3 hours and 15 minutes as compared to four to eight hours by the initial crew.

In the past we have usually been in too much of a hurry to waste time building a trail, but, judging from results obtained in this particular case, we are definitely convinced that a crew of men can be moved more rapidly through brush areas by constructing a trail as they go.

Hugh A. Ritter.

Making Clear Logs for the Future. With expressions of "I can easily see the value of this type of work" and "what won't these Forest Service men think of next", local residents viewed a group of boys from the Glacier CCC Camp invading the National Forest "armed" with long-pole pruning saws to remove the lower branches of selected trees in a Douglas fir second-growth area near Thompson Creek.

Approximately 100 dominant trees per acre (20' x 20' spacing) are selected for treatment consisting of removing all branch stubs to a height of 18 feet. Work of this type will no doubt be of great aid to the veneer industry in the future by furnishing clear logs of sufficient size for use as "peelers" in a much shorter rotation than would normally be required. With present methods of pruning the 18 foot height is used because it is about the maximum that can be efficiently done with the long-pole saw method without resorting to a ladder, found rather difficult in the rough and brushy Douglas fir type. Also this height will produce two clear 8 foot "peeler" blocks with 2 feet for stump and trimming allowance.

Ted Kachin of the Experiment Station selected the Thompson Creek area for stand improvement work on the Mount Baker because of its age, healthy condition, accessibility, gentle topography, low fire hazard, and unlikelihood of interfering with future recreation or other developments. There is approximately 1,000 acres of 60-year old Douglas fir in this immediate vicinity that is suitable for pruning.

With only a month's work on this project as a basis, the following rough cost figures have been obtained, including all concerned from sawfiler to truckdriver: Cost per acre, \$7.08; Cost per tree, \$0.07; amount, 1 acre per man per week. Just considering present market prices it can be seen that the pruning investment will be returned many fold, let alone trying to estimate what clear veneer logs will bring at their maturity over one hundred years from now.

Carl Hildman

OUR CHIEF IS GONE

Jan 1940
6-26

Word of the death, on December 20, of our Chief, struck a sombre chord in the holiday symphony of the men and women of Region Six. His personality had impressed itself deeply on those who knew him, and his passing leaves a sense of loss, real and personal, to the entire Service.

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox was born in Columbus, Georgia, December 25, 1882. He received his B. S. degree in 1903, at the College of Charleston, S. C., with honors, in chemistry and sociology; and the Yale University School of Forestry granted him the degree of Master of Forestry in 1905. His brilliant career is summarized in the Service Bulletin of December 4, 1933. We Quote:

"The summer prior to his graduation from Yale Mr. Silcox worked as a forest student in the Bureau of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the U. S. Coal and Coke Company. On July 1, 1905 he entered the U. S. Forest Service as a ranger, having passed the Civil Service examination, and was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September of that year he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in that State as acting supervisor and early in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests in Colorado to set up administrative organizations. After the completion of this work he served as a Forest Inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western states. When a district office was established at Missoula, Montana, in 1908 he was made associate district forester. He was appointed district forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain region on July 1, 1911, holding that position until 1917.

"Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, Mr. Silcox was given military leave and entered the 20th (Forest) Engineers of the American Expeditionary Force, with a captain's commission. After less than a year's service in this branch, he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the Shipping Board to head a bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Wash.

"Following the war, Mr. Silcox went to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the Commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1922 when he became Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association. On November 15, 1933 he left the latter position to reenter the Forest Service as Chief Forester, succeeding the late Robert Y. Stuart."

What experience? This experience had given a broad conception of social responsibility, which was the keynote of his regime as Chief. It is a sad commentary on the frailty of human existence that he should have passed on at the zenith of his career, with the rich honors and broader service which undoubtedly were ahead.

The entire Forest Service mourns the loss of a great leader. We of Region Six join in extending deepest sympathy to his widow. And as Scott Leavitt says in the Region Nine Daily Contact: "We close ranks and carry on."

George E. Griffith, Editor, Six Twenty Six.

A NEW YEAR OF PROMISE

The Joint Congressional Committee hearings in Portland were over. The Western Conservation and Forestry meeting had adjourned. News of the recurrence of our Chief's illness had come. These and other events served to lower my morale. Tired and with low spirits I went to our two Christmas parties. They were the tonic I needed.

Some of you folks from the field were there. I wish you all might have been present. Most of you I have met and so I know the high character and quality of our field personnel.

The childrens' party in the afternoon with those many fine youngsters confident in the holiday spirit; the unexcelled character of the grownups at the evening party; my knowledge of our fine personnel in the field -- with such folks there just isn't anything good that can't be accomplished.

And so it is with high spirits and confidence that I extend to you good wishes for the adventure which together we shall enjoy during the New Year.

(Since writing the above we have received word of our Chief's death and I have had the opportunity to think through the significance to the Forest Service. The loss is tremendous, yet the organization which he so capably lead is great enough to surmount even that obstacle. I know that we can go forward in the new year with great confidence.)

LYLE F. WATTS,
Regional Forester.

F. A. SILCOX.

November 15, 1933, was asked by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Rexford Tugwell, Secretary Wallace, and the President to take the position of Chief Forester of the United States, the position I now fill.

Articles published:

Cooperation in the Commercial Branch of the Printing Industry - Academy of Political Science Quarterly.

Articles on Industrial Relations in various Printing Trade Journals (arbitration, contract enforcement).

Fire prevention and control on the National Forests - U. S. Dept. Agr. Yearbook 1910. Published also as a separate.

Appraisal of national forest timber - Miss. Valley Lum. Oct. 3, 1913
The Timberman, Oct. 1913.

The forest fire problem in District 1 - Univ. of Calif. Jour. of Agriculture November 1916.

Forestry and Labor - Journal of Forestry, April 1920.

How the fires were fought - American Forestry, November 1910.

Minimizing railroad fires by use of spark arresters and oil as fuel - The Timberman, December 1911.

The resources and opportunities of the forests of Montana - Missoula, Mont. Dept. of Agriculture and publicity from Its Resources and Opportunities of Montana, 1914 ed.

Ships and the labor problem - Yale forest school news, April 1, 1918.

Some social aspects of forestry - N. Y. State College of Forestry, Forestry Club Empire Forester, 1925, v. 11, no. 1

1 Daniel Hardy Silcox
Martha Smith Dwyer
Charleston S. C.

2 ?
?

Columbus Ga.

3 1917 - April 1918 - Correct

4 no member

5 Society - Am. Foresters
Am Forestry Assoc.

5 John Quincy Adams Thatcher
Constance Eugenie Johnson

6 no informant as yet

7 Sarah Matilda Silcox (Anderson)
John Julius Anderson.
Carrie Olivia Silcox (Baile)
James Glover Baile
9 Franklin St - Chas
Fruitland nurseries - Augusta Ga

Honorary

Int. Printing Pressmen's Assistants'
Union of No. Amer.

FERDINAND A. SILCOX

The bitter news of the death today of our beloved Chief F. A. Silcox has just come from Washington. While details are lacking, his passing evidently came after only a few days illness and as the result of a heart attack. Words cannot begin to tell how greatly the Forest Service will miss his inspirational leadership or how deeply its personnel will miss him as a sympathetic and understanding friend. Our deepest sympathy goes to Mrs. Silcox at Alexandria, Virginia.

F.C.W.P. *

*-Frank C.W. Pooler- Regional Forester,
Southwest

N O T I C E

Funeral services for Mr. Silcox will be held Friday afternoon in Alexandria. Because of the very limited size of the chapel, the services will be private. Friends may pay their respects at Wheatley's Chapel, 809 King Street, Alexandria, from Thursday morning until Friday noon.

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No. 192

FOREST SERVICE

Washington Office Information Digest, December 20, 1939

(CONFIDENTIAL)

OUR CHIEF DIES

MR. SILCOX PASSED AWAY AT HIS HOME THIS MORNING AT 10:30. HE WAS TAKEN ILL LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT WITH A HEART ATTACK. ALTHOUGH THE DOCTORS GAVE HIM ONLY A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE OF PULLING THROUGH, HE APPEARED TO BE HOLDING HIS OWN UP TO THE LAST MOMENT AND IT WAS HOPED THAT HE WOULD RECOVER.

News Digest
Wash., D.C.
11/1933

F. A. Silcox is Named Fore

Selection of Ferdinand Augustus Silcox as Chief Forester of the United States Forest Service is announced by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace with the approval of President Roosevelt. Silcox succeeds Maj. R. Y. Stuart. He will take office on Nov. 15.

The new Chief Forester had much to do with the administration of the National Forests in the early days of the Forest Service and was an inspector for the old Bureau of Forestry which preceded the present organization. In later years he handled labor problems in shipyards and industrial relation problems for the printing industry. He comes to the Forest Service now from his position of Director of Industrial Relations for the New York Employing Printers Association.

Silcox was born at Columbus, Ga., Dec. 25, 1882. He is a graduate of the College of Charleston, Charleston, S. C., where he received the degree of B. S. in 1903. In 1905 he finished at the Yale School of Forestry, with the degree of M. F.

Prior to his graduation he assisted in forestry research work in the Bureau of Forestry. Immediately following his graduation he entered the Forest Service as a ranger in Colorado where he was assigned to duty in the Leadville National Forest. Shortly thereafter he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest and soon was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests in Colorado to set up administrative organizations.

He was transferred to Montana as forest inspector and when a district office was set up at Missoula in 1908 he was made associate district forester. He was appointed district forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain region in 1911, remaining there until 1917.

At the outbreak of the World War he entered the Forest Engineers' Branch of the American Expeditionary Forces as captain and was later promoted to the rank of major. After less than a year's service in this branch, he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the Shipping Board to head a bureau to handle all labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Wash. Next he went to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1922 when he be-

PRAISES C. C. C. PROGRAM



FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX

came Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association, the position he leaves to become Chief Forester.

Silcox is a member of the National Forest Policy Commission and the Society of American Foresters.

Sees Permanent Training in C. C. C.

Following the announcement of the appointment of Silcox, the Associated Press carried the following from New York City:

In the Civilian Conservation Corps Ferdinand A. Silcox, newly appointed chief of the United States Forest Service, sees not only a temporary employment aid but the development of a permanent system of training for many young men.

"The plan has potentialities of becoming a real part of human conservation," Silcox said.

"There is the possibility of its bring-

(Continued on Page Eight)

Continued from Page One

ing about a new type of work that is non-competitive in the commercial sense of the word—and these effects might last a life time.

"It can give these men health and an appreciation of their country's resources while, at the same time, accomplishing a lot of projects that for the future of America mean permanent things—not just ephemeral."

Silcox, a gaunt, gray-haired veteran of the woods, said the Army officers in charge of the camps had achieved admirable results in their handling of the men in the corps.

"A lot of the kids were going wild and I feel this is saving them from physical, moral and mental disintegration," he said.

"We dreamed years ago of the things we could do with these vast areas if we had the proper help and enough of it," he said, his conversation reverting to Western mountains. "Now we see they are things which can be done. The timberlands must be integrated with agriculture. We need a vast program of silviculture to preserve the health of our standing trees."

While in California during the World War Silcox became a friend of Rexford G. Tugwell, now Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

THE LARGEST BIOGRAPHICAL AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES

70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

JAMES T. WHITE & Co.
PUBLISHERS
(Founded in 1873)

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

January 6, 1940

Mrs. F. A. Silcox
310 South Lee Street
Alexandria, Virginia

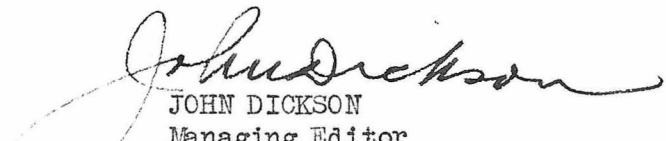
Dear Madam:

A biography of your husband, F. A. Silcox, is wanted for a forthcoming volume of this Cyclopedia. As it has always been our policy to obtain data from original sources, will you please send us information on the enclosed questionnaire to assist us in the preparation of the biography.

The National Cyclopedia of American Biography is a continuous publication begun fifty years ago. To-day it is in constant use in the libraries, educational institutions, historical societies and newspaper offices, both here and abroad, as the most authoritative American biographical work. Librarians value particularly its comprehensiveness and unusual accuracy.

Your early compliance with this request will be very much appreciated.

Very truly yours,


JOHN DICKSON
Managing Editor

JD:F

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

A Statement

THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY is now approaching its fiftieth anniversary. Its broad scope, completeness and original features have developed the work into a continuous publication that has become a permanent institution in American literature. The volumes, as published, have been sold to public libraries, educational institutions, historical societies and newspaper offices throughout the world and the larger libraries have purchased second and third sets. The Library of Congress recently ordered its seventh set.

The success and standing of this Cyclopedia have resulted in various attempts to publish similar works, usually under the name of some fictitious historical society or press association, rather than under a personal name. Such volumes rarely reach a library and, then, only by gift.

The reputation of THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY may readily be verified by consulting a librarian. The latest "Guide to Reference Books," the official *vade mecum* of the American Library Association, calls this Cyclopedia the "most comprehensive American work . . ."

JAMES T. WHITE & CO.

PUBLISHERS

ESTABLISHED 1873

INCORPORATED 1902

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CHIEF FORESTER FERDINAND A. SILCOX HAS ~~handed~~ down a wage award in the dispute between the Realty Advisory Board and the building-service union in New York City which suggests that arbitrators in general and Walter Gordon Merritt in particular should spend more time in the woods. It virtually coincides with the demands the union fought for in a desperate three weeks' siege which cost the workers thousands of dollars and ended in defeat on other important issues such as reinstatement of strikers and the closed shop. The Silcox award, which deals only with wages, is informed by a simple logic. In making it, says Mr. Silcox, the first consideration was a recognition of the principle of the living wage as fundamental in any sound approach to the problem of reasonable minimum-wage standards. Six of the nine schedules of minimum wages set in the award are, as Mr. Silcox points out, below the lowest budget standard, but like the union he apparently felt that they were as good as could be obtained or enforced at this time. As for the continuous plaint of the owners that their financial situation makes it impossible to pay decent wages, Mr. Silcox states in firm language that the industry's first obligation is to make the financial adjustments necessary to meet its labor costs on a reasonable basis. The next problem is to enforce the Silcox award. The strike, after all, was essentially an attempt to enforce the modest terms of the earlier Curran award. We hope the Silcox decision will at least strengthen the morale of the building-service union. Only by holding its lines firm can it hope to compel Walter Gordon Merritt and his friends to observe even the lowest minimums of fair play.

File Forwts
New Republic?

N.Y. Jour. Com.

3/13/36

forester



F. A. SILCOX

Who was accepted by both sides as arbiter in the building service workers' strike here. Mr. Silcox is chief of the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Silcox

Northern Region News
Sept 21, 1928

Homecoming for Chief Silcox: Arriving in Missoula on Thursday evening, September 15, Chief Forester Silcox spent Friday and Saturday renewing old friendships and making new acquaintances around the regional headquarters where he spent his early years with the Service.

On Friday noon the Chief lunched with a small group of former civic and Service associates, and on Friday evening members of the regional office and nearby forests turned out nearly 400 strong to do him honor at a Remount picnic.

Activities at the Chief's picnic started promptly at 5 p.m. when C. S. Crocker took over the loudspeaker with an oration of Region One's firefighting equipment. Practical demonstrations of the power saw, trencher, torch, marine pumper, and the Cabinet's fire truck gave added interest. Following this, Peyton and Bell loaded a string of mules and an exhibition of loading the big new mule truck wound up the display.

The firefighter's supper was served on long tables in the pasture back of the truck barn. On the menu was ham, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, gelatine vegetable salad, string beans, apple pie, cookies and ice cream.

With Regional Forester Kelley acting as toastmaster, speakers of the evening included, in addition to the Chief, President Simmons of the University of Montana, State Forester Rutledge Parker, Dean Stone of the University School of Journalism, and E. W. Tinker, in charge of State and Private Forestry.

After the Chief's address the crowd was marched up on the hill overlooking the pasture and, as a sequel to the afternoon performance, the Divisions of Fire Control and Procurement & Supply staged a display of dropping firefighting equipment from the air.

Mr. Silcox spoke at a staff luncheon Saturday noon and left with Mr. Tinker for Washington on the afternoon train.

---:~:---

Meeting the Public: Meeting the public is an extremely important phase of Forest Service work in relation to fire prevention planning. Fire prevention, as we well recognize, is almost entirely dependent upon public support and cooperation. To talk to the general public and get across our ideas on fire prevention is a problem in salesmanship, and, incidentally, everyone is not especially qualified to personally contact the public and secure the desired results in fire prevention.

Prevention guards are on the job only during the summer months. Through their personal contacts many uninstructed forest users are properly informed



INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Fried 1107

Release - Immediate

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1939

F. A. SILCOX, CHIEF, U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DIES OF HEART ATTACK AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, died at ten-thirty this morning following a heart attack. Mr. Silcox had been at his home, 310 South Lee Street, Alexandria, and under doctor's care since last Wednesday. Up to that time, he had been apparently in good health since he returned to his work following treatment for coronary thrombosis in 1938.

He would have been 57 on Christmas Day.

"The death of Mr. Silcox is a blow to the whole American movement for conservation of human and natural resources," said Secretary Wallace. "As this news reaches them, the legion of men and women at work on all the many fronts of this movement to save and use wisely our abundance of manpower and the physical resources feel a sense of personal loss, and of loss for the cause of developing a better American civilization. Mr. Silcox's wide-ranging intelligence, inspirational leadership and great energy were devoted with complete selflessness to the public service in a score of ways aside from his extremely competent administration of the Forest Service. His work is commemorated in a government organization of highest efficiency and esprit de corps -- and in the grateful remembrance of great service to many of the worthy civic enterprises that American citizens are carrying on today."

Mr. Silcox became Chief of the U. S. Forest Service on November 15, 1933, following the death of Robert Y. Stuart. He came to the position with an outstanding record of service in forestry and in industrial relations, and an intense and devoted interest in forest conservation, especially in its relation to human welfare.

Mr. Silcox entered the Forest Service in 1905 as a forest assistant. He rose through various grades and in 1910 became Regional Forester of the Northern Rocky Mountain National Forest Region, in charge of all activities on some 26 million acres of national forest land in Montana, Northeastern Washington, and Northern Idaho.

Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, he was given military leave from the Forest Service to accept a commission as Major in the 20th Engineers. He

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helped to select foresters for officers of the regiment, and was in military service from August 1917 to April 1918. Because of his experience and dealings with I. W. W. labor in the forests of Northern Idaho and Montana, when he was regional forester, he was asked by the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the U. S. Shipping Board to straighten out labor difficulties in the Seattle shipyards.

In April 1918 he came east to coordinate Federal employment offices with the States, reorganized the New York office and State and Federal cooperation employment offices throughout Massachusetts. A year later he accepted the position of director of industrial relations of the Commercial Branch of the Printing Industry of the United States and Canada.

For 11 years previous to his becoming Chief of the Forest Service, he was director of industrial relations for the New York Employing Printers Association, New York City, and handled all wage negotiations with eight printing Trades Unions; established, and built up three schools for apprentice training with 800 apprentices attending, and served as treasurer for the schools which were jointly directed and financed by the employed, the Unions, and the Board of Education of the City of New York.

In 1936, Silcox served as arbitrator in the famous New York City elevator strike, having been selected with the endorsement of both the employers' board and the building employees' union.

Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882 and was a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C. where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1905 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale University, with the degree of Master of Forestry.

His career in forestry began the summer prior to his graduation from Yale, when he worked as a forest student in what was then the Bureau of Forestry of the

U. S. Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the U. S. Coal and Coke Company. When he entered the Forest Service in July, 1905, after passing the civil service examination, he was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in Colorado as acting supervisor and in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests to establish administrative organizations. Following completion of his work there, he served as forest inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western States. When a regional office was set up at Missoula, Montana in 1908, he was made associate regional forester and became regional forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain Region on July 1, 1910, where he remained until he entered the World War in 1917.

He became Chief of the Forest Service at a time when the Service was launching a vastly expanded program of conservation work, including development and supervision of work projects for hundreds of CCC camps and thousands of relief workers. Under his leadership, the Forest Service was reorganized in 1935, in line with the expanded program.

His annual reports, outlining the future needs and programs of forestry in the United States, have attracted wide attention, a large portion of his 1939 report now in process of publication being given to a discussion of the privately owned forests and problems facing private owners as the major factors in the Nation's forest situation.

He is the author of a great number of articles dealing with forestry and industrial and labor relations of the printing industry, in trade and scientific journals and in popular publications.

Ritter


FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882. He is a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C., where he received the degree of B. Sc. in 1903, with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1905 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale University, with the degree of M. F.

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Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, he was given Military leave and entered the 20th (Forest) Engineers of the American Expeditionary Force, with a captain's commission. After less than a year's service in this branch, he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the Shipping

Board to head a bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Washington,.

Following the war Mr. Silcox went to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1922 when he became Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association. On November 15, 1933,  he left the latter position to reenter the Forest Service as Chief Forester, succeeding the late Robert Y. Stuart.

Mr. Silcox was married in 1908 to Miss Marie Louise Thatcher of Charleston, S.C.

He is a member of the Society of American Foresters, Phi Kappa Sigma, and has served on numerous forestry and conservation committees.

FOREST SERVICE

FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX

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He is a member of the Society of American Foresters, Phi Kappa Sigma, and has served on numerous forestry and conservation committees.

Reverend Bache Article -

"Fidelity, The New Profession"

Feb. 9, 1901 issue of
Saturday Evening Post at-
tached hereto
From Congressional Library

FOREST SERVICE

Silcox
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| Service | 5 |
| Rank | 5 |
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| Station | 5 |
| Remarks | 6 |

American Expeditionary Force, with a captain's commission. (He was later promoted to the rank of Major.) After less than a year's service in this branch, he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the Shipping Board to head a bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Wash.

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Federation of 15 Democracies Proposed to End War

Supergovernment Envisioned
By U. S. Forest Service Chief

A federation of the United States with England and 13 other democratic nations under a single "supergovernment" at the end of the present European war was proposed yesterday by F. A. Silcox, chief of the United States Forest Service, vice president of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. and member of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The superstate which Mr. Silcox advocated would be a sovereign government, "not another League of Nations." It would have power to control trade among the constituent nations, immigration and currency. It could declare war on non-democratic countries. Men and women would give up national citizenship to assume citizenship in it.

The supergovernment would operate under a constitution based on the American one, assuring parliamentary procedure and a bill of rights that would protect free speech and press, he said.

"Here we are again, watching humanity throw all its energies into a maelstrom. World wars will be repeated and repeated during our lifetime if no international government is formed," Mr. Silcox warned members of the Rotary Club, before whom he revealed his proposal at a Willard Hotel luncheon. He said he spoke "as a citizen and not as an official."

At Peace for 100 Years.

Besides America and the United Kingdom, he advocated unification of France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Ireland, Australia, Canada,

South Africa and New Zealand.

"These nations have not warred against one another for more than 100 years. Together they control more than half the world's resources," he asserted.

Mr. Silcox said his belief in the necessity of a union of democracies largely resulted from a tour through 14 European countries, during which he talked with Herrmann Wilhelm Goering, Hitler's right-hand man.

"I had the feeling I was coming out of a psychopathic hospital when I left Germany," he said.

He listed five alternatives to his plan: Isolation, alliances, the "Munich appeasement path," a weak League of Nations and balance of power tactics. "All of these have been tried and they all lead to war," he said.

"A union of democracies is no more visionary than the American union our founding fathers created," Mr. Silcox asserted. He said his proposal closely followed one previously advanced by Clarence Streit, for many years New York Times correspondent at Geneva.

Attorney Takes Issue.

A denial of the practicality of Mr. Silcox's plan was immediately made before the Rotarians by Howard S. Leroy, an international lawyer here who served in the State Department from 1918 to 1920.

"No leader could withstand the wrath of his people if he asked a nation to yield its sovereign powers to a higher government," he declared. "Let us be realistic. No two nations have the same national interests, and no lasting solution can be affected by wishful thinking or uncertain experiments."

Among the Rotarians who listened with interest to the proposal were representatives from two foreign countries involved—Dr. Felix Vening Meinesz of Amersfoort, Holland, and Charles Holmes of Melbourne, Australia.

"I am afraid that economic difficulties might knock out the plan," was the latter's comment. "Would Australia and America be willing to take down the tariff wall that separates them?"

Copy 2

Miss Friedl

~~MR. MACDONALD~~

~~MR. DEERS~~

~~MR. HESSEL~~

~~MR. WIMAN SMITH~~

~~MR. DUTHIE~~

~~MR. TEBBE~~

~~MISS LEONARD~~ *Aut*

~~MRS. MILDRED WILLIAMS~~

- F. S. Library

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Miss Friedl

F. A. Silcox The Journal of Forestry (January) in an editorial on the late F. A. Silcox, says: "The Forest Service, at the time he became its chief, was the spearhead of the federal government's great conservation program. The Service was expanding its personnel, work projects for hundreds of Civilian Conservation Corps camps were being developed and supervised, and thousands of relief workers were being given employment in the nation's forests. Under his leadership the Forest Service geared itself to the biggest job in its history, and did it well. Mr. Silcox became a Senior member of the Society of American Foresters in 1907. In 1937 he was elected to the grade of Fellow, the highest distinction which may be conferred upon a forester by his professional colleagues. He had always taken a keen interest in Society and professional affairs, and participated actively in committee assignments....

X "His socio-economic theories of forest conservation, his advocacy of public regulation of timber cutting, his championing of the rights of the 'have nots,' all brought violent opponents as well as loyal adherents. Yet the warmth of his personality, the brilliance of his mind in disputation, and the serenity of his disposition were such that many might disagree with him but none could dislike him. His contributions to the conservation movement were many. Especially significant was his success in focusing public attention on the conservation problems of private forest land ownership. In brief, it may be said that his whole professional career was devoted to the cause of integrating forestry with social progress and human welfare." X

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Fried 1107

Release - Immediate

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1939

F. A. SILCOX, CHIEF, U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DIES OF HEART ATTACK AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, died at ten-thirty this morning following a heart attack. Mr. Silcox had been at his home, 310 South Lee Street, Alexandria, and under doctor's care since last Wednesday. Up to that time, he had been apparently in good health since he returned to his work following treatment for coronary thrombosis in 1938.

He would have been 57 on Christmas Day.

"The death of Mr. Silcox is a blow to the whole American movement for conservation of human and natural resources," said Secretary Wallace. "As this news reaches them, the legion of men and women at work on all the many fronts of this movement to save and use wisely our abundance of manpower and the physical resources feel a sense of personal loss, and of loss for the cause of developing a better American civilization. Mr. Silcox's wide-ranging intelligence, inspirational leadership and great energy were devoted with complete selflessness to the public service in a score of ways aside from his extremely competent administration of the Forest Service. His work is commemorated in a government organization of highest efficiency and esprit de corps -- and in the grateful remembrance of great service to many of the worthy civic enterprises that American citizens are carrying on today."

Mr. Silcox became Chief of the U. S. Forest Service on November 15, 1933, following the death of Robert Y. Stuart. He came to the position with an outstanding record of service in forestry and in industrial relations, and an intense and devoted interest in forest conservation, especially in its relation to human welfare.

Mr. Silcox entered the Forest Service in 1905 as a forest assistant. He rose through various grades and in 1910 became Regional Forester of the Northern Rocky Mountain National Forest Region, in charge of all activities on some 26 million acres of national forest land in Montana, Northeastern Washington, and Northern Idaho.

Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, he was given military leave from the Forest Service to accept a commission as Major in the 20th Engineers. He

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helped to select foresters for officers of the regiment, and was in military service from August 1917 to April 1918. Because of his experience and dealings with I. W. W. labor in the forests of Northern Idaho and Montana, when he was regional forester, he was asked by the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the U. S. Shipping Board to straighten out labor difficulties in the Seattle shipyards.

In April 1918 he came east to coordinate Federal employment offices with the States, reorganized the New York office and State and Federal cooperation employment offices throughout Massachusetts. A year later he accepted the position of director of industrial relations of the Commercial Branch of the Printing Industry of the United States and Canada.

For 11 years previous to his becoming Chief of the Forest Service, he was director of industrial relations for the New York Employing Printers Association, New York City, and handled all wage negotiations with eight printing Trades Unions; established, and built up three schools for apprentice training with 800 apprentices attending, and served as treasurer for the schools which were jointly directed and financed by the employed, the Unions, and the Board of Education of the City of New York.

In 1936, Silcox served as arbitrator in the famous New York City elevator strike, having been selected with the endorsement of both the employers' board and the building employees' union.

Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882 and was a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C. where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1905 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale University, with the degree of Master of Forestry.

His career in forestry began the summer prior to his graduation from Yale, when he worked as a forest student in what was then the Bureau of Forestry of the

U. S. Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the U. S. Coal and Coke Company. When he entered the Forest Service in July, 1905, after passing the civil service examination, he was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in Colorado as acting supervisor and in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests to establish administrative organizations. Following completion of his work there, he served as forest inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western States. When a regional office was set up at Missoula, Montana in 1908, he was made associate regional forester and became regional forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain Region on July 1, 1910, where he remained until he entered the World War in 1917.

He became Chief of the Forest Service at a time when the Service was launching a vastly expanded program of conservation work, including development and supervision of work projects for hundreds of CCC camps and thousands of relief workers. Under his leadership, the Forest Service was reorganized in 1935, in line with the expanded program.

His annual reports, outlining the future needs and programs of forestry in the United States, have attracted wide attention, a large portion of his 1939 report now in process of publication being given to a discussion of the privately owned forests and problems facing private owners as the major factors in the Nation's forest situation.

He is the author of a great number of articles dealing with forestry and industrial and labor relations of the printing industry, in trade and scientific journals and in popular publications.

Silcox Is Dead; Chief of Federal Forest Service

**Varied Career Included
Strike Mediation and Post
With Employing Printers**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—Ferdinand Augustus Silcox, Chief of the United States Forestry Service, died today at his home in nearby Alexandria, Va., after a week's illness. He was fifty-six years old.

He Haded Service Since 1933

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox succeeded Major Robert Y. Stuart as head of the Department of Agriculture's Forestry Service in 1933 after a long and varied career which included strike mediation in Seattle shipyards and Montana forests shortly after the World War, and eleven years as director of the New York Employing Printers Association. His forestry training had been gained before the war as United States regional forester of the northern Rocky Mountain regional forest area, which includes Montana, and parts of Washington and Idaho.

When he took office in 1933 he promised above all to attack the problem of fire control in the national forests. He put into effect the shelter belt plan of President Roosevelt, which called for the forestation of a wide strip of land in the central part of the United States stretching from North Dakota to Texas. The work of salvaging 2,600,000 board feet of timber after the New England hurricane in 1938 also fell to Mr. Silcox's Service. By October of this year an estimated 600,000,000 board feet had been saved from insects and rot, while the fire hazard in New England forests had also been placed under control.

In 1936 he was called in as mediator in the wage struggle between the Building Service Employees and their employers, represented by the Realty Advisory Board. An elevator strike was ended by his decision to mediate and he announced a 10 per cent pay raise for the employees. In 1937, when the employers called his decision into question, the affair was again settled peacefully.

He was born in Columbus, Ga., on Christmas Day, 1882, the son of Ferdinand Augustus and Carrie Olivia Spear Wilcox. He received a B. S. degree in chemistry at the College of Charleston, S. C., in 1903, but forsook a career in laboratories in order to study forestry at Yale, where he received a Master of Forestry degree in 1905.

Handled Labor Relations

After twelve years as district forester in the United States service, he was commissioned by the Department of Labor and Shipping Board during the war to handle labor relations in Seattle shipyards and northwestern spruce forests, and to mobilize labor, in co-operation with the War Department, in New Jersey munitions and airplane construction factories. In Montana, where the I. W. W. element striking for more pay threatened to burn up the vast forest preserves, he brought about a compromise between the private lumber interests and the rebellious hired workers.

After the war he became director of industrial relations for the United Typothetae of America, leaving that post in 1922 to join the New York Employing Printers Association, where he stayed until 1933, and was credited with the organization of printers' apprenticeship schools in co-operation with the New York City Board of Education.

After his appointment by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace in 1933, Mr. Silcox, as forestry head, frequently warned the country on the need for reforestation and the tragedy of America's fast-disappearing wild life. In 1936 at a North American Wild-Life Conference in Washington he pointed to the descriptions of animals by the Lewis and Clark expedition and observed that a more stringent protection of game must be enforced to prevent the country's once rich natural preserve from dwindling to nothing.

Praised C. C. C. Work

Although his misunderstandings with Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, frequently made headlines, Mr. Silcox publicly applauded the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps and advocated its continuance. He fought Mr. Ickes's at-

ernor, came with the A. A. A. to take charge of its corn-hog program in 1933 from work at the University of Minnesota and Iowa State and was

1939 Seen Peak For Consumer Co-operatives

**Greatest Year of Progress
Is Cited by League Aid;
Sales at \$600,000,000**

The American consumer co-operative movement can list 1939 as its greatest year of progress, according to Wallace J. Campbell, assistant secretary of the Co-operative League of the United States of America. By the end of the year, he said, more than 2,000,000 consumers were members of co-operatives doing a total annual business estimated at \$600,000,000.

Among the accomplishments of the year, he listed several important steps, including the addition of new productive facilities; expansion of co-operative activities from farm to general household supplies; an increased support from labor and farm organizations, and, "a vicious nationwide attack on the co-operative movement, giving evidence of the fact that private profit business is now taking the co-operative movement seriously."

Co-operative distribution of groceries found its greatest growth in eastern cities, when the Eastern Co-operative Wholesale, serving 200 co-operatives from Maine to Maryland, surpassed the \$1,000,000 mark for the first time, Mr. Campbell said. An unusual development in this field, he reported, was the creation of a co-op chain of grocery stores in southern Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Distribution of farm supplies, a field in which co-ops are strongest, continued to grow. The Farm Credit Administration estimated co-op purchases at \$440,000,000, or one-eighth of all United States farm supply purchases.

Co-operative insurance companies handling fire, automobile and life insurance showed increases of from 18 to 27 per cent for the year. Co-operative credit unions continued to grow throughout the year, reporting 2,250,000 members and assets well over \$100,000,000.

NEW YORK JOURNAL OF
COMMERCE 12-21-39

SOUTHERN RATE CASE TO BE PROBED TODAY

**Joint Sessions of Eastern,
Western Groups Plan to
Fight I. C. C. Order**

Disturbed by the decision handed down at the end of last month by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the Southern rate case, representatives of the Middle Western States and railroads will join with Eastern States and carriers at a meeting here today for consideration of a program of action.

The joint session will be held at the offices of the Merchants' Association in the Woolworth Building, and spokesmen for the various groups indicated last night that they will consider urging the commission to review its decision on legal technicalities or appealing to the courts to override the ruling.

See Lost Business

Strong feeling was expressed that if Northern business interests allow the I. C. C. order to rest without contests, they stand to lose considerable business to Southern manufacturers.

The I. C. C. decision granted a reduction to Southern States in freight rates on products in Southern territories. The commission ordered a revision of the tariffs on a specified list of articles, holding that present rates were unduly prejudicial and out of line with rates on similar articles

tempt to remove the forestry service to the Department of the Interior, a movement finally vetoed by Mr. Wallace in 1935. Last September he confirmed a report that he had refused Mr. Ickes's invitation to become Under Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Silcox received honorary degrees from the College of Charleston and from Syracuse University.

He was a captain in the 20th Engineers, U. S. A., during the World War. He was a member of the Society of American Foresters, Phi Kappa Sigma and the Cosmo-

Forestry News Digest
Wash., D.C.
2/1934

Silcox Sees More Public Ownership

At the Agricultural Appropriations Committee hearings, F. A. Silcox, United States forester, brought out these points:

"It is perfectly obvious that the solution of the forest problems must either—

"First, provide for a great enlargement of the area of public ownership. or

"Second, devise some method which will bring about a radical change in the attitude and effort of private ownership, which has so far conspicuously failed in measuring up either to its obligations or its opportunities, or

"Third, provide for a combination of both.

"The main recommendation of the report on the Copeland resolution is for a large increase in the scale of public ownership, as offering the greatest assurance of meeting national requirements not only for timber products but for economic and social stability, which should accompany productive forest land.

"Figure 25 shows graphically the change which would be brought about in the ownership of both timber growing or commercial and the watershed or noncommercial forest land. Public ownership would be increased by 223 million acres. Slightly more than half instead of about one-fifth of the timber growing or commercial land would be placed in public ownership and five-sixths of the noncommercial or watershed instead of the present three-fifths would be placed in public ownership.

"This shift in the ownership of timber growing land would make it possible for the public to take over almost exactly half of the timber growing job, as shown in diagram 26.

"Diagram 24 shows another aspect of this question. The inquiry in connection with the Copeland resolution showed that nearly all of the most critical watershed problems center in privately owned forest or abandoned agricultural lands of major watershed influence. The diagram indicates the extent to which the public would protect its own interest by a shift in land ownership.

"Diagram 16 will help to clarify the need for this. It shows that one-half of the total area of forest land proper is now classified as having a major watershed influence and nearly three-fourths as having a major or moderate influence.

"Just there I am going to digress for a minute. I do not want to repeat past history, and I will hit just three or four spots in the United States. You have the town of Charleston, with a large volume of naval exports going through, which is now reduced to a mere trickle. The forests behind that area have been blown over and burned over, and that turpentine industry moved farther south and then still farther south.

"I was up in Ausable, Mich., some

years ago, and there was a town completely built, with trolley lines, hotels, and bank buildings, and not a soul in the place. I went out through the back country and found fine stands of white pine timber on which that community could have existed as a social entity over an indefinite period of time, and here it was completely abandoned—a "ghost" town.

"People have been loath, in a number of our forest regions, to build up communities with any promise or assurance of stability; and that seems to me one of our major problems from two standpoints. One is the need for social stability and continuity in those areas, and the other is that we must also provide a 'cushion' in this country, in my opinion—and I have been in the industrial end of the work for some years, watching the impact of the machine in the technological displacement of men—we have got to find some place where those people are going to have homes with some degree of security; and as I see this future forest problem in the United States, the forests have got to contribute tremendously to that particular phase of our national life.

"I have seen the impact of the machine where people have constantly been displaced with the larger volume of product being turned out, and I seriously wonder what we are going to do with them. I think our forest program has got to fit in with our whole agricultural, soil-erosion and land-utilization program, with the ultimate idea of establishing fairly permanent communities. If we cannot do it with private ownership we have got to face the problem of public ownership, if it becomes necessary, rather than have migratory communities."

Forestry News Digest
Wash., D.C.
2/1934

A Permanent Forest Corps

Worcester (Mass.) Telegram.—Ferdinand A. Silcox, chief of the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture, believes that the Civilian Conservation Corps ought to become a permanent institution. "It has served a great purpose, and it would be a real contribution if such an experience could be made a permanent part of the education of our youth," he says. But even stronger than his argument about the benefits which the young workers in the woods receive is his argument about the value of the work which they do. The conservation of our forests, public and private, is something likely to pay for itself fully, in dollars and cents.

The late Calvin Coolidge was noted for his belief in Governmental economy. But

he believed in spending money on conservation. Early in 1931 in one of his syndicated articles he said: "If the Government ever needs to give work to the unemployed, an enlarged system of reforestation would be a partial solution free from objection. . . . The nation and some of the states already have acquired much land for growing timber. Compared with what is needed, only a slight beginning has been made in reforestation. . . . Under the co-operation of federal and local governments a national policy of reforestation should be adopted without delay."

Providence Journal
87150

EDITORIAL COMMENT

PROTECTING THE FORESTS

A question that has occurred to many people in connection with the activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps, or "Reforestation Army," is why the corps has not launched immediately a tree-planting program in exemplification of its popular name. The question is answered by Robert Fechner, director of the emergency conservation work.

Mr. Fechner explains that the corps, now comprising about 300,000 men, is engaged upon the fundamental task of lessening the likelihood that serious forest fires will occur and that insect pests will continue to ravage existing timber growth. At some camps efforts are also being made to halt or lessen soil erosion. It is expected that later the planting of large numbers of trees in cut-over and burned-over areas and on land

thinned to promote the growth of the selected trees left standing, and where necessary infestations of insect pests are being dealt with.

These preliminary activities are not only desirable but necessary if existing timber is to be protected and new plantings given an opportunity to thrive. In Rhode Island, for example, where the work being done in the three conservation corps closely follows the general program, the tendency has been for some years past for fires and pests to wreak havoc offsetting the gains made through reforestation.

Many States Strengthen Forestry Law

Forestry is advancing all along the line. Strengthening of fire protection, provision for forest work in unemployment relief, and opportunities for increased establishment of public forests are reflected in recent forestry laws enacted by the various states, according to a review of state forestry legislation of the last fiscal year by the U. S. Forest Service.

Liberalizing laws authorizing federal land acquisition for national-forest purposes were passed by North Dakota, Texas, Alabama, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Tennessee. Legislation enacted in Connecticut, Florida, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, West Virginia, and Tennessee during the year looks to extension of state forests.

Minnesota created 13 new state forests, and authorized acquisition of lands within them by gift, purchase, or condemnation. Another law created a state forest fund and provided for payment of one half of the gross receipts from each forest to the county in which it is located. A newly created land-use committee in Minnesota is to classify all public and private lands in the state, principally with respect to their adaptability to present known uses for agriculture or forestry.

Various states amended fire laws. Nevada's 1931 law providing for federal and state cooperation in forest fire prevention and suppression was strengthened by creating a special fund for protecting forest and watershed areas.

In Oregon the forester now has authority to waive the slash-disposal requirement where burning the slash would create a further fire menace. A new Oregon law provides for a modified form of closure, corresponding closely to the federal regulations dealing with entry into hazardous areas; the forester or a warden may now require entrants to have a permit for camping outside designated areas, to refrain from smoking, and to carry certain tools.

Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia, also added to their forest-fire legislation.

Washington empowered the state board to use the forest-development fund to purchase land for growing timber. Previously this fund could be used only to pay interest and principal on bonds issued by the board for the purchase of cut-over lands. The board was also authorized, in order to carry on a reforestation program insuring a continuous timber supply, to block up areas located within counties where timber grows rapidly, and to purchase delinquent-tax lands from counties. Another Washington law set aside a block of land on which the timber must be handled on a sustained yield basis, the expenses of administration to be taken out of the gross proceeds.

Maine repealed the yield tax law, originally enacted in 1921 and completely revised and strengthened in 1929. Forest owners had made little use of the law

until recently; but when changed economic conditions caused them to take advantage of its terms, the towns whose revenues were seriously affected insisted on its repeal.

Amendment to the New Mexico constitution authorizing the exchange of state lands in the national forests for federal lands of equal value was submitted to the electors and carried at the general election in 1932.

A Minnesota constitutional amendment authorizing the exchange of public lands of the state "for lands of the United States and other privately owned lands as the legislature may provide" will be submitted to the electors at the general election in 1934. An amendment similar except that it did not include "other privately owned lands" was lost at the last general election, November 1932.

Laws specifically directing that forest work be made to afford employment to a maximum number of unemployed or partially employed citizens of the states were enacted.

Alabama authorized the State Forestry Commission to make regulations covering the forests within the respective counties in order to comply with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's requirements in lending money for the preservation and reforestation of the forests of the country.

Florida provided for the formation of limited dividend corporations which may obtain funds from the same corporation for the protection and development of forests and other renewable natural resources.

Minnesota, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington enacted legislation permitting the borrowing of money for the promotion of reforestation and providing work for the unemployed.

New Hampshire appropriated \$100,000 for the fiscal year 1933-34, and a like amount for the following year, to be expended by the forestry department for improvement work on state and private lands as an unemployment-relief measure. A bond issue to cover the amount appropriated was authorized.

Copy of material sent to State Forester's
Annual Report of 1933, Chapter 4, p. 44

Forestry News Digest
Wash. D.C.
2/1934
FEB 1934

Death of F. A. Silcox Widely Mourned; Was Local 2 Member

A SEVERE loss to the Federal Government and to the National Federation of Federal Employees was the death on December 30 of Ferdinand A. Silcox, Chief of the United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. Mr. Silcox, who passed away at his home in Alexandria, Va., in his fifty-seventh year, had long been a member of Local Union No. 2, Washington, D. C.

"The death of Mr. Silcox is a blow to the whole American movement for conservation of human and natural re-

outstanding record of service in forestry and in industrial relations, and an intense and devoted interest in forest conservation, especially in its relation to human welfare.

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Shortly after the outbreak of the World War he was given military leave from the Forest Service to accept a commission as Major in the Twentieth Engineers. He helped to select foresters for officers of the regiment, and was in military service from August, 1917, to April, 1918. Because of his experience and dealings with I. W. W. labor in the forests of Northern Idaho and Montana, when he was regional forester, he was asked by the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the United States Shipping Board to straighten out labor difficulties in the Seattle shipyards.

In April, 1918, he came east to coordinate Federal employment offices with the States, reorganized the New York office and State and Federal cooperation employment offices throughout Massachusetts. A year later he accepted the position of director of industrial relations of the commercial branch of the printing industry of the United States and Canada.

For eleven years previous to his becoming Chief of the Forest Service, he was director of industrial relations for the New York Employing Printers Association, New York City, and handled all wage negotiations with eight printing trades unions; established and built up three schools for apprentice training with 800 apprentices attending, and served as treasurer for the schools which were jointly directed and financed by the employers, the unions, and the Board of Education of the City of New York.

In 1936 Silcox served as arbitrator in the famous New York City elevator strike, having been selected with the endorsement of both the employers' board and the building employees' union.

Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882, and was a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C., where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1905 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale Uni-

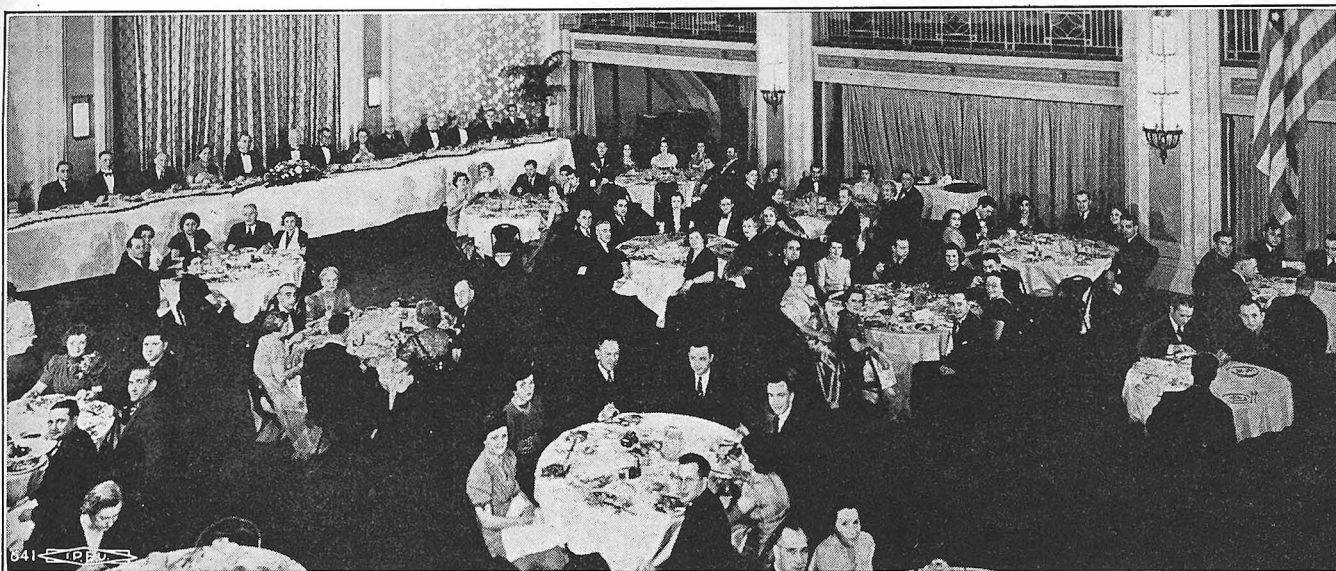
(Continued on page 25)



MR. SILCOX

sources," said Secretary Wallace. "As this news reaches them, the legion of men and women at work on all the many fronts of this movement to save and use wisely our abundance of manpower and the physical resources feel a sense of personal loss, and of loss for the cause of developing a better American civilization. Mr. Silcox's wide-ranging intelligence, inspirational leadership and great energy were devoted with complete selflessness to the public service in a score of ways aside from his extremely competent administration of the Forest Service. His work is commemorated in a government organization of highest efficiency and esprit de corps—and in the grateful remembrance of great service to many of the worthy civic enterprises that American citizens are carrying on today."

Mr. Silcox became Chief of the United States Forest Service on November 15, 1933, following the death of Robert Y. Stuart. He came to the position with an



WELL ATTENDED—View of guests and members in attendance at the convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Federal Employees' Unions, held at Newark. Those at the speakers' table, left to right, Samuel Teitelbaum, treasurer, State Federation; J. Butterworth, second vice president; T. Duffy, president, Local Union No. 590, Newark; Margaret T. Carrigan, chairman; Thomas L. Bebout, toastmaster; President Luther C. Steward; Representative Robert Ramspeck; Secretary-Treasurer Gertrude M. McNally; First Vice President John Fitzgerald; W. T. Brady, president, Local Union No. 107, Newark; Alexander Boross, president, State Federation; C. W. King, secretary; G. Schaeffer, first vice president.

committeemen, Julia Ronan, Veterans' Administration; Arthur Long, Customs; Burton Cochrane, Public Health; committeeman, New England Regional, Eric Rockstrom. Customs.

Local Union No. 676, Cape Girardeau, Missouri—P. E. Moore, president; Rufus M. Neal, first vice president; John C. DeBolt, second vice president; Frank H. Holtsford, third vice president; John C. Hays, fourth vice president; Joseph G. Ludwig, secretary-treasurer; Harold C. Shaver, guardian. Engineer.

Local Union No. 383, Troy, New York—Joseph W. Servis, president; John J. Whaley, vice president; Richard Nagle, financial secretary-treasurer; James A. McManus, recording secretary.

Local Union No. 259, Memphis, Tennessee—Guy Fisher, president; Ruth VanLandingham, first vice president; Henry Goldsmith, second vice president; Mary Frances Clift, financial secretary; Lessie Lee Marchant, recording secretary.

F. A. Silcox

(Continued from page 9)

versity, with the degree of Master of Forestry.

His career in forestry began the Summer prior to his graduation from Yale, when he worked as a forest student in what was then the Bureau of Forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the United States Coal and Coke Company. When he entered the Forest Service in July, 1905, after passing the

civil service examination, he was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in Colorado as acting supervisor and in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests to establish administrative organizations. Following completion of his work there, he served as forest inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western States. When a regional office was set up at Missoula, Mont., in 1908, he was made associate regional forester and became regional forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain Region on July 1, 1910, where he remained until he entered the World War in 1917.

He became Chief of the Forest Service at a time when the Service was launching a vastly expanded program of conservation work, including development and supervision of work projects for hundreds of CCC camps and thousands of relief workers. Under his leadership, the Forest Service was reorganized in 1935, in line with the expanded program.

His annual reports, outlining the future needs and programs of forestry in the United States attracted wide attention, a large portion of his 1939 report now in process of publication being given to a discussion of the privately owned forests and problems facing private owners as the major factors in the Nation's forest situation.

He was the author of a great number of articles dealing with forestry and industrial and labor relations of the

printing industry, in trade and scientific journals and in popular publications.

As Chief of the Forest Service Mr. Silcox was particularly interested in such programs as planting field windbreaks for the Prairie States, of which about 11,000 miles have been planted; the improvement of informal recreational facilities in the 160 national forests, which are visited annually by about 32,000,000 people; the stabilization and welfare of forest communities; and the encouragement of community forests, of which there are now about 1,500 in this country. One of the notable undertakings of the Forest Service also followed the hurricane in New England when Mr. Silcox directed the establishment of the New England Timber Salvage Administration for the purchase of blown-down timber from some 12,000 small timber owners who were threatened with bankruptcy and loss of livelihood in many cases as a result of the hurricane damage to their woodlands. In New England also the Forest Service worked out a cooperative plan with the States to complete a fire hazard reduction program. The entire work was of Paul Bunyan proportions but approximately 86 per cent of the blown-down timber has been salvaged and no serious fires have thus far occurred in New England.

Local Union No. 584, Peoria, Ill., held a very successful fish dinner and dance at the Lake Side Inn, Rome, Ill. More than 60 members and guests were present. The affair was so enjoyable that the local is considering other social affairs for the near future.

Political Activity

(Continued from page 9)

superior officer or any other person. It is a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act to pay or offer to pay any person for voting or refraining from voting, or for voting for or against any candidate for Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress. It is also a violation of the law to solicit, receive, or accept payment for one's vote or for withholding one's vote. (See U. S. Code, title 2, sec. 250.)

Under the act of August 2, 1939, it is a criminal offense for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote as he may choose in any election of a national character. It is also a criminal offense to promise any employment, position, work or compensation, or other benefit made possible by an act of Congress, as a consideration, favor, or reward for political activity or for the support of or opposition to any political candidate or party. (See secs. 48 and 50 herein.)

It is the duty of an employee to avoid any offensive activity at primary and regular elections. He must refrain from soliciting votes, assisting voters to mark ballots, helping to get out the voters on registration and election days, acting as the accredited checker, watcher, or challenger of any party or faction, assisting in counting the vote, or engaging in any other activity at the polls except the marking and depositing of his own ballot. Rendering service, such as transporting voters to and from the polls and candidates on canvassing tours, whether for pay or gratuitously, is held to be within the scope of political activities prohibited by the rule, even if such service is performed without regard to political party.

21. *Election officers.*—Service as judge of election, inspector, checker, teller, or as election officer of any kind is prohibited.

22. *Newspapers—publication of letters or articles.*—A classified employee may not publish or be connected editorially or managerially with any political newspaper, and may not write for publication or publish any letter or article, signed or unsigned, in favor of or against any political party, candidate, faction, or measure. An employee who writes such a letter or article is responsible for any use that may be made of it whether or not he gives consent to such use. (See secs. 4 and 19.)

23. *Liquor question.*—Activity in campaigns concerning the regulation or suppression of the liquor traffic is prohibited. An employee may be a member but not

an officer of a club, league, or other organization which takes part in such a campaign. The dissemination of temperance propaganda is permissible, but any endeavor for or against the regulation, control, or suppression of the liquor traffic through political agencies is prohibited.

24. *Betting or wagering on elections.*—Betting or wagering upon the results of primary and general elections is penalized by the laws of most States and is improper political activity.

25. *Activity in civic organizations and citizens' associations.*—Activity in organizations having for their primary object the promotion of good government or the local civic welfare is not prohibited by the act of August 2, 1939, or civil service rule I, provided such activities have no connection with the campaigns of particular candidates or parties.

26. *Parades.*—An employee may not march in a political parade, organize, or be an officer or leader of such a parade.

A Government employee may not take part in the activities of a musical organization in any parade or other activity of a political party.

27. *Signing petitions.*—The first amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Section 6 of the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 555), provides that "the right of persons employed in the civil service of the United States, either individually or collectively, to petition Congress, or any Member thereof, or to furnish information to either House of Congress, or to any committee or Member thereof, shall not be denied or interfered with."

The right guaranteed by the Constitution and the statute extends only to petitions addressed to the Government, or to Congress or Members thereof. It does not extend to petitions addressed to State, county, or municipal governments, or to other political units. A classified employee is permitted to sign petitions of the latter class *as an individual*, without reference to his connection with the Government, but he may not initiate them, circulate them, or canvass for the signatures of others.

28. *Applying for Presidential positions not in the classified service.*—When a classified employee seeks promotion by appointment or transfer to a Presidential office not in the classified service there is no objection to his becoming a candidate for such an office, provided the consent of his department is obtained, and provided he does not violate section

1 of rule I, prohibiting the use of his official authority or influence in political matters, and provided further that he does not neglect his duty and avoids any action that would cause public scandal or semblance of coercion of his fellow employees or of those over whom he desires to be placed in the position he seeks.

A classified employee may circulate a petition or seek endorsements for his own appointment to a Presidential position, subject to the qualifications above stated, and he may, as an individual, sign a petition or recommend another person for such an appointment; but he may not circulate a petition or solicit endorsements, recommendations, or support for the appointment of another person to such a position, whether such other person is a fellow employee or one not at the time in the Government service.

When an unofficial primary or election is held for the purpose of determining the popular choice for the Presidential office, a classified employee may permit his name to appear upon the ticket, but he may not solicit votes in his behalf at such a primary or election, or in any manner violate section 1 of rule I. He may vote and express privately his opinions, but may not solicit votes or publicly advocate the candidacy or election of himself or any other person. Although it is permissible for a classified employee, *as an individual*, to sign a petition or recommend another person for appointment to a nonclassified position, he is not permitted to sign such a petition as a Government employee or in any other way to use his official authority or influence to advance the candidacy of any person for election or appointment to any office. Classified employees are permitted to exercise the right as individuals to sign a petition favoring a candidate for any office, but they may not do so as Government employees or as a group or association of Government employees.

29. *Other forms of political activity.*—Among other forms of political activity which are prohibited are the distribution of campaign literature, badges or buttons, and assuming general political leadership or becoming prominently identified with any political movement, party, or faction, or with the success or failure of any candidate for election to public office.

IV. CANDIDACY FOR OR HOLDING LOCAL OFFICE—CLASSIFIED AND NON-CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

30. *Candidacy for local office.*—Candidacy for a nomination or for election to any national, State, county, or municipal office is not permissible. The prohibition against political activity extends not merely to formal announcement of candidacy but also to the preliminaries

Name of paper Constitution

Where published Atlanta, Ga.

Date of issue Jan. 6, 1940.

Sent by Inf. & Edu. R-8

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Two Conservationists

There was tragic coincidence in the deaths, less than a week apart, of two men who had done more, perhaps, in their life careers to aid the cause of conservation of the nation's resources than any others. Robert Fechner, as head of the Civilian Conservation Corps, had saved and restored to immeasurable value not only great land and forest areas, but also more than a million and a half youths who, had it not been for the new chance provided by the CCC would, in all probability, have been recruits for the army of crime that lurks in the alleys and on the street corners of the great cities.

F. A. Silcox, the other who died, was chief of the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. He, too, combined the conservation of human and natural resources. The Federal Forest Service holds as its chief objective the saving and wise usage of the nation's manpower and physical resources. As stated by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, the work done by Chief Forrester Silcox is "commemorated in a governmental organization of highest efficiency and esprit de corps—and in the grateful remembrance of great service to many of the worthy civic enterprises that American citizens are carrying on today."

Both Mr. Silcox and Mr. Fechner came from the south. Mr. Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga. He was a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C., and in 1905 graduated from the School of Forestry at Yale University, with the degree of Doctor of Forestry. His career as an outstanding leader in his profession is too well known to need recapitulation.

Mr. Fechner was born in Chattanooga. He attended school at Macon and Griffin and spent a few months at Georgia Tech, though he never graduated from college. He frequently referred to himself as a man "without education" yet the greatest universities of the land were eager to have him as a lecturer. He knew wide experience throughout his life. He served with the Second Georgia Infantry in the Spanish-American war, worked on the construction of the Panama Canal and filled various posts in Central and South America.

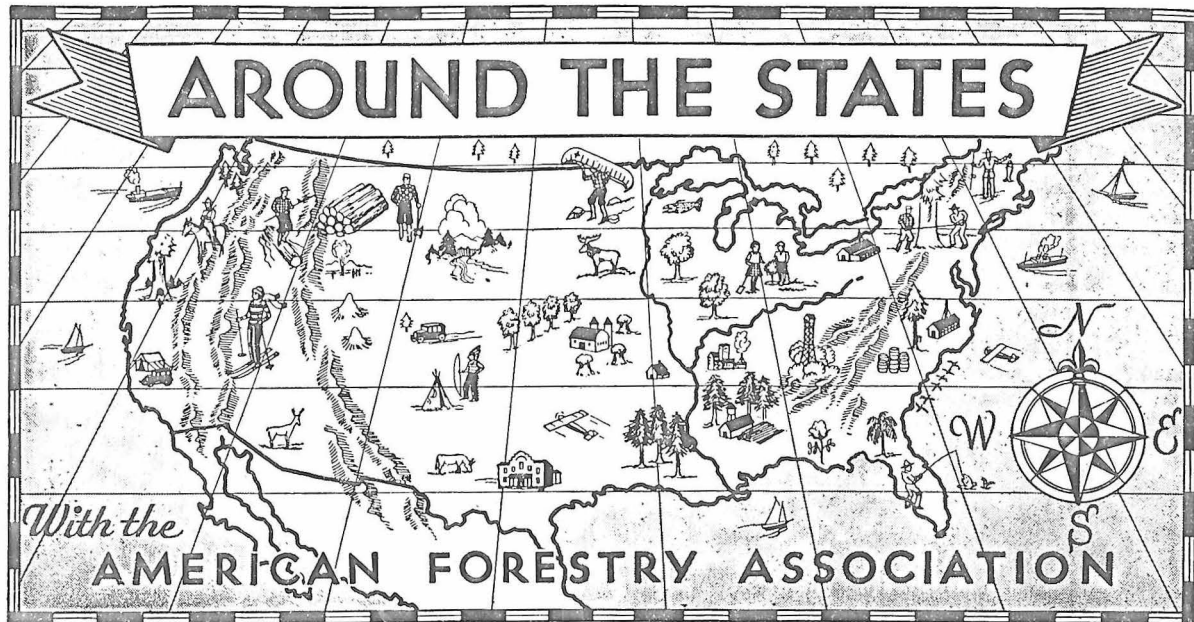
He was named head of the CCC by President Roosevelt when that organization was first created. Much of its success is attributed to his wise direction. Of the CCC it has frequently been said that this is one child of the New Deal which no man or faction has been able to criticize and which has contributed tremendously to the natural wealth and the strength of citizenship of the nation.

Two southerners, two conservationists and two great men were lost to the service of the nation when Silcox and Fechner died.

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F. A. SILCOX IS NAMED CHIEF OF THE FOREST SERVICE

Ferdinand A. Silcox, formerly district forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, and for the past eleven years director of industrial relations for the New York Employing Printers' Association, was named Chief of the United States Forest Service on October 29 by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace with the approval of President Roosevelt. Mr. Silcox succeeds Major R. Y. Stuart, whose accidental death occurred on October 23. He assumed office on November 15.

Mr. Silcox had much to do with the administration of the National Forests in the early days of the Forest Service and the old Bureau of Forestry which preceded the present organization. In recent years he has devoted his time to handling labor problems in shipyards and industrial relation problems for the printing industry.

The new Chief Forester was born in Columbus, Georgia, in 1882. He received a degree of B.S. from the College of Charleston in 1903, and a degree of M.F. from the Yale Forest School in 1905.

He entered the Forest Service as a ranger in Colorado the same year and was assigned to duty on the Leadville National Forest. Shortly thereafter he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest and later was transferred in the same capacity to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests, all in Colorado.

The following year he was transferred to Montana as forest inspector and when a district office was established at Missoula in 1908 he was made associate district forester. In 1911 he was appointed district forester of the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, remaining there until 1917.

At the outbreak of the World War he entered the Forest Engineers' Branch of the American Expeditionary Forces as captain. Before getting into active service he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the United States Shipping Board to head a bureau to handle all labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Washington. Following the war he was appointed director of industrial

relations for the commercial printing industry, with headquarters at Chicago. He resigned in 1922 to accept a similar position in New York.

As Chief of the Forest Service, Mr. Silcox will direct the work being done by the Civil-

permanent system of training young men.

"The plan has potentialities of becoming a real part of human conservation," he said.

"There is the possibility of its bringing about a new type of work that is non-competitive in the commercial sense of the word—and these effects might last a life time. It can give these men health and an appreciation of their country's resources while, at the same time, accomplishing a lot of projects that for the future of America mean permanent things—not just ephemeral.

He paid tribute to the Army officers in charge of the camps, declaring they had achieved admirable results in their handling of the men. "A lot of the kids were going wild and I feel this is saving them from physical, moral and mental disintegration," he said. "We dreamed years ago of the things we could do with these vast areas if we had the proper help and enough of it. Now we see they are things which can be done. The timberlands must be integrated with agriculture. We need a vast program of silviculture to preserve the health of our standing trees."

Upon his appointment, The American Forestry Association dispatched the following telegram to the new Chief Forester: "The American Forestry Association is very genuinely gratified with your selection as Chief Forester and extends hearty congratulations and best wishes. Your broad past experience and fresh viewpoint will supply stimulating leadership in making forestry meet the humanitarian problems of the times. In this objective the Association offers you its vigorous support and cooperation."

When he took office on November 15. Mr. Silcox became the fifth Chief of the Forest Service since its establishment nearly thirty years ago. Its first Chief was Gifford Pinchot, now Governor of Pennsylvania. Mr. Pinchot was

followed by Col. Henry S. Graves, now Dean of the Yale Forest School. The third Chief Forester of the United States was William B. Greeley, now Secretary-Manager of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, who was suc-



F. A. Silcox

ian Conservation Corps on the National Forests of the country. According to an Associated Press dispatch from New York shortly after his appointment, the new forester is said to have expressed great faith in the Corps and predicted its development into a

Recorded by the Rate in N.Y. Robert Y. S. T. C. R. T.

Form 265—(Rev. Sept. 1925)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Name of paper Ore. Journal

Where published Portland, Ore.

Date of issue Oct. 22, 1939

Sent by R-6

Continued on

HAPPY ENDING

by
ARTHUR BARTLETT

Drawing by Robert Fawcett

H HE WAS a thin-faced, pale youngster. When the school attendance officers caught up with him, they put it down in more technical words: "Undernourished, anemic." They also put down: "Neglected." He lived in a dilapidated cold-water tenement in New York City, but spent most of his time on the streets. The attendance officers took him before a judge, who put him on probation. He went back to school, apparently docile but obviously uninterested.

That was in the early 1920's. In 1931 the attendance officers heard of him again, but this time he was beyond their province. It was the police who were after him this time. It took a hundred and fifty of them two hours to capture him, using rifles, revolvers, shotguns, machine guns and tear gas in their siege of the rooming house where he was hiding out.

Francis Crowley, the truant, had become Two-Gun Crowley, the cop-killer. On his filing card the attendance officers had one more notation to make: "Electrocuted, 1/21/32."

George H. Chatfield, director of the Bureau of Attendance of the New York City schools, showed me the card. Chatfield's job makes him, in effect, the head truant officer of the country's biggest city. He is one of the gruffest men I have ever met; no old-time truant officer ever growled more fiercely than he does in everyday conversation. But it is just a mannerism, hiding what some critics of American character like to call softness. He hates tragedies, like that of Francis Crowley. He is—as the same critics have said of Americans generally—incurably addicted to happy endings.

But he has seen too many Francis Crowleys come and go to have any Pollyanna idea that happy endings just happen. He spends most of his time trying to make them happen. The other day I went with him to an old candy factory, now converted into a central kitchen. From that kitchen, every day, go out lunches for 130,000 New York school children in 700 different schools. It is run on public funds now, but Chatfield, for several years, went around and got teachers and others in the educational system to put up the money for free lunches for hungry pupils. It was his answer—or part of it—to the Two-Gun Crowley problem. "Undernourished, anemic?" Then of course they will go out on the streets and steal and become gangsters, he reasoned. And in his gruffest, most scolding manner, he told the teachers that it was up to them to make the children want to go to school, instead of having to be dragged in by the ears. Only then could the schools make children into civilized citizens. "Neglected?" Give them something healthy to do, get them interested, give them a feeling of accomplishment, he says. Then they will stay off the streets and out of trouble. So he works out recreational activities and special instruction to help backward children.

Chatfield is one of many; his way is the way of modern educators. And in other fields men

and women are working, scheming, fighting to put happy endings on the stories of tomorrow.

More than thirty-five years ago a young underling in the Department of Agriculture was given the job of classifying and mapping the soil of a Virginia county. As an afterthought his instructions added, "Try to find out why so much of the lands of that section are so very poor." So Hugh H. Bennett walked over farms that had once been the mainstay of a prosperous agricultural civilization, that had yielded the bounteous crops to build great manor houses and support great families—but on which now he saw only gaunt, beaten, ragged men and women, pouring sweat into red clay that mocked their efforts to make a living.

Here was tragedy, and Bennett didn't like it. Good American farm families were being turned into rural slum-dwellers, with all the tragic consequences of slum life. Ever since then, through Republican and Democratic administrations alike, Bennett of the Department of Agriculture has been working to save farmers and their families from the tragedy of an impoverished soil. Lately we have been hearing a lot about erosion. There have been scores of magazine articles about it, several books, even a successful moving picture. They all stem back to Hugh H. Bennett's abhorrence of the tragedies that he found on Virginia farms. And today, on thousands of American farms, the soil is staying put, thanks to his efforts; and the lives of those dependent on it, today and tomorrow, are that much more fully insured against tragedy.

Probably no group of men and women has done more in our time to bring about happy endings to our daily life stories than those in the medical profession, with its great advance in preventive medicine. I remember waving goodbye one day in my schoolboy years to two young friends, a brother and a sister. I never saw them again; a few days later they were both dead of diphtheria. It was a tragedy to me. To their parents, it was a much greater tragedy. But it seldom happens now, because hard-working doctors, happy-ending addicts, have found the way to nip it in the bud.

A few years ago a young Boston doctor named George R. Minot faced death. He had diabetes, and he knew what it meant: gradual weakening, then the end. He didn't know that at the same time another young doctor named Fred Banting, up in Toronto, was working day and night in a laboratory—had given up his practice and sold his surgical instruments to keep himself alive while he did it—hunting for a different ending for diabetes, a happy ending.

Banting found what he was looking for: insulin. It changed the course of thousands of life stories that had been headed straight for certain tragedy. Among others Dr. George R. Minot came out from under the shadow of

death, was enabled to go on with his work.

Now see the compounding of happy endings. Minot was working on another "sure" tragedy: pernicious anemia. It had always been fatal. Most doctors thought there was nothing to do but reconcile themselves—and their patients—to the inevitability of death. But that didn't satisfy Minot. Every time he saw a patient die of pernicious anemia—and he saw hundreds of them die—he became more confirmed than ever in his hatred of the tragedy. And he kept on trying to find the way to lick it. He found it in a liver diet. And so thousands of other life stories were changed, stopped on the way to tragic endings.

F. A. Silcox, Chief Forester of the United States, can tell you tragedies by the dozen—"tragedies of boom and bust," he calls them. They make dramatic tales; tales of towns like Fullerton, Louisiana, which was a forest in 1907, grew into a three-million-dollar community by 1927, but which is wiped off the map today except for one deserted building and an old steel vault that used to be part of the bank. Two thousand people went to Fullerton to live and work. They settled down there, built churches and clubs and lodges; their children went to its schools, played on its baseball field, swam in its pool; it was home. And then, suddenly, the timber was gone; there was no more work, no more pay. Two thousand people had to tear up their roots, abandon the homes that they thought would be theirs for generations to come, and move on—heaven knows where.

Silcox hates that kind of drama, with its defeated families, its deserted homes—its tragic ending. He spends his time trying to stop it from happening. In his office recently I looked at a map. It showed the holdings of a lumber company in Arkansas. The forester pointed out areas where timber was being cut, others where the forest was being restocked. He showed me dots representing farms, where men were supplementing their work in the forests, so that nature would have time to replenish the supply of timber. It was not being cut any faster than it would grow. Here, he told me, would be no boom town like Fullerton, no swift, sudden tragedy, no rows of broken, abandoned homes. This was a small, solid, permanent community. He had helped the company work out its plan, as he has helped many others, so that the story would have a happy ending.

Happy endings! These are only four of many stories about Americans who have worked to bring happy endings to the lives of their fellows. The story will go on and on. Today's characters will give way to those of tomorrow, will hand on to them the materials out of which may be fashioned an even greater, happier story.

Lay on, you critics of the American love for the happy ending! That is the sort of ending we want for the story of our America.

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Cover by Paul Hesse

The names and descriptions of all characters that appear in short stories, serials and semi-fiction articles in THIS WEEK MAGAZINE are wholly fictitious. Any use of a name which happens to be the same as that of any person, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

FERDINAND A. SILCOX

The announcement of the passing of Ferdinand A. Silcox, Chief of the United States Forest Service, so soon after the death of his associate, Robert Marshall, comes as a double shock to all friends of recreation. Chief Forester since 1933, Mr. Silcox has done much to impress upon the American people the concept of "The People's Forest." Over 165 million acres of forest land came under his direct administration--land that was to be used for "the greatest good to the greatest number of people." His was a rare combination of understandings. He knew forestry, for after graduating from the Yale School of Forestry in 1905 he started his career as a forest ranger. He served in that capacity until the World War claimed his services. Yet he knew more than forest management and trees. He knew people. As industrial relations director for the printing industry in the interim between the end of the War and his appointment as Chief of the Forest Service, he sensed the yearnings of the human heart and the constant struggle in men's souls for a more enriching and satisfying life. He felt the pulse of humanity and he knew his job. Thus fortified he was eminently qualified to serve in the high office he held during the past seven years.

Under his leadership, inspired by his splendid social vision, the Forest Service has recognized recreation as one of the multiple uses of the forest. Literally hundreds of forest camps have been constructed in various forests throughout the United States. These camps provide facilities for tent camping, picnicking, bathing, swimming, hiking, and opportunities for close contact with nature. In sections of the forest where weather conditions are ideal, winter sports areas have been set aside for those interested in skiing, tobogganning, skating, and other types of winter sports. Thousands of miles of roads have been constructed through the forests and people can enjoy the scenic beauty that abounds.

Surely Ferdinand Silcox has made a valuable contribution to the people of America, and it is comforting to know that his philosophy of recreation will continue because it has been rooted as deep as the primeval giants of the forests that he loved.

-- RECREATION for February 1940.

6-
Silcox

SERVICE BULLETIN

1/22/40

A CHIEF PASSES

By R. F. Hammatt

Earle Clapp has asked me to set down, for the Bulletin, the circumstances immediately preceding and following the death on December 20, 1939, of the man who had been Chief of the Forest Service since November 15, 1933.

The key to Sil's illness in 1937 (coronary thrombosis hit him at Spartanburg, South Carolina, on Monday, May 17, and he was out of the office for some 5 to 6 months) was the enthusiastic, unsparing way he always gave of his energies. And although in the meantime the heart specialist had pronounced him fit again, this same passion was the underlying cause of the recurrence of his previous trouble - and his death.

In Seattle, on July 10, last, Bill Greeley remarked that the Alaska trip had been good for Silcox - that he looked better than he had for a long time. This was true, but signs of strain were evident by the time the Chief reached Washington. And we know, now, that although he took delight and pride in the repairing of his home, and the remodeling of his kitchen, official worries and strains accumulated and multiplied during November and early December.

On Wednesday, December 13, Silcox came late to the office; remarked that he'd not had an easy night; went about business as usual, including a 2-hour conference of the Agricultural Program Board. He wished me luck, that night, with the Christmas shopping I was to do next day; said he would attend to his on Friday and Saturday, and left - for the last time.

On Friday morning I learned from Mrs. Crocker that Mrs. Silcox had had to call a local doctor Wednesday night; that this doctor had told Sil one of his heart ligaments had been strained; that Sil had attended to certain urgent official business (taken to him from the office) on Thursday, but that a specialist had been called for consultation.

By Friday the specialist had diagnosed the trouble as a recurrence of the 1937 heart trouble, the more serious because of the previous attack, and installed two nurses at home, which Silcox preferred to a hospital.

On Sunday, December 17, nourishment was given intravenously, the number of nurses was increased to 4, the specialist pronounced it a serious illness but gave Sil a 50-50 chance.

On Monday, despite restlessness and severe pain, there were what seemed to us in the office certain encouraging signs.

On Tuesday there was a serious sinking spell. Oxygen was resorted to. Sil rallied, told the nurses to take the damn tent away - that he'd be up and around soon.

Part of Tuesday night was bad. After the nurses came on duty Wednesday morning, they started another intravenous injection. Sil watching them, gave a sudden gasp.

He had gone - easily and without pain.

Telegrams and letters began pouring in from the Regions, from people in all walks of life, and from organizations. The funeral was on Friday, December 22 (Christmas was his

In every governmental department there are many thousand people working under the Secretary and his associates. If the Secretary should in a moment of vainglory become so proud as to lose his sense of proportion, the havoc created among the workers would become gravely disturbing to the country. It requires a democratic type of mind, not a dictator, to run one of the government departments most successfully. Fundamentally, the problem is one of coordination and cooperation, while at the same time there is sufficient centralization to iron out decisively from time to time conflicts in policy.

I have referred to the enormous possibilities of centralized power in the hands of an executive who sits at the head of a great government department. It is well to recognize, too, some of the limitations on his power. In the very nature of things he cannot personally handle the millions of work items confronting his department. If he does his job well he organizes his department to handle these things well. If the head does his job well much of his effort is in the direction of enlisting the full dynamic power of his personnel; he causes his people to contribute continually and in every way to the functioning of the agency, not merely to respond to orders. * * *

The very essence of being a good executive is to pick men of integrity who understand your policy objectives. The poorest executives are those who dip too much into details. Failing to see the woods for the trees, they get hopelessly lost, trying to do work which could be done better by someone else. The strength of top executives should be saved for the really important policy questions, for contacts with members of Congress, for public contacts, for coordination with the States, for coordination within the Department, and for coordination with other Departments. This means the Cabinet officer must be willing to delegate authority to men who understand how to blend policy and management on behalf of the General Welfare in a sensible way. I have brought into my office in times past a number of different men to whom I have been willing to delegate authority. Sitting in the office and meeting with a great variety of experiences, they have rapidly developed in wisdom and some of them have gone out to serve successfully very large agencies. * * *

If we look at the size of administration and the need for delegation of authority, and if we look also at the increasing importance of good management in a government which is much more an intimate part of the daily lives of its citizens, we recognize that men are the crucial need.

As I said in the beginning, we have a great many public servants already at work who are reliable, who can see the whole including its parts, who can think consistently of the general welfare as the reason for their being. We need a constant new supply of men who can adequately serve the public in a period of constant adjustment to change. We must look to the teachers to train men in the broad vision, to explain the facts of economic and social change which call for public action, to stimulate faith in the American way of life, to inspire students with an understanding of the dignity of man and the personal values to be obtained from serving the public. We must look to the older men in the public service to inspire the younger men with breadth of vision and knowledge and with a dedication to the public interest. Many of the public servants already on the job are doing this now. I trust that more and more the professional association of civil servants, with the teachers and students of government, in such organizations as this, will develop a tradition of public service in this country which will bring benefits to all citizens as we meet the public problems brought by change.

SERVICE BULLETIN

THE EDITOR DISCOVERS

"Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" began their ninth year on the air with the January 5 episode. Since the program was initiated in 1932 through the efforts of C. E. Randall of the Washington Office of Information in cooperation with the Department Radio Service and the National Broadcasting Company, it has been presented regularly each week during the National Farm and Home Hour, with only occasional cancellations when the time was relinquished for the broadcasting of events of national importance. The January 5 program was the 368th episode. The number of stations carrying the program has increased from about 80 to 105 at the present time, which can reach practically all the 26,600,000 family radio receiving sets in the country.

Preparation of the scripts for the programs has been in charge of Mr. Randall, who from time to time has had the collaboration of George A. Duthie, W. I. Hutchinson, R-5, Leonard Shoemaker of Region 2, Marvin Beers, Joseph Hessel, and several others. Harvey Hays, NBC actor who portrays the part of "Ranger Jim", has been on the program since the first episode and was made honorary Forest Ranger of the Forest Service on May 1, 1936, during a specially arranged broadcast. All the original cast was in the NBC broadcasting station at Chicago on January 5 when the ninth anniversary program was presented.

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An article on the life, achievements, and significance of the work of the late Robert Marshall, written by several coauthors, appeared in the December 27 issue of the "New Republic" under the title "Gap in the Front Lines."

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The Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements of the Department has announced a demonstrational program under which a small quantity of low-grade cotton will be used in the manufacture of high-quality paper. The program provides for purchase by the Writing Paper Manufacturers' Association of lint cotton, spinnable waste, and cotton linters for use in the manufacture of fine writing paper and other papers of similar type. Part of the cost of the raw materials used to carry on the program will be borne by the Department and part by the Association.

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The American Forestry Association has announced that a national conference to study the urgent forest problems of the South will be held under its direction at Biloxi, Mississippi, February 1, 2 and 3. The Mississippi Forestry Association and other conservation agencies will meet with the national association. Tentative program for the conference deals with such specific subjects as the industrial significance of the forest resources of the South; an appraisal of forest fire drain; federal aid to southern forests; business aspects of forest management; industrial research as pertaining to southern woods; State and private forestry developments; and the development of a forest program for the South.

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"The cooperative movement has gone too far to turn back now," says Governor George D. Aiken of Vermont. "It is resulting and will further result in a changing economic structure in America. The quicker this fact is recognized and all groups adjust themselves to the change, the quicker will purchasing power and prosperity be restored to all."

SERVICE BULLETIN

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natal day) at Wheatley's Chapel in Alexandria. Two Cabinet members and other personal and official friends attended. There were beautiful flowers everywhere.

The ceremony was simple and unostentatious; what Sil - who had expressed the desire that his ashes be strewn in some National Forest - would have liked.

MORE REGARDING THE "FORGOTTEN MEN"

By William S. Brown, Los Padres

Mr. Guthrie's splendid article in the Christmas issue of the Bulletin -- "Forgotten Men" -- will strike a responsive chord in many hearts throughout the National Forests of the West and perhaps for the time at least turn our thoughts away from that other class of "forgotten men" who have been occupying our minds so much recently -- the Forest Guards.

The "forgotten men" of the CCC, however, are not forgotten in any sense of the word among the executives of the National Forests, the Supervisors, District Rangers and other officers whose daily work brings them into personal contact with these CCC foremen. Financially speaking, no "forgetting" has ever been done by the local officers who, day by day and month by month, realize the value of the work performed and the faithful services rendered by this class of employees. One has only to glance at the unit CCC camp allotment of a couple of years ago and that handed down to the field today, coupled with a special financial personnel restriction per camp unit, to realize why Santa Claus had no room in his pack for well-earned promotions of CCC personnel.

Socially speaking, there may be some few Supervisors, Rangers and others with a "too-much-familiarity-breeds-contempt" complex toward working CCC foremen, but these are few and far between. We usually know these men by their first names and few of us lose any sleep over the fact that, imbued with the democratic spirit of our organization, they more often than not address us in a like manner. We know these men, know their families, their background, their previous record in their home communities, and many other facts and details concerning them. We must know these things pretty well or face chaotic conditions in our local personnel. And locally speaking, also, there are many of these fine employees who still believe in Santa Claus. They came to us three, four, or six years ago for possibly a few months employment to tide them over a period when good times were lurking just around the corner, and in spite of an uncertain future, the best of them, with us yet, after the culling of recent years, still have a steady present job. Many of them were recruited from Forest Guard ranks, and the average Forest Guard regardless of his length of service was still a part-time employee on Christmas Day, 1939. Most of these CCC foremen have found what is to them congenial employment and joy in a job of doing something worth while, and after all, there is still an occasional promotion in the CCC ranks. In Forest Service camps, at least, they have become an integral part of the organization which they serve. Surely not entirely "forgotten" men!

Ritter


FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882. He is a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C., where he received the degree of B. Sc. in 1903, with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1903 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale University, with the degree of M. F.

The summer prior to his graduation from the Yale School of Forestry, Mr. Silcox worked as a forest student in the Bureau of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the U. S. Coal and Coke Company. On July 1, 1905, he entered the United States Forest Service as a ranger having passed the Civil Service Examinations, and was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September of that year he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in that State as acting supervisor and early in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests in Colorado to set up administrative organizations. After the completion of this work he served as a Forest Inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western States. When a district office was set up at Missoula, Montana, in 1908 he was made associate district forester. He was appointed ^{general} district forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain region on July 1, 1911, which position he held until 1917.

Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, he was given Military leave and entered the 20th (Forest) Engineers of the American Expeditionary Force, with a captain's commission. After less than a year's service in this branch, he was selected by the Secretary of Labor and the Shipping

Board to head a bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Washington,.

Following the war Mr. Silcox went to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1922 when he became Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association. On November 15, 1933,  he left the latter position to reenter the Forest Service as Chief Forester, succeeding the late Robert Y. Stuart.

Mr. Silcox was married in 1908 to Miss Marie Louise Thatcher of Charleston, S.C.

He is a member of the Society of American Foresters, Phi Kappa Sigma, and has served on numerous forestry and conservation committees.

Died Dec. 20, 1939. in office.

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Release - Immediate

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1939

Forest Service Reference File

F. A. SILCOX, CHIEF, U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DIES OF HEART ATTACK AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

Biography

F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, died at ten-thirty this morning following a heart attack. Mr. Silcox had been at his home, 310 South Lee Street, Alexandria, and under doctor's care since last Wednesday. Up to that time, he had been apparently in good health since he returned to his work following treatment for coronary thrombosis in 1938.

He would have been 57 on Christmas Day.

"The death of Mr. Silcox is a blow to the whole American movement for conservation of human and natural resources," said Secretary Wallace. "As this news reaches them, the legion of men and women at work on all the many fronts of this movement to save and use wisely our abundance of manpower and the physical resources feel a sense of personal loss, and of loss for the cause of developing a better American civilization. Mr. Silcox's wide-ranging intelligence, inspirational leadership and great energy were devoted with complete selflessness to the public service in a score of ways aside from his extremely competent administration of the Forest Service. His work is commemorated in a government organization of highest efficiency and esprit de corps -- and in the grateful remembrance of great service to many of the worthy civic enterprises that American citizens are carrying on today."

Mr. Silcox became Chief of the U. S. Forest Service on November 15, 1933, following the death of Robert Y. Stuart. He came to the position with an outstanding record of service in forestry and in industrial relations, and an intense and devoted interest in forest conservation, especially in its relation to human welfare.

Mr. Silcox entered the Forest Service in 1905 as a forest assistant. He rose through various grades and in 1910 became Regional Forester of the Northern Rocky Mountain National Forest Region, in charge of all activities on some 26 million acres of national forest land in Montana, Northeastern Washington, and Northern Idaho.

Shortly after the outbreak of the World War, he was given military leave from the Forest Service to accept a commission as Major in the 20th Engineers. He

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helped to select foresters for officers of the regiment, and was in military service from August 1917 to April 1918. Because of his experience and dealings with I. W. W. labor in the forests of Northern Idaho and Montana, when he was regional forester, he was asked by the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the U. S. Shipping Board to straighten out labor difficulties in the Seattle shipyards.

In April 1918 he came east to coordinate Federal employment offices with the States, reorganized the New York office and State and Federal cooperation employment offices throughout Massachusetts. A year later he accepted the position of director of industrial relations of the Commercial Branch of the Printing Industry of the United States and Canada.

For 11 years previous to his becoming Chief of the Forest Service, he was director of industrial relations for the New York Employing Printers Association, New York City, and handled all wage negotiations with eight printing Trades Unions; established, and built up three schools for apprentice training with 800 apprentices attending, and served as treasurer for the schools which were jointly directed and financed by the employed, the Unions, and the Board of Education of the City of New York.

In 1936, Silcox served as arbitrator in the famous New York City elevator strike, having been selected with the endorsement of both the employers' board and the building employees' union.

Silcox was born in Columbus, Ga., December 25, 1882 and was a graduate of the College of Charleston, S. C. where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology. In 1905 he was graduated from the School of Forestry, Yale University, with the degree of Master of Forestry.

His career in forestry began the summer prior to his graduation from Yale, when he worked as a forest student in what was then the Bureau of Forestry of the

U. S. Department of Agriculture, and was engaged in making a working plan covering approximately 60,000 acres of forest in West Virginia for the U. S. Coal and Coke Company. When he entered the Forest Service in July, 1905, after passing the civil service examination, he was assigned to duty on what was then known as the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In September he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in Colorado as acting supervisor and in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests to establish administrative organizations. Following completion of his work there, he served as forest inspector in Washington, D. C., handling special assignments to the western States. When a regional office was set up at Missoula, Montana in 1908, he was made associate regional forester and became regional forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain Region on July 1, 1910, where he remained until he entered the World War in 1917.

He became Chief of the Forest Service at a time when the Service was launching a vastly expanded program of conservation work, including development and supervision of work projects for hundreds of CCC camps and thousands of relief workers. Under his leadership, the Forest Service was reorganized in 1935, in line with the expanded program.

His annual reports, outlining the future needs and programs of forestry in the United States, have attracted wide attention, a large portion of his 1939 report now in process of publication being given to a discussion of the privately owned forests and problems facing private owners as the major factors in the Nation's forest situation.

He is the author of a great number of articles dealing with forestry and industrial and labor relations of the printing industry, in trade and scientific journals and in popular publications.

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12-25-39

WE, THE PEOPLE

By Jay Franklin

Dec. 25/39

Syndicated

F. A. SILCOX

AS I was crossing Constitution Avenue on my way to the white marble Department of Agriculture, a tall figure waved to me. It was Death, so I stepped quickly and let the truck, which had almost run me down, thunder past.

I waved back at Death. He's an old acquaintance of mine by now and, though I hesitate to call him a friend, I've known those who welcome him.

Just then I was very much annoyed with Death. Within three successive days he had taken Heywood Broun, the lovely wife of a cousin of mine, and the Chief Forester of the United States—an old friend—who had come down with heart disease as an elm crashes in still weather, not as I would have liked him to go, as an oak struck by lightning in an equinoctial gale.



Jay Franklin

"What's the idea of taking Silcox?" I demanded, agrily. "What are you doing up here, anyhow? I thought you were busy in Finland and on the North Sea—not to mention Montevideo."

Death smiled rather grimly. "I find I can leave that to my self-appointed deputies," he said. "Who did you say? Silcox?"

"F. A. Silcox," I said, "Chief Forester of the United States—a Southerner, a liberal, a scholar and a gentleman."

DEATH SHOOK his head. "Can't say that I place your friend," he remarked. "I'm kept pretty busy, you know."

"Silcox," I repeated. "He's the man who made the CCC click, the man who settled the elevator strike in New York, the man who started the huge shelter-belt of trees out on the edge of the Great Plains, the man who turned down the offer of the job of Undersecretary of the Interior in order to hold the Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture."

"You must know Silcox," I continued. "He's been flirting with you for years, giving himself to his job long after the doctors warned him to go easy. Why," I argued, "Silcox is one of our great public servants."

"I've seen him in the tropical jungles of Puerto Rico, I've run across this trail in the lively little town of Missoula in Western Montana, down in the steamy pine-barrens of the Carolinas, out by the snowy peaks of Oregon and amid the dams and dynamos of the TVA. He fought for conservation when Taft was President. He kept down trouble with the IWWs in the Northwest during the first World War. He did a swell job in labor relations for the New York printing trades during the 1930s, and after his predecessor died of overwork, he took charge of the United States Forest Service in 1933, and gave the people of this country all he had until it killed him. He was a great man, the sort of man we build monuments to when we

hear about them. And you mean to say you don't know Silcox when he's staying with you right now?"

DEATH LOOKED embarrassed. "I ought to know him," he agreed, "but I can't quite place him. What does he look like?"

"He's a tall, lean, well-set man," I said, "with white hair, bright eyes, and a smile that you can't forget."

"You don't mean 'Sil' by any chance?" asked Death.

"That's it! Silcox or 'Sil,'" I agreed.

"Oh, Sil," said Death. "Sure! I know him well. I'm going to miss him, too. He didn't stay with me long, you know."

"Don't all your guests generally remain with you?" I inquired sarcastically.

"Not all and least of all Sil," Death told me. "And I wanted to have a talk with him, too, but I was called away to Buenos Aires to take charge of a brave German naval officer whose stupid Fuehrer had disgraced him, and by the time I got back, Sil had left."

"What's he doing now?" I asked.

"He was too vital to stay with me," said Death. "Now he's out timbercruising in the Garden of Eden to see if he can't cut away the weeds and vines from the Tree of Life."

(Copyright, 1939.)

MR. RANDALL

Copy 1

MR. PARKINSON

MR. LOVERIDGE

MR. CLAPP

MR. HAMMATT

MR. RACHFORD

MR. GRANGER

MR. FORSLING

MR. KNEIPP

MR. STERMAN

MR. COOK

MR. KEPLINGER

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Irrespective of the immediate considerations that may have motivated, this measure accords well with the conclusion of Forest Service that the tax loss, in the absence of some such measure, falls largely on the units. Texas is not the first State to take action of this kind, since Pennsylvania have for some time made partial recompense to their local losses resulting from acquisition of National Forests.

From
Jay
Franklin

F. A. SILCOX

(From Jay Franklin's syndicated column "We, The People")

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(Jay Franklin was a close personal friend of Mr. Silcox. -Ed.)

MORE ABOUT "FORGOTTEN MEN"

By C. B. Sutliff, R. 1

Jno. D. Guthrie's article, "CCC Foremen--Forgotten Men", which appeared in the December 11 issue of the Service Bulletin, is a commendable contribution in behalf of the cause of one group of men for whom the Forest Service is responsible. It should serve as a stimulus to action also in behalf of another group of Forest Service employees who, too, may well be classed as "Forgotten Men". Who are they? The fire guards and seasonal employees of the Forest Service; the very backbone of the forest protection organization; those men upon whom the Service invariably relies in times of emergency, be it fire, flood, insects or organization expansion to accommodate emergency relief work measures. Yes, they, the fire guards and seasonal workers, are the men upon whom the Service depends in emergencies and for jobs which require individual initiative, skill and dependability. Yet, when funds are low they are laid off without ceremony and the fruits of their labors go unsung or, occasionally, are accredited to others.

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, November 18, 1943(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Word on 1945 Budget Allowances Expected Last Week in November

The hearings before the Budget Bureau on the Department Estimates for the fiscal year 1945 have recently been completed and it is anticipated that the Director of the Budget will inform the Secretary and the War Food Administrator of the President's budget allowances during the last week of November. Within two days after the bureaus are advised of the President's determinations, the head of each bureau must submit to the Department a brief statement of the effects of any changes made in the Department Estimates, including changes in appropriation language. When such allowances are received, they must be treated as strictly confidential until the Budget is officially transmitted to Congress by the President. This will probably be just after the beginning of the new year.

Signal Corps To Produce Fire Training Film

Word has been received from the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, War Department, that the Signal Corps Photographic Production Branch has arranged for the production of a fire training film for the purpose of training soldiers in forest fire prevention and suppression.

WFFP Campaign - 1944

The 1944 Wartime Forest Fire Prevention campaign has received enthusiastic approval by the Secretary's Office and the Office of War Information, as well as by the Forest Service. The basic design for the 1944 campaign consists of the head and shoulders of a forest ranger whose face is lighted by reflection from the flaming words "Prevent Forest Fires." The tag line, as finally approved by the OWI, is "Greater Danger Than Ever."

This ranger design will be reproduced as a 24-sheet poster and a car or window card, both in 4 colors; and as a fire rules card in 2 colors. Rearranged, it will also be reproduced as a 4-color 20x28" poster, as a 2-color 3x5" envelope stuffer, as a colored "decals" for use on bus, automobile and other windows, and as a stamp about 1x1½" in size.

In addition to the poster just mentioned, Walt Disney has donated an exceedingly attractive 4-color poster showing Bambi, Thumper, and Flower pleading, "Please, Mister, Don't Be Careless - Prevent Forest Fires."

There will also be a new movie trailer, new radio platters, 6 new sponsored newspaper advertisements, a reprint of 4 "How To Do It" posters, etc.

The campaign material was planned by the Foote Cone and Belding Advertising Agency of Los Angeles, acting as Task Force for the War Advertising Council. Besides producing both plan and copy, this concern is also responsible for the art work.

Annual Calibration of Fuel Moisture Sticks

G. L. Hayes of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station writes: "We are now supplying over 540 sets of fuel moisture sticks annually to fire danger stations throughout Regions 7 and 8. They go to Forest Service, National Park Service, State, Private, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Army stations. We have to prepare, weather, and calibrate about 2,000 individual sticks annually to provide, after normal culling, the more than 540 sets of three sticks each that are issued."

(Over)

Honor Awards for Department Employees Planned (Confidential In-Service)

Mr. Watts has been appointed by the Secretary as member of a Departmental committee to develop a plan for honor awards for Department employees. The W. O. Clerical Staff, who have been requested to assist in this project are now holding conferences of a cross section of W. O. employees and field officers in the W. O. on detail to secure their ideas on qualifications for awards, types of awards, and just how such a plan might best operate. Discussions have been held with representative groups of clerical employees, section heads, and junior administrators, and meetings will be held with representative division chiefs and assistant chiefs shortly. The Secretary has requested that the Departmental committee submit its plan by January 1.

To Attend State Foresters Meeting

David Godwin and Dick Hammatt of the W. O. are attending a meeting of the State Foresters in Region 7 in Philadelphia today. Mr. Godwin will discuss with the group the new equipment development project and the Forest Fire Fighters program for the coming season. Mr. Hammatt will describe the 1944 Wartime Forest Fire Prevention Campaign.

Ship To Be Named for Mr. Silcox

The Maritime Commission announces that one of the Liberty Ships being constructed in the Permanente Metals Corporation shipyards at Richmond, California, will be named the "Ferdinand A. Silcox" in honor of the late Chief of the Forest Service. Launching date will be announced later. (California Region Administrative Digest, November 10)

News from the Front

A forester in the military service writes:

My present residence is somewhere in North Africa. There appears to be a gap and apparently a considerable one in my career as a Forest Officer. Personal sacrifice is a no more noble term for me than any Forest officer who is staying at home doing his job and contributing to forestry progress. I feel my contribution is worthwhile. But my hopes and dreams, as all others, lie with my profession and the day I can return to it.

Life over here is rugged beyond any reasonable doubt, but I find my background in improvising and getting along with your fellowmen of immensurable value to me. There is something good in anything bad.

Sincerely trust everything is well with you and the Forest Service. Personally my figure has leaned down and I have a hungry look but I'm well and happy.

No More Playing Cards Available before Christmas

An order has just been placed for more than 200 decks of the green playing cards with the gold FS shield on the back, which were made available to the field personnel as announced in the "Digest" of November 6. It will take about two weeks to fill this order, and the cards will be mailed as soon as received. The printer advises us that due to conditions beyond his control he can accept no further orders until after Christmas. Consequently, all orders and money received after November 18 will be held by us for purchase of cards after Christmas, unless otherwise advised.

4/29/40

It is natural that many men in the Service are thinking of ways in which to do honor to the memory of Mr. Silcox. Among others, the Regional Forester of Region 2 has wished to have the services of our late Chief in organizing what are now the Montezuma and San Juan Forests in the winter of 1905-6 commemorated by naming for him some prominent feature in those National Forests. His first proposal was to change an unsatisfactory name for a mountain to Mt. Silcox. This name, however, has been preempted by thirty years of map usage, Forest Service, Corps of Engineers U.S.A., and Geological Survey, for a prominent peak in the Cabinet Forest, overlooking the valley of the Clark Fork and used as a triangulation station and as a lookout. The Acting Chief has therefore decided, with the concurrence of all Assistant Chiefs who were in Washington at the time, that it is best not to attempt to name another mountain for Mr. Silcox and that the naming of additional geographic features in his honor should be confined to some other feature or features than mountains.

Mt. Silcox in the Cabinet National Forest, Montana, has an elevation of 6,855 feet and is located about 4 miles northeast of Thompson Falls, the headquarters of that National Forest. The name appears on the Forest Atlas sheet for this portion of the National Forest published in 1909 and it has appeared on all administrative maps of the Cabinet Forest since that time. It also appears on the Thompson Falls quadrangle sheet published by the Geological Survey in 1937. Its use as a triangulation point has led to the accurate determination of its location as Latitude $47^{\circ}38'.89''$, Longitude $115^{\circ}16'49.90''$.

MEMORIAL TO SILCOX IS STARTED ON MOUNT NAMED FOR HIM

Preliminary work on a memorial to Ferdinand A. Silcox, former Chief of the Forest Service, has been started on Mount Silcox in the Cabinet National Forest, Montana, according to Daniel F. McGowan, chairman of the memorial committee. The time and place of dedicatory ceremonies will be announced when the memorial is completed and final arrangements made.

R9 DC 6-12

TWO MORE R-9 MEN TO GO TO THE ARMY ARE GEORGE M. LANG, JUNIOR FORESTER AT CAMP F-14 ON THE CHIPPEWA, AND EDGAR OTTO ROGERS, SQUAD FOREMAN OF LABORERS AT CAMP F-24 ON THE MARK TWAIN.

Latest R-9 men to go to the Army are George M. Lang, junior forester at Camp F-14 on the Chippewa, and Edgar Otto Rogers, squad foreman of laborers at Camp F-24 on the Mark Twain.

R. O. ENGINEER WORKS ON SUPERIOR FOR SEVERAL WEEKS

Because of the illness of Quentin J. Meeuwsen, engineer on the Superior, who is not expected back on the job for six or eight weeks, Francis D. McGuire, R. O. engineer, left for the Superior Monday to assist in getting work underway on two or three major projects. These include the Prairie Portage Dam on the International Boundary, the McDougal Lake Dam, and possibly the layout of the Ely seaplane base on Shagawa Lake.

HERE'S ONE FOR THE DIRECTORY

The Paul S. Newcombs, recently returned to Region 9 from New England, will establish their home sweet home at 7723 Stickney, Wauwatosa, shortly after the middle of this month.

VITAMIN B-1 IS FED TO PLANTS THROUGH TREATED STICKS

Science News Letter of June 7 says that vitamin B-1 is conveniently supplied to plants by sticks of green wood, impregnated with the vitamin. These are thrust into the soil close to the roots. Every time the plant is watered, the vitamin is released.

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FOREST SERVICE

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THE PERMANENTE METALS CORPN.
Shipyard Number One
Richmond, California

NOV 27 1943

November 9, 1943

Mr. S. B. Show, Regional Forester
Forest Service
760 Market Street
San Francisco 2, California

RECEIVED—U. S. F. S.
OPERATION
PROCUREMENT
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Dear Sir:

This will answer your letter of November 5 requesting information on the Liberty ship "Ferdinand A. Silcox".

The keel for the Silcox was laid on October 18 at 11:15 p.m., was launched October 28th and has been delivered. Mrs. Donald Stivers, wife of the Marine Machinist Superintendent, sponsored the boat.

We are sorry that the information on this ship comes at such a late time, but we were not aware of your interest in the vessel.

Sincerely,

PERMANENTE METALS CORP.,
KAISER COMPANY INC.,
KAISER CARGO INC.,
SHIPYARDS AT RICHMOND.

/s/Norris Nash
Director of Public Relations

RECEIVED U.S.F.S.
NOV 27 1943
INFORMATION AND
EDUCATION