Silcox Is Dead; Chief of Federal Forest Service

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 Had 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 2,600,000,000 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.

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In order to study forestry at Yale University, 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 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 attempt 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 Gamma Sigma, and the Cosmos Club of Washington.

Surviving is his wife, the former Miss Marie Louise Thatcher, of Charleston, S. C.

**Ernesto Begni del Piatta**
THE Federal Government and the National Federation of Federal Employees both have sustained a heavy loss in the untimely death of Ferdinand A. Silcox, chief of the U. S. Forest Service. He was a long-time member of Local Union No. 2, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Silcox was representative of the highest type of public employee. His singleness of purpose, his devotion to duty, his technical and administrative ability were combined with a personality and a character which endeared him to the hearts of his friends and associates everywhere.

Since its inception, the Forest Service has had within its ranks a remarkable number of outstanding men and women who have been distinguished, among many other things, by a deep and abiding love for their work and their Service.

For all of this Ferdinand Silcox will long be remembered.
A Tribute to F. S. Silcox

Of F. S. Silcox, chief United States forester, Lyle Watts, regional forester, says:

In the passing of Chief Forester Silcox the Pacific Northwest lost a real champion. It was his ambition to help work out a system of orderly liquidation of the remaining virgin timber in this region. Sustained industrial support of the communities and permanent employment for labor was his objective. To Silcox, forests were not merely trees to be made into boards or pulp. To him, forests were opportunity for labor to work at good wages, a place to play and to help maintain good schools and roads—a means to a fuller life for the people of the forest region.

It is tribute, simple, sincere, deserved.

IN MEMORIAM

The National Nature News has lost a loyal friend and generous supporter in the death, just before Christmas, of Dr. F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forestry Service, Department of Agriculture. He has left behind living monuments all over the United States—beautiful forests and plans for their care and preservation—which will give pleasure and profit not only for us but for many generations to come. Nature lovers can show their appreciation of his work by continuing the planting and preservation of trees. And could a finer memorial be erected to the man who spent his life in their service.

"Dominion Over Palm and Pine"

Death removes, the chief of the United States Forest Service, F. A. Silcox, who presided over 170,000,000 acres of forest lands.

The military strength of nations is related closely to their possession of timber. Mr. Silcox held an office that is far more important than the average man believes it. He was earnest in his work, intensely interested.

Under the hand of the Department of Agriculture, he held dominion over palm and pine.
FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX

By Earle H. Clapp

"His work as Chief Forester has been magnificent. He has been the man of the hour, successful as a leader on account of his high intelligence, executive ability, ideals, and courage. I join the great group which mourns his death." — From a letter by Henry S. Graves.

"F. A. Silcox, Chief of the United States Forest Service since 1933, was the very paragon of a public servant. . . . he never demeaned his service as a Government official by regarding it merely as a means of livelihood or as a stepping stone . . . that meant the abandonment, even in part, of the task of saving America's dwindling forests. To that task he had consecrated himself. And he performed it with high devotion and unflagging energy."
—From an editorial in the Washington Post.

"He believed that the forests should be used but objected to their being wasted. . . . with his own eyes he had seen the havoc which a merciless policy can effect. A moral indignation rose in his soul, and he launched a campaign of correction whose results already are apparent.

"But Major Silcox was never a fanatic. If on occasion he 'laid down the law' . . . he took pains to be certain that he was right before he spoke. . . . He was an American who could ill be spared in an age when vision and a genius for achievement are wanted."
—From the Washington Star.

These are sincere tributes, and deserved ones, but among my most precious memories of our late Chief are the passionate interest he had in the human side of forestry, and his fearlessness.

Among his other qualities Sil was a technician. He knew how to work with land, and forage, and trees. But he was never blinded by them, as too many technicians too often are. He never considered them an end in themselves. "As trustees," he said in his 1937 Christmas message to all of us, "we must manage the Nation's forests so they may become tools — and better tools — in the service of mankind."
No one can forget Mr. Silcox's personality, the genuine interest he had in people; his kindly and helpful and realistic understanding of everyday problems; the capacity he had for winning and holding loyalty and enthusiasm; his innate fairness. These were qualities that endeared him to all who worked with and for him. But Mr. Silcox's determination to get and face the facts, his fearlessness in stating them, and his ability to do so with such fairness and dignity as to win respect in low places and in high ones: — this is a precious heritage left to us by a beloved Chief.

My hope is that the Forest Service will guard and cherish this heritage; that it will guide us, as public servants, so that we may be wholly worthy of the high trust that is ours.

THIRTY YEARS OF TREE GROWTH RECORDS


Thirty years ago I established some permanent sample plots in a 54-year-old stand on the Umpqua, later Cascade, and now Willamette National Forest. Recently I had the interesting experience of joining in the remeasurement of these plots. In 1910 I journeyed to them from Portland by train, horseback, rowboat, and on foot. This year I went to them in a fraction of the time by automobile.

The three plots are located in a representative even-aged stand of pure Douglas fir, several thousand acres in extent, that followed a fire which wiped out the virgin forest about 85 years ago. The land is Site Quality II, which means a little better than average for the region at large. The natural stocking was not particularly dense, partly because of a fire that thinned out the stand when it was about 35 years old.

In the 30 seasons when the forest has grown from 54 to 84 years of age there have been many changes. The number of living trees per acre has dropped in the struggle for existence from 197 to 120. The survivors have made good growth; the biggest tree then was 24.8 inches in diameter, now 31.3. The diameter of the dominant and codominant trees has increased from 18.7 to 22.3 inches. The average volume per acre has jumped from 33,367 to 71,585 board feet, Scribner rule, which indicates a growth rate for the period of 1,274 feet, board measure, gross scale per acre per year.

Though understocked in 1910 in relation to the "normal" yield tables (published in U.S.D.A. Tech. Bul. 201) this forest has gradually approached normality according to predictions and already one of the plots is practically 100 percent "normal" in basal area and volume.

This forest has had its share of battles with the elements and disease. A fire in the early nineties, an ice storm in 1888, a colony of bark-beetles the last 7 or 8 years, and now some fungi have all taken their toll. But in spite of these inevitable ravages the forest has made to date a mean annual growth per acre of 161 cubic feet or 852 board feet, Scribner rule. Moreover, the mean annual increment is still increasing.
Characterizations

From editorial in Washington Post, Dec. 21:

A man of fine presence, keen intelligence and superb technical competence, he never demeaned his service as a government official by regarding it merely as a means of livelihood or a stepping stone to greater material rewards outside. Private avenues of preferment constantly beckoned to him. During the postwar years, as well as during his earlied days in the forest service, he had proved himself to be a man of unusual administrative ability, with a remarkable capacity for winning the loyalty and enthusiastic cooperation of his subordinates.

From Yale Forest School News

Ferdinand Silcox had many qualities which commanded the respect and affection of his associates. Of these traits that of loyalty comes first. Silcox was true to his ideals and gave his entire energy and ability to carrying out faithfully the policies of the organizations which he served, both public and private. No one was ever in doubt as to his sincerity or purpose, or needed to waste any time looking for inferior motives. His second outstanding trait was his humanity. Early in his experience he learned that even the most ignorant and prejudiced men respond to fair treatment, and he made this principle the basis of his successful contacts with the I.W.W. and later with the printing trades.

Silcox had a brilliant mind, keen power of analysis, extraordinary grasp of detail and an unusual memory. He had high ideals of public service. He was also a realist, fully appreciating the obstacles to rapid achievement of his objectives. His interests were broad. He had unlimited courage, without a trace of self-interest. He was a man of great personal charm. He was widely admired and respected for his abilities and achievements.
WASHINGTON, D.C., POST
December 21, 1939

A Great Public Servant

F. A. Silcox, chief of the United States Forest Service since 1933, was the very paragon of a public servant.

A man of fine presence, keen intelligence and superb technical competence, he never demeaned his service as a Government official by regarding it merely as a means of livelihood or as a stepping stone to greater material rewards outside. Private avenues of preferment constantly beckoned to him. During the postwar years, as well as during his earlier days in the Forest Service, he had proved himself to be a man of unusual administrative ability with a remarkable capacity for winning the loyalty and enthusiastic cooperation of his subordinates.

But Mr. Silcox refused to be lured away from his professional career. He was equally uninterested, as his refusal recently to accept the post of Undersecretary of the Interior indicates, in offers of higher administrative posts in the Government if that meant the abandonment, even in part, of the task of saving America's dwindling forests. To that task he had consecrated himself. And he performed it with high devotion and unflagging energy.

The Nation, the Government and a host of friends in Washington and throughout the country are poorer for his untimely passing.
OBITUARY

FERDINAND AUGUSTUS SILCOX 1882-1939

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox, chief forester of the U. S. Forest Service, died at his home in Alexandria, Virginia, on December 20, 1939. The country has lost one of its most distinguished foresters and one of its ablest public servants.

Mr. Silcox was one of the first southerners to enter the profession of forestry. He was born in Columbus, Georgia, and received his undergraduate training in the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He completed graduate work at the Yale School of Forestry in 1905, and was immediately given an appointment in the Forest Service. That was the year in which the administration of the National Forests was placed in the Department of Agriculture under Gifford Pinchot.

The progressive withdrawal of forest lands from the public domain as permanent reservations was still under way. Mr. Pinchot had only begun the organization of the National Forest units and development of an effective system of protection and management. Silcox was thus one of the pioneers in National Forest work. He rose rapidly from the positions of field assistant and forest ranger to that of assistant district forester in the northern Rocky Mountain region. In 1911 he was appointed district forester, succeeding William B. Greeley, who later became chief forester of the Forest Service.

The constructive activities and influence of Silcox were of great importance in the evolution of policies and management of the public forests under his charge. He rendered valuable service in administrative organization, skilful management of forest labor, systematic fire control, development of forestry practice in timber sales, regulation of grazing, fighting fraud in application of mining laws and in previously established homestead claims, and meeting many other problems that in those days were in the early stage of solution.

At the time Silcox was district forester there was trouble in the lumber camps through the activities of the I. W. W. At one time during a very dry season when hundreds of men were needed in the suppression of fires in the forests, the workers refused to fight fire. Through skilful negotiation with labor leaders Silcox secured the cooperation of the I. W. W. to aid in protecting the public forests. This incident is important because it called attention to his ability in labor matters and was doubtless a factor in his assignments during the war. He was commissioned captain in the 26th Engineers and later promoted to the rank of major. Under joint action of the Department of Labor and the Shipping Board he was delegated to handle labor relations in the Seattle shipyards and in spruce production for airplanes. After 1919 he served as director of industrial relations for the Typothetae of America, and occupied a similar position for the New York Employing Printers' Association. While working for the latter he organized
a system of apprentice schools in which he took great pride.

Silcox was appointed chief forester in 1933. His early experiences in the Forest Service and subsequent activities in labor relations counted large in his success in his new position. They were a foundation for his keen appreciation of the social aspects of the forestry problem. A major objective of forestry is to ensure sustained production of forests that will provide employment through industrial activities in forest and mill and thereby a stable support of local communities. Silcox has given special emphasis to this problem in his national program of forestry. In the recent expansion of public activities in forestry, he demonstrated great ability as an organizer, executive and personal leader. He was awarded the honorary degree of LL.D. by the College of Charleston and by the University of Syracuse for his distinguished achievements.

Silcox had a brilliant mind, keen power of analysis, extraordinary grasp of detail and an unusual memory. He had high ideals of public service which were reflected throughout his organization. He was also a realist, fully appreciating the obstacles to rapid achievement of his objectives.

His interests were broad, and he was very well read. He had unlimited courage, without a trace of self-interest. He was a man of great personal charm. He was widely admired and respected for his abilities and achievements. He had the affectionate regard of a host of friends who were attached to him through his personal qualities and who deeply mourn his death.

HENRY S. GRAVES

New Haven, Conn.
December 27, 1939
Ferdinand A. Silcox --- Early life

Born in Columbus, Georgia, in 1882. Received 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 FS as a ranger in Colorado the same year and was assigned to duty on the Leadville NF. Shortly thereafter he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross NF and later was transferred in the same capacity to the San Juan and Montezuma NFs, 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 Mt. Region, remaining there until 1917.

Mr. Silcox was one of the first southerners to enter profession of Forestry. He graduated from Yale 1905, the same year in which the administration of the NFs was placed in the Department of Agriculture under Gifford Pinchot. The progressive withdrawal of forest lands from the public domain as permanent reservations was still under way. Mr. Pinchot had only begun the organization of the National Forest units and development of an effective system of protection and management. Silcox was thus one of the pioneers in NF work. He rose rapidly from the positions of field assistant and forest ranger to that of assistant district forester in the northern Rocky Mountain region. In 1911 he was appointed district forester succeeding W.B. Greeley, who later became chief forester of the Forest Service.

The constructive activities and influence of Silcox were of great importance in the evolution of policies and management of the public forests under his charge. He rendered valuable service in administrative organization, skilful management of forest labor, systematic fire control, development of forestry practice in timber sales, regulation of grazing, fighting fraud in application of mining laws and in previously established homestead claims, and meeting many other problems that in those days were in the early stage of solution.

In his early days, he had many times set a dated chunk of wood in the stoves of cabins which were sworn to be in use for proving homestead claims—and taken them out a year later still unburned. And even such evidence as this had failed to stop the grabs.

He received his BS in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology.

The summer prior to his graduation from Yale, Mr. Silcox worked as a forest student assistant in the Bureau of Forestry of the DA, 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 US FS 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 CO. In September of that year he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest in Colorado as acting supervisor and early in January of the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma NF in CO, to set up administrative organizations.

After the completion of his work he served as a Forest Inspector in Washington, 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 district forester for the Northern Rocky Mountain region on July 1, 1911, which position he held until 1917.

Shortly after the turn of the century, when the US Government was first beginning to interest itself in the preservation of the country's forests, a young citizen of Charleston, S.C. planned to let Johns Hopkins make him an industrial chemist. He lay in the warm sun of Sullivans Island, where Charleston does its swimming, trying to forget a dissection room he had left at the College of Charleston not long before when he decided not to become a physician.
Early Life

He carelessly ran through a dog-eared copy of the Saturday Evening Post and, thoughtlessly at first, began to read an article on the conservation of trees and the new ambitions of the #Government, a discussion written by Rene Bosche. His indolence gradually left as he read on. The article managed to substitute an imagined smell of pine needles for the lingering odor of the classroom and turned a stripling from chemistry to forestry.

Travel, open air, excitement—they seemed far more desirable than a sedentary, closed-in fusing with test tubes.

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In 1910 became Regional Forester of the Northern Rocky Mt. National Forest Region, in charge of all activities on some 26 million acres of national forest land in Montana, Northeastern Washington, and Northern Idaho.

He was appointed district forester (in Rocky Mt region) July 1, 1911, and held position until 1917.

He was a member of Phi Dappa Sigma.

He was married March 4, 1908, Charleston, SC, to Miss Marie Thatcher of Charleston, SC.

1905 assigned to Leadville Forest in Colorado. Worked 3 months as ranger, forest assistant, and somewhat in the capacity of supervisor. The organization at that time had not crystallized and one man had charge of the Pkid, Leadville and Holy Cross forests from Denver. In Sept., 1905 was placed in charge of the Holy Cross Forest as acting super. This forest was center of bitter opposition to the FS and it was here that the famous Fair Light case first came up. Was then sent to the San Juan and Montezuma with headquarters at Durango to get the administration under way. These forests included together about 3,000,000 acres, and when I arrived in early January, 1906 nothing had been done. Stayed until April then sent to Montana. Stayed two weeks was called to D C to serve in the capacity of district forester for District 1. Under old scheme was in no way similar to present position. Was an assignment to handle general omnibus letters for signature of DC office administration officers. Left DC as assistant forest inspector went to New Mexico to look over the Portales with the result # of eliminating the entire forest. Came back to Montana in spring of 1907 as first forest inspector and put the administration on the newly created cabinet. Worked up the plan of redistricting the forests in Montana and # Idaho. From 1907 to December, 1908, was a general inspection officer. With the creation of the district office at Missoula for District 1, I was appointed assistant district forester, which title was changed later to associate district forester upon district forester WB Greely being called into Washington as assistant forester. Was made district forester July 1, 1911.

A member of Society of American Foresters.

He is blessed—or cursed—with the fire of a crusader. Since the WW he has been away form this first love his, giving his time instead to the solution of labor problems... However, it was his work in the FS which qualified him for the labor field. When, during the spring of 1917, the IWW element threatened to destroy the forests of Montana by fire, Mr. Silcox was District Forester in charge of the 26,000,000 acres of timbered land in that state and the panhandle of Idaho. In his office in Missoula, he talked turkey to the IWW leaders, meeting them as men and not as nuisances, listening to their complaints and forcing the private lumber interests to listen, too... The IWW army went back to the woods.

He became a senior member of the Society of American Foresters in 1907.
the public forests. This incident is important because it called attention to his ability in labor matters and was doubtless a factor in his assignments during the war.

Born Christmas day 1882

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Be sure to check New Republic article in war & labor folder

Dan Dibble
FERDINAND A. SILCOX

Word of the untimely passing of Chief Forester Ferdinand A. Silcox came to the Region this morning as a profound shock. Mr. Silcox would have been 57 years of age on Christmas Day. No definite information as to the immediate cause of his death was received. It is known, however, that he has suffered from coronary thrombosis.

Mr. Silcox was born in Columbus, Georgia, on December 25, 1882. He was a graduate from the Yale School of Forestry with the degree of M.F. He also had a B.S. degree from the College of Charleston, S.C.

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 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 as acting supervisor and early in January of the next year he went to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests in Colorado to set up administrative organizations. After the completion of this work he served as forest inspector in Washington, D.C., handling special assignments to western states. When a district office was set up 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, 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 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, 1935, 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 was a fellow in the Society of American Foresters, a member of Phi Kappa Sigma, and had served on the National Forest Policy Commission.

An expression of deep sympathy and sincere regret has been forwarded to Mrs. Silcox from the personnel of the Intermountain Region.
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.
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.
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 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.
Word of the untimely passing of Chief Forester Ferdinand A. Silcox came to the Region this morning as a profound shock. Mr. Silcox would have been 57 years of age on Christmas Day. No definite information as to the immediate cause of his death was received. It is known, however, that he has suffered from coronary thrombosis.

Mr. Silcox was born in Columbus, Georgia, on December 25, 1882. He was a graduate from the Yale School of Forestry with the degree of M.F. He also had a B.S. degree from the College of Charleston, S.C.

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 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 as acting supervisor and early in January of the next year he went to the San Juan and Montezuma National Forests in Colorado to set up administrative organizations. After the completion of this work he served as forest inspector in Washington, D.C., handling special assignments to western states. When a district office was set up 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, 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 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 was a fellow in the Society of American Foresters, a member of Phi Kappa Sigma, and had served on the National Forest Policy Commission.

An expression of deep sympathy and sincere regret has been forwarded to Mrs. Silcox from the personnel of the Intermountain Region.
Under this title, Rene Bache, free lance writer with a flair for conservation, published, in the Saturday Evening Post of February 9, 1901, an article on "the new ambitions of the Government." This was in the time of Gifford Pinchot, then Chief of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture. It was also in the beginning of the time of Ferdinand Augustus Silcox, recently appointed U. S. Forester to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Robert Young Stuart.

The poet has said -- "There is a divinity that shapes our ends, rough-hew them as we may." And something of the kind seems to have entered into the accidental reading of Bache's article by the young Silcox, in search of a career. As has been told you, Silcox was headed for the profession of industrial chemistry through Johns Hopkins, when the reading of "Forestry, the New Profession," turned his footsteps in that direction through Yale Forest School.

A rereading of the pioneer view of forest conservation is timely since it describes one end of a bridge which leads to the immediate/present. It can be given only in part:

"To the young man freshly provided with an education who is puzzled as to how to utilize it, a new profession offers itself, possessing the advantages of good pay, healthfulness, and a variety of work, and a demand far exceeding the supply of persons available for service. It is the occupation of forestry, which is beginning to assume a remarkable development in this country, owing to an awakening of the people to the fact that the forested areas of the country are a great source of present and future wealth and that their preservation is a vital necessity. ..............
"The Government work has hardly more than begun, but is national growing fast. There are nearly 50,000,000 acres of forest reserves in this country, and for their conservative management Uncle Sam's Forest Bureau is making working plans. The States are taking a most active interest in the matter, especially New York, in whose behalf the Bureau is preparing working plans for about 1,250,000 acres. In addition, the Bureau has applications for similar working plans for 2,500,000 acres belonging to private owners. .......

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"THE GROWING DEMAND" While other occupations, and particularly the professions, are desperately crowded, there is such a lack of foresters that there is no prospect of supplying the demand for a long time to come. They cannot be obtained because they are not to be found in this country. The Forest Bureau in Washington now has in its employ every expert of this kind in the United States, barring perhaps half a dozen, and is looking vainly for more. The force now available has work ahead of it, already outlined, which would fully occupy it for fifty years to come. ............

"There is a chance for a good many to learn the business under Government auspices, but it ought to be explained at the start that only college graduates are accepted as pupils by the Forest Bureau in Washington. This Bureau is a division of the Department of Agriculture, and the head of it is Gifford Pinchot, who, aided by other members of his family, recently secured by endowment the establishment of a forest school at Yale University. Any young man who will go
through that school, the course at which requires two years, may count with reasonable certainty on getting regular employment in the Forest Bureau. ........

"For a young man of the right sort there is some prospect of obtaining employment with the Forest Bureau without going through the school as a preliminary. He should write to Mr. Pinchot, making his application, and in reply he will receive a blank, which he is to fill out, telling all about himself and what his training has been. Under ordinary circumstances he will stand about one chance in five of being accepted. Should he be fortunate, he will be assigned to a field party — probably in Tennessee, or Washington State, or South Dakota — and will be instructed to proceed to his destination direct, reporting in camp. He will be required to pay his own traveling expenses.

"From the time of his appointment, he ranks as a "student assistant" in the Forest Bureau, and it is understood that he is in the field for the purpose of rendering what service he can to the party, while acquiring the rudiments of the art of forestry. It is experience of the most practical kind, and only in such a way can the beginners find out what forestry actually is. He gets twenty-five dollars a month and pays his own traveling expenses when he goes home at the end of the season. But if he is a capable fellow, he has a fair chance of being taken to Washington for the winter and kept on the payroll, in which case Uncle Sam will probably but his railroad ticket. ........ Each young man costs the Government about forty dollars a month while in the field, including expenses for the transfer of the parties from one place to another. ......
"When a young man goes to the forest school at Yale - altogether the best way to begin - he devotes the first year of the course to learning about the life of the forest, the ways in which to study it, the art of making forest measurements, and how to carry on the routine work of the forester. Also, he perfects himself in auxiliary studies, such as those of soils, botany, and physical geography, which have an important relation to trees. In the second year, he studies the application of all these things to the practical handling of forest lands and the making of working plans for conservative lumbering. .................

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OUR NATIONAL FORESTS

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For HAPPY DAYS

OUR NATIONAL FORESTS

Forest Service Forefathers: Ferdinand Augustus Silcox.

And now the serial is running in current numbers and Ferdinand Augustus Silcox is the forester of the hour. He is the first southerner to hold this position. He graduated in 1903 from the College of Charleston (S. C.), receiving the degree of B. Sc., with honors in chemistry and sociology. He had planned to let Johns Hopkins make of him an industrial chemist when a dog-eared copy of the SATURDAY EVENING POST of February 9, 1901, was put into his hand with the suggestion that an article by Rene Bache, that same "Forestry, the New Profession" featured in story No. ______ of OUR NATIONAL FORESTS, made him take an entirely different direction that led to Yale Forest School. So, back in the time of the first of the Forest Service Forefathers, a youth was falling into line, who was, in the fullness of time to become the heir to forestry leadership in this country.

Like Greeley, Stuart, and it was but a step for Silcox from Yale Forest School to the U. S. Forest Service, which he entered the year before his graduation as a forest student, where he 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 on the Leadville National Forest in Colorado.
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Shortly after the entrance of the United States into the World War, Forester Silcox joined the 20th Engineers (Foresters) of the American Expeditionary Force, with a captain's commission. After less than a year's service in the A. E. F., he was selected by the Secretary of Labor of President Wilson's Cabinet, and the Shipping Board to head a Bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards at Seattle, Wash.

After 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 18, 1933, he left the latter position to reenter the Forest Service as Chief Forester, succeeding Robert Young Stuart. Of the Chief Forester, a special writer for the Sunday Star of November 26, 1933, has this to say:

Before him lies the tremendous task of making worth while the labor of 310,000 men in the Civilian Conservation Corps. Ahead of him also is the duty of checking the ever-increasing fire danger which every dry season manages to destroy more timber than rides down the spring drives to the sawmills. He must somehow recover the denuded watersheds of all rivers to steal from that giant's annual turbulence in the South. He must win from Congress a larger and still larger budget if half the things
which he believes should be done are ever to be completed. Not that these tasks can conceivably be completed in our time of our children's time, but every year the expenditures must increase to offset the constant whittling away of this Nation's timber reserves.

"He (Silcox) is blessed—or cursed—with the fire of a crusader. Since the World War he has been away from this first love of his, giving his time instead to the solution of labor problems. However it was his work in the Forest Service which qualified him for the labor field. When, during the spring of 1917, the I. W. W. element threatened to destroy the forests of Montana by fire, Mr. Silcox was District Forester in charge of the 26,000,000 acres of timbered land in that State and the panhandle of Idaho. In his office in Missoula, he talked turkey to the I. W. W. leaders, meeting them as men and not as nuisances, listening to their complaints and forcing the private lumber interests to listen too. Most of the demands were met and the I. W. W. army went back to the woods.

Shortly after that, the shipyards in Seattle, working day and night to turn out ships for the war-time need, reported that Communism was making construction impossible. The Shipping Board and the Labor Department borrowed Captain Silcox and sent him out there. He and the men who were associated with him found that the so-called communistic spirit was merely a protest against the slipshod methods of the shipyards. Again Silcox met the laborers in a friendly spirit, and again everything was fixed up.

When the war was over, the printing trades stole him from the forests. For 15 years he has been an employers' representative dealing with labor, yet when he resigned a few weeks ago, every printing trades union in New York City went him a letter deploring his departure because of the fairness he had shown.

But his first love proved strongest. He has raised an idealistic banner, he has planned a program he knows can not be finished in his time, and he has set out once more to save the forests for America."
Mr. Silcox is telling the world that forestry looks beyond the trees. It looks to increased and steadied employment, to stabilized industries and communities, to social and economic betterment, locally and nationally.

With this vision, forestry should continue to make important advances under the leadership of its fifth and present Chief Forester.

(To be continued)
For HAPPY DAYS

OUR NATIONAL FORESTS

XLVIII  Forest Service Forefathers: Ferdinand Augustus Silcox

By Charles E. Randels

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How well and how energetically Chief Forester Silcox is attacking this
problem of saving the forests for America we have already had ample
opportunity to see. In the last year, the Forest Service has secured a
large and important share of the CCC program, it has employed
additional thousands under public work allotments on the National Forests.
I have extended the National Forest system on the coast by some four million
acres, it has set up machinery to aid the lumber industry in carrying out
its pledge to extend conservation practices to millions of acres of private forest land.
Ferdinand A. Silcox

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox was born December 25, 1882, in Columbus, Ga., the son of Ferdinand Augustus Silcox, president of the Charleston Cotton Mills, and Carrie Olivia (Spear) Silcox. His father was of English descent and his mother of Dutch and French origin.

He was prepared at the Charleston High School and received the degree of B.S. at the College of Charleston, S. C., in 1903 with honors in chemistry and sociology. He was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma.

He was married March 4, 1908, in Charleston, S. C., to Miss Marie Louise Thatcher of Charleston, S. C.

Silcox is a district forest in charge of District I, with headquarters at Missoula, Mont. He writes: "During summer of 1904 I worked in West Virginia making a working plan under Ralph Hawley for the U.S. Coal & Coke Company, approximately 60,000 acres. Passed civil service exams in 1905 and was assigned to the Leadville Forest in Colorado. For three months I worked as ranger, forest assistant, and somewhat in the capacity of supervisor. The organization at that time had not crystallized and one man had charge of the Pike, Leadville and Holy Cross forests from Denver. In September, 1905, I was placed in charge of the Holy Cross Forest as acting supervisor to establish administration and get things going. This forest
was the center of bitter opposition to the Service and it was here that the famous Fred Light case first came up. After getting things under way I was sent to the San Juan and Montezuma with headquarters at Durango to get the administration under way. These forests included together about 3,000,000 acres, and when I arrived in early January, 1906, nothing had been done. I stayed until April and was then sent to Montana with Mr. E. A. Sherman. I stayed two weeks and was called to Washington to serve in the capacity of district forester for District 1. This under the old scheme was in no way similar to the present position. It was an assignment to handle general omnibus letters for signature of Washington office administration officers. Left Washington as assistant forest inspector and went to New Mexico to look over the Portales with the result of eliminating the entire forest. Came back to Montana in the spring of 1907 as forest inspector and put the administration on the newly created cabinet. With Redington, Class of 1904, worked up the plan of redistricting the forests in Montana and Idaho. From 1907 to December 1, 1908, was a general inspection officer. With the creation of the district office at Missoula for District 1, I was appointed assistant district forester, which title was changed later to associate district forester upon district forester W. B. Greeley being called into Washington as assistant forester. I was made district forester July 1, 1911, which position I now hold."

He is a member of the Society of American Foresters.

Yale Forest School Class of 1905
From Yale Forest Schools News - April, 1918

F. A. Silcox, '05

Ships and the Labor Problem

During the last three months of this new job of mine has taken me into the deeps of our economic and social problems. ***

After having been commissioned as a Captain to serve with the 20th Engineers (Forest) in France, the Acting Secretary of Labor made a request to the War Department for my release to work on the problem of mobilizing labor for war essential industries in the Pacific Northwest, especially shipbuilding. ****So, instead of being a forester in the forests of France with the 20th, I am a forester in the Employment Service of the Department of Labor at the Port of Seattle where it is expected that many hundreds of thousands of both steel and wooden ships will be built in record time.

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Empire Forester 1925

Some Social Aspects of Forestry, F. A. Silcox, Chairman Industrial Relations, New York Employing Printers Association
Testimonial Dinner Given New Chief Forester

F. A. Silcox, new chief forester of the United States Forest Service, was guest of honor at a testimonial dinner held at the Hotel New Yorker, New York, on January 17 and attended by 700 representatives of the printing industry and forestry. The dinner was sponsored by the employers and the labor groups within the printing industry, with which Mr. Silcox has been identified for the past ten years in the capacity of director of the Bureau of Industrial Relations for the New York Employing Printers Association and as secretary of the Printers League Section. The latter organization is comprised of printers employing union labor whose purpose is collective bargaining on wages and shop practices and the settlement of all disputes with the printing trade unions.

In addition to the organizations within the printing industry several organizations in the field of forestry and engineering joined in sponsoring the dinner to Mr. Silcox. Among them were The American Forestry Association, the Society of American Foresters, the American Tree Association, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
On Nov. 15, 1933, Silcox was reappointed to the U. S. forest service, this time as its chief, and he continued to occupy that post until his death. When he joined the forest service as a young man, the national forests, had just been transferred from the department of the interior to the department of agriculture. As chief of the forest service he was responsible for the administration of all national forest activities on 158 units, embracing about 176,000,000 acres; he supervised and directed a permanent force of approximately 3500 men and - with the hundreds of CCC camps in the national forests - an emergency force of more than 100,000 men. He also developed and applied national forest policies, including application of the results of research, and strengthened the national policy of forest conservation applicable to state and private as well as federal forest lands. He put into effect the shelterbelt plan of President Roosevelt which called for forestation in the central part of the United States from North Dakota to Texas. He also undertook the work of salvaging the blow-down timber after the New England hurricane in 1938, and by October 1939 had saved some 600,000,000 board feet and had brought the fire hazard under control. He represented the forest service at the forest conservation conference in 1924, the American game conference in 1935, and in 1936 served as chairman of the North American wildlife conference. He was administration member of the Lumber Code Authority in 1934, and a member of the work allotment board of 22 appointed by President Roosevelt in 1935. In 1936 he made a trip to Europe, under the auspices of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation, to study forestation and drought conditions in a number of European countries.
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.

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 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.
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
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.
URGES C. C. AS PERMANENT GUARD FOR U. S. FORESTS

New Chief of Forestry Calls Fire Greatest Hazard on 150,000,000 Acres of Federal Land.

BY FRANK H. STARR.

The new Chief of Forestry of the United States, the Honorable John M. Collier, has recently been taken with the fire menace, which he feels to be the greatest hazard facing the United States in its vast forests. He has called a conference of foresters and representatives of the government to discuss the problem of forest fires.

The United States has 150,000,000 acres of federal land, and the chief concern is to protect this land from the ravages of fire. The chief has been working on a plan to establish a perma

Refugees From Hitlerism

Victims of Nazi Hate Fleeing From Germany to Any Place That Offers Sanctuary; Loss to Science Is Great.

BY JOEL SINGER.

Over 200,000 refugees from Germany are now in the United States, seeking refuge from the clutches of the Nazi regime. These refugees are primarily Jewish, and are fleeing from the persecution and discrimination they face in Germany.

The refugees are being housed in camps and shelters throughout the country. They are being provided with food and shelter, but their future is uncertain. The United States government has provided assistance, but there is a shortage of funds to continue to support the refugees.

The loss to science is great. Many of the refugees are scientists, and their knowledge and expertise are invaluable. The United States is losing these valuable minds.

Latin America Is Given Recognition Precedent

Soviet Seen as Sincere Advocate for Peace With Ambition for Revolutions Abandoned.

BY JAMES B. NASH.

The Soviet Union is being given recognition as a precedent in the world of politics. The Soviet Union has abandoned its ambition for revolutions and is now seeking peace with other nations.

The Soviet Union has been criticized in the past for its aggressive policies and for its desire to spread communism. However, the new Soviet government has shown a willingness to negotiate and to work towards a peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Thanksgiving

(Continued from First Page)

The differences are more important than we think; we need to realize that the differences are not simply a matter of politics, but also of culture and history. We need to learn to understand and respect the differences, and to work towards a world where we all can live in peace.

The differences are not simply a matter of politics, but also of culture and history. We need to learn to understand and respect the differences, and to work towards a world where we all can live in peace.
Belt Begun

Assistant Forester F. W. Morell Named Head of Gigan tic Project

Defining the mighty forces of nature, to achieve the protection of millions of acres of farm lands, work will start immediately by the Forest Service on the gigantic forest "shel ter-belt" around North Dakota, Montana, and South Dakota.

This strip, 100 miles wide, will cut a majestic green swatch through the barrenness of the plains, sweeping from the Canadian Border down through the vast lands of North Dakota, Montana and South Dakota. A total of 250,000,000 acres will be affected.

At the beginning, in private ownership, and subsequently, the establishment of a chain of nurseries for modifying climatic and other agricultural conditions, the project is expected to be planted with seedlings to be grown for planting under way by 1936, and the entire project is planned to be completed by 1938. By that time, this strip, 100 miles wide, will be one mile apart, making 100 parallel strips from the Canadian Border to the Mexican frontier, 250,000,000 acres of farm land.

The plan calls for windbreaks running north and south, planted one strip apart, making 100 parallel wind-breaks in the belt. Each will be seven rods wide, thereby creating 42 acres out of each square mile.

Biggest Project Yet

"This will be the largest project ever undertaken in this country to modify climatic and other agricultural conditions, in an area that is now constantly harboring dust and drought," said Chief Forester F. W. Morell.

"The Great Plains have been suffering acutely from prolonged drought. The economic and social consequences are extremely serious. The dust storms which recently blanketed the country from the Dakotas to the Pacific Coast are a visible reminder of the incipient desert conditions of the Great Plains area."

The surface velocity of the wind over a wide area can be held in place, the topsoil, the soil conserved and hails of sleet created for man, and livestock under the forest ideal conditions.

The farmers on this land will be able to produce crops and feed crops, and the wind over a wide area can be held in place, the topsoil, the soil conserved and hails of sleet created for man, and livestock under the forest ideal conditions.

Our National Forests

XLVIII

Forest Service Chiefs—Silcox

By CHARLES E. RANDALL

Now the serial is running in current numbers again and we come to the fifth and present Chief Forester, Ferdinand A. Silcox. He became Chief of the U. S. Forest Service last November, succeeding the late Robert Y. Stuart.

Mr. Silcox entered the U. S. Forest Service as a ranger on the Leadville National Forest in Colorado. In the fall of 1905 he was placed in charge of the Holy Cross National Forest and early in the next year he was sent to the San Juan and Mountezuma National Forests to act in an administrative capacity.

A chief forester's job is to head that section of the Forest Service which cares for the protection of America's forests, to listen, too ... The I. W. W. element threatened to destroy the forests of Montana by fire, Mr. Silcox was District Forester in charge of the 250,000,000 acres of timbered land in that state and the panhandle of Idaho.

Ferdinand A. Silcox

On November 16, 1933, he left the latter position to re-enter the Forest Service as Chief Forester. Of the new Chief Forester, a writer for the Washington Star at the time of his appointment had this to say:

"Before he lies the tremendous task of making work while the labor of 300,000 men in the Civil Conservation Corps. Ahead of him also is the duty of checking the ever-increasing fire danger, which every dry season manages to destroy more timber than the spring drives to the sawmills. He must somehow recover the denuded watersheds of all state and federal forests so that giant's annual turbulence is stilled ..."

"He is blessed—or cursed—with the fire of a crusader. Since the World War he has been away from this first love of his, giving his time and energy to the print of the job, to the C.C.C. program, his time has been spent in trying to save the forests of this country, to turn the tide against the destruction of forests."

"When the war was over, the newspapers were printed with fighting words, but his first love proved stronger. He has raised an idealistic banner, he has planned a program he knows can not be finished in his time, and he has set out once more to save the forests for America."

How well and how energetically Chief Forester Silcox is attacking this problem of "saving the forests for America," we have already had ample opportunity to see. In the last year, the Forest Service has carried a large and important share of the C.C.C. program, it has been "playing additional thousands under forest land."

Instead of the labor problems ... it was work in the Forest Service which qualified him for the labor field. When, during the spring of 1917, the I. W. W. element threatened to destroy the forests of Montana by fire, Mr. Silcox was District Forester in charge of the 250,000,000 acres of timbered land in that state and the panhandle of Idaho.

"The I. W. W. army went back to the wood, the printing trades stole him from the forests ... but his first love proved stronger. He has raised an idealistic banner, he has planned a program he knows can not be finished in his time, and he has set out once more to save the forests for America."

Public works allotments on the National Forests, it has extended the National Forest System in the west by some four million acres, which has set up machinery to aid the timber industry in carrying out its pledge to extend conservation practices to millions of acres of private forest land.

Woodsman—Forest personnel of Co. 3 80, Couderay, Pa., where work is work.

Our National Forests
F. A. Silcox is Named Forester

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 the 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. Shortly thereafter 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 a 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 returns to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1922 when he

PRAISES C. C. C. PROGRAM

Ferdinand Augustus Silcox

PRAISES C. C. C. PROGRAM

Ferdinand Augustus 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 possibilities of becoming a real part of human conservation," Silcox said. "There is the possibility of its bringing (Continued on Page Eight)"

COMMITTEES NAMED

Will Report in December on Recommendations Made at Conference In Washington

At a history making conservation conference in Washington, Oct. 24-26, representatives of the United States Forest Service, lumber, paper and pulp, and naval stores industries, farm organizations, and other agencies considered numerous proposals for public and private action to carry out the provisions of Article X. Although many problems remain to be worked out, the conference showed general agreement on the broad principles involved.

Endorsing the sustained yield principle, the conference recommended further extension of government purchases of forest lands, and the application of national forest management to these lands and similar sustained yield management to private lands intermingled with public forests.

The Forest Service policy in selling timber from the National Forests was upheld.

Ask Taxation Data

The conference requested that forest taxation data gathered by the Forest Service be made available for study by industrial groups. This material is being prepared for presentation at the December meeting.

Increases in public aid for fire protection and insect and disease control was recommended at the same time upholding the principle of equal participation on the part of the Federal government and on that of the States and private owners.

The conference recommended an increase from $2,500,000 to $10,000,000 per year in authorization of forest protection funds under the Clark-McNary Act.

The conference also approved the continuation and development of a long-term forest research program to strengthen service in perpetuation of forest resources, to provide better utilization of forest products, and deal with the economic and social problems involving the whole problem of forest land use.

Further guidance as to the forms research should take to promote the functioning of the Lumber Code, it was recommended, could be taken from the Copeland Report, "A National Plan for American Forestry," prepared for submission to Congress by the Forest Service.

It was the opinion of the conference

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 possibilities of becoming a real part of human conservation," Silcox said. "There is the possibility of its bringing (Continued on Page Eight)"
that farm woodlands must be included in the conservation program if the program is to be effective. Farm woodlands in the United States aggregate over 50,000,000 acres, mostly in small, scattered ownerships.

Special allocations under the code were recommended to assist in salvaging operations to save large bodies of timber damaged by fire, insects or wind, to minimize the losses to owners, communities and the public. Such an emergency exists following the Tillamook forest fire in Oregon which killed some 11 billion board feet of timber this fall, as much as the entire lumber cut of the United States for 1932.

Six committees, consisting of public and private interests, were appointed to deal with the most important proposals that are later to be written into law and administered through the Lumber Code. The committees of these committees are to be sent out to the regional representatives of the forest products industry, where they will be considered and later returned with regional recommendations to the conference, which is to meet about the middle of December in Washington.

The committees are: (P-indicates division representation),


**Taxation; Forest Credits**—Geo. F. Jewett, Chairman; A. G. Moore, Secretary; W. F. Highway, B. W. Gray, L. W. Griese, S. R. Black, R. E. Marsh (P), T. G. Woolford (P), F. R. Fairchild (P), Verne Rhoades (P), B. P. Kirkland (P), D. C. Everest, H. E. Hardtner, R. E. Benedict, J. H. Pratt (P), C. M. Granger (P), R. C. Hall (P), S. T. Dana (P), W. N. Sparhawk (P).

**Public Cooperative Expenditures**—W. G. Howard, Chairman (P); Franklin Reed, S. Goodwin (P); L. O. Crosby, S. R. Black, R. B. Robertson, E. O. Siecke (P), R. B. Goodman (P), Axel Oxholm, John Hinman, Fred Morrell (P), H. L. Baker (P), C. P. Winslow (P), George R. Hogarth (P), G. M. Conzet (P).

**Farm Timberlands**—John Simpson, Chairman; A. B. Reckmenger, Secretary; R. W. Grafner (P), H. C. Hornby (P), O. E. Barracough (P), D. C. Everest (P), A. H. Rendell (P), J. Farrell, G. H. Collingwood (P), Chester Gray (P), W. K. Williams (P), Fred Brencnck (P), D. E. Laubender.

**Emergency Timber Salvage**—A. R.

### FORESTRY NEWS DIGEST

**HERE IS ARTICLE X**

The applicant industries undertake, in cooperation with public and other agencies, to carry out such practicable measures as may be necessary for the declared purposes of this Code in respect of conservation and sustained production of forest resources. Said conference shall be held for the North Atlantic states in as permanent a body as the conference of the forest industries. The Michigan and Wisconsin representatives of the forest industries will be considered the public on the other hand and of the forest industries, and the committee on the other hand, are to be appointed to make recommendations for the purposes of this Code in respect of conservation and sustained production of forest resources. The applicant industries shall forthwith take such action as the President may designate.

Said conference shall be requested to make to the Secretary of Agriculture, and such state and other public agencies as he may designate.

Such supplements shall provide for the initiation and administration of said conservation measures necessary for the conservation and sustained production of forest resources, by the industries within each division, in cooperation with the appropriate state and federal agencies.

To the extent that said conference may determine that said measures require the cooperation of federal, state or other public agencies, said measures may to that extent be made contingent upon such cooperation of public agencies.

Watzek, Chairman; T. T. Munger, Secretary (P); J. W. Blodgett, W. B. Greeley, L. O. Crosby, W. M. Ritter, C. M. Granger (P), J. J. Farrell, Axel Oxholm (P), Charles Greene, R. E. Benedict (P). Prior to the adjournment of the conference, the industries voluntarily pledged themselves to make "sustained production of their forest resources a definite part of the operations of the forest industries." The industries further stated through Dr. Wilson that the program runs for at least two years, Mr. Watzek said the program now being drafted was intended to be permanent.

Dean Graves, former forester of the University of Michigan, outlined the procedure and introduced a series of speakers, representative of different forest region industries.

Dr. Compton presented the general view and proposals of the lumber industry.

J. M. Bush of the Cleveland Cliffs Company, Negaunee, Mich., expressed the view that clean cutting of mature timber with protection for young growth and fire suppression was the best forestry practice for the northern hardwoods and hemlock region. He thought sustained yield impracticable in that country—Michigan and Wisconsin.

A. B. Recknagel, Professor of Forestry at Cornell University, speaking for the Northeastern Lumber Association, declared that New England and the North Atlantic states were as a group had committed themselves to a policy of conservation and sustained production of the forests. While the Industrial Recovery Act runs for only two years, Mr. Wallace said the program now being drafted was intended to be permanent.

David Mason, manager of the Western Pine Association, commended the program already adopted by his association with re-
tional timber supply, conservation of soil, water and wild life and conserva-
tion of forest values.

Col. W. B. Greeley, former forester of the University of Southern Califor­
nia, Seattle, bluntly stated obstacles to forest recovery, such as declining value of timber, economic hazards, fire protection and fire risks. These hazards are so great at present that dominant motive of lumbermen is to secure relief by cutting out as soon as possible.

Col. Greeley discussed public responsibility for forest conservation and com­
plained of inadequate policing of forest regions, failure to adhere to the co­
operative fire protection policy set up by Congress in the Clark-McNary act, and the faulty ad valorem system of forest taxation. He favored a timber yield tax, commended the present policy of restricting national forest timber sales and endorsed the forest acquisition for public purposes. He recommended public financing of annual taxes on a long-time basis.

Henry Hardtmer, Urania, La., criti­
cized the annual property tax as the greatest obstacle to growing a long-time timber crop. Other speakers were S. B. Copeland, Bangor, Me., who discussed the position of the pulp industry; C. A. Bruce, executive director of the Lumber Code Authority, speaking for the hardwood industry; R. E. Benedict, Brunswick, Ga., who represents the naval stores in­
dustry; Fred Breckman, Washington representative of the National Grange, who spoke on the evils of consolidations and control; and R. E. Burt, Mont­
tana, who discussed the conditions under which management plans for regions and industrial divisions were drafted, complained of the multiplicity of species, divergent types of species and a great variety of tax problems.

Mr. Black thought that any regulations passed by Congress in the form of standards and regulations and the success which might be achieved and further subdivisions intelligently made.

J. E. Rutherfurd of New York, told the conference of the simplicity of Cana­
dian regulations and the success which had attended their enforcement.

H. C. Hornby, Cloquet, Minn., rep­
resenting the Northern Pine Association, said that the failure of the Federa­
tion which emphasized the difficulties of administration of selective logging practices in the southern softwood areas, covering 13 states, a multiplicity of species, divergent types of species and a great variety of tax problems.

Edward R. Linn of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company, Columbus, O., repre­
sented the American Forestry Association, gave it as his opinion that woods practices should be developed by regions.

R. B. Goodman suggested the con­ference define selective logging as any cut­
ing of timber in which the owner has re­
gulated that growth. He called attention to the difference between softwood and hardwood oper­
ations, citing the fact that hardwood men as a rule cut the old trees in which deadwood occurred. He advocated selective logging as an essential spirit of cooperation.

A. R. Watzek, Crossett-Watsek­
Gates, of Chicago, Ill., declared that selective logging would be more diffi­
cult in Douglas fir than in any other species, and asked the chair to hear from Thornton T. Munger, U. S. Forest Service. He said he thought selective areas might be the proper solution in Douglas fir stands, but any selective logging was feasible in hemlock-spruce areas in the "fog belt". P. R. Camp, of Franklin, Va., suggested that any plan for enforcement of logging regu­
lations should involve splitting of the Lumber Code Authority Divisions into states, so that full conformity to state laws might be achieved and further sub­
divisions intelligently made.

Jerome Farrell, of the Farrell Lum­
ber Company, Walton, N. Y., and vice­
President of the Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association, pointed out that the Northeastern region had been practicing selective logging for many years; he thought there would not be much trouble in adopting a general pro­
gram for that region. He recommended, however, that any program should avoid undertaking more than could be en­
forced.

Ovid M. Butler, secretary of the American Forestry Association, gave it as his opinion that woods practices should be developed by regions.

Edward R. Linn of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company, Columbus, O., repre­
sented the American Forestry Association, gave it as his opinion that woods practices should be developed by regions.
Reports of the Committees up for Consideration

Report of Committee on Forest Practice

Some ten proposals were submitted to the committee for consideration, all bearing on some phase of forest practice.

Of this number two—that of industry as presented to the conference by Dr. Compton and that of the Forest Service presented by E. A. Sherman, were considered most complete and occupied most of the attention of the committee. Every proposal was read and discussed, but time did not permit of coming to definite conclusions on other than the two above mentioned ones. All of them will, however, be sent to the divisions for their guidance and for such suggestions as they contain.

The Report of Industry was submitted to the committee and adopted by a vote of 11 to 7.

The report of the Forest Service was then submitted and secured 3 ayes, 10 nays, with 6 not voting.

In discussion of the two sets of recommendations it was evident that their aims were similar and that time permitting a compromise could have been agreed upon.

The following resolution was therefore introduced and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The proposals of the lumber industry and those of the Forest Service are similar in intent and differences of detail reconcilable; and

WHEREAS, Time does not permit such reconciliation at this meeting,

Resolved, therefore, that both proposals be submitted to the regional divisions for their consideration and that final consideration be left to the December session of the Conference.

Your committee desires to express the thought that proposals of public agencies and industry are in general so harmonious that a program agreeable to both should unquestionably result at the continuation of the conference, December next.

C. C. Sheppard, Chairman; C. S. Chapman, Secretary.

Report of Committee on Farm Woodlands

The code of fair competition for the lumber and timber products industries, makes no provision for the products of timberland or the management of timberland other than that included in the category of industrial lumber operations.

This unclassified woodland includes all forest land privately owned, whether on farms or otherwise, producing forest products for commercial purposes, not now clearly under code obligations.

The aggregate area of this unclassified woodland comprises over 150,000,000 acres, mostly in small scattered ownerships, and constitutes a vital part of any program, "to conserve forest resources and bring about the sustained production thereof."

Until and unless the status of these woodlands is clearly defined it is idle to set up any plan for their conservative management and operation.

To prevent the unbridled exploitation of these woodlands, destructive alike to the owner and to the forest industries, and consequently detrimental to the best interests of the people of the United States, these woodlands should be subject to the same provisions relating to forestry and forest protection practice, as those proposed for operators under the lumber code.

Therefore, whatever organization is set up under Article X of the Lumber Code, for conserving forest resources and bringing about the sustained production thereof, should include in its jurisdiction these woodlands and should give adequate representation to farm woodland owners.

We recognize the impossibility of working out the details at this conference of so large a plan and therefore recommend to the conference that this committee be continued or that some other committee be appointed to study the problem during the interim before the conference reassembles in December and consider suggestions and proposals and to submit a further report of its findings.

John Simpson, Chairman; A. B. Recknagel, Secretary.

Report of Committee on Emergency Timber Salvage

Whenever timber is damaged by fire, wind, insects or other cause to such an extent that its salvage cannot reasonably be effected in the usual course of operation, and therefore the community and the public will suffer severe loss of tax revenues, employment opportunities and a valuable natural resource unless a comprehensive plan for its rapid salvage can be developed, it is recognized that in the interest of conservation and public welfare an emergency exists which must be accorded special treatment.

In such cases it shall be the duty of the Lumber Code Authority to make available to the damaged timber a production allocation sufficient to permit it to be marketed with minimum loss, and to take such other steps as are within its power to facilitate an adequate salvage operation.

It shall be the policy of the Federal Government, and of such various agencies, to give preferential consideration to such salvage operations in extending financial or other aid for the development of operating facilities, additional fire protection or in any other manner authorized by law, and to enlist the cooperation of State and local agencies.

A. R. Watzek, Chairman; T. T. Munger, Secretary.

Report of Committee on Public Cooperative Expenditures

After consideration of all proposals, the following conclusions and recommendations were unanimously submitted:

I. Fire Control—In view of the Code requirements for conservation and sustained forest resources, it is the opinion of this Committee that immediate public aid in fire protection should be given to the industry. That the federal government should contribute for fire protection purposes 50 per cent of the money needed for protection. That the rest of the expense should be borne by the states and their political subdivisions and/or private land owners. In no state, however, should the federal contribution exceed the combined contribution of the states and their political subdivisions and the private owners. The federal contribution to protection is now limited to $2,500,000 and the authorization of the Clarke-McNary Act. This authorization should be increased to $10,000,000, which is one-half of the total cost of satisfactory protection on federal lands and the land outside of the federally owned forest lands.

II. Control of Forest Insects and Diseases. Forests and forest products are suffering heavy damage from insects and diseases. To control such damage requires prompt action under direction of entomologists and pathologists. Only the federal government, and to some extent the states, are able to maintain trained personnel for such work. They are in the best position to initiate action by reason of generally present complications due to diversity of ownership. Effective dealing with these conditions calls for cooperation between federal, government, states and private land owners on principles similar to those now used in the forest fire control program.

III. Cooperative Economic Surveys. While the Committee feels that such cooperative economic surveys would be of value, it also feels they are not immediately essential to the functioning of the Lumber Code at present and might well be left to the Divisional Code Authorities for study and further recommendations.

IV. Forest Research. The Committee endorses the recommendations submitted by the Lumber Industry and the Forest Service for continuation and development of all forms of forest research authorized by the McSweeney-Campbell Act. The urgency of much interrupted work requires emergency action by allotment of adequate funds for such purpose from the proper emergency appropriations. The Committee further recommends a study of the Copeland Report for more specific guidance as to those forms of research that would better promote the functioning of the Code.

V. Forest Extension. The Committee endorses in full the proposal of the Forest Service.
After some debate, the committee in lieu of action on the proposal by Ward Shepard submitted a proposal of more rapid acquisition of forest lands, through cash appropriation or through payments in bonds, certificates, or other recognize.

The Committee endorsed the sustained yield principle advocated by the Forest Products Industries and a proposal by D. T. Mason was also approved and correlated with the Forest Products Industries proposal.

The committee adopted the following resolution:

There should be temporary relief legislation favoring reasonable flexibility in public timber sale contracts, so that those purchasers during periods of higher stumpage prices who are compelled to operate the purchased timber with their own intermingled timber may be given relief from heavy losses in competition during the present depression with operators not thus obligated.

The report was presented and considered and the vote adopted and ordered sent to all Divisions for regional consideration.

O. M. Butler, Chairman.
L. F. Kneipp, Secretary.

Supplementary Proposal By Bureau of Plant Industry

The objective under Article X of the lumber code is sustained forest production through cooperative effort, to assure the full economic and social benefits of the forests. Obviously, forest protection is essential to the accomplishment of this purpose, and control of forest diseases is a basic part of forest protection.

Failure to provide for the prevention or suppression of the parasitic enemies of the forest can defeat the economic feature of the forestry program and seriously interfere with the program as a whole.

Ravages of fire, wind and drought can be repaired but forest parasites, especially those of foreign origin, may add to the irreparable destruction either by destroying the host tree species or by so seriously interfering with their production that they must be dropped out of the forestry program.

The introduction of a fungus that could attack Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, or the principal southern pines could prove disastrous to whole regions.

In the work of the Bureau of Plant Industry in which extensive experience have been gained, a wide range of host plants and diseases, including forest diseases and timber decay, is our observation that the direct monetary losses occasioned by these diseases are commonly much less important than the indirect deleterious effects, which range from disturbance of established economic and social relations and between competing and indistinguishable and destruction of the ecological balance of Nature, affecting both human and wild life.

The producers of forest crops suffer relatively heavier losses from disease than do producers of other crops because of the long period during which a forest crop is exposed to damage and also because of the relatively low commercial value of the crop and the difficult character of the land on which it grows and as a result the stature of the crop greatly restrict the practical possibilities of control.

At present, much less is known about the nature of the diseases which attack forest and forest products than is known about the diseases of other kinds of crops, consequently timberland owners are unable to combat many diseases that could be controlled if they attacked agricultural or horticultural crops.

Continuous long-time investigations are required to develop practicable control measures for diseases in the forest. There must also be developed cheap methods for preventing fungus deterioration of forest products if wood is to maintain its market against competing materials. The program authorized by the McNary-McSweeney Act, if carried through, would provide adequately for Federal disease research in this country.

For adequate defense against the entrance of new epidemic diseases from abroad, it is desirable that specialists be trained to other countries to determine through observation and experiment what foreign fungi must be guarded against and what measures are necessary for their exclusion.

Successful application of methods of avoiding loss from disease requires the services of technical men to help organize and direct the activities. As fast as research supplies the necessary basic knowledge, a service force with both biological and economic facilities can be developed to assist timberland owners in adapting disease control measures to local field and economic conditions.

The greater part of the above proposals have been described more fully in the Copeland Report, p. 1419.

Wm. A. Taylor, Chief of Bureau.

RYERSON IS NAMED

Appointment of Knowles A. Ryerson as chief of the bureau of plant industry, effective Jan. 1, is announced by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace. Ryerson, who will succeed Dr. W. A. Taylor, who retires after 42 years' service, 20 of which have been as head of the department's largest scientific bureau.

Ryerson received his degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of California in 1916, and an M. S. degree from the same university in 1924. During the war he served with the Forest Engineers of the A. E. F. in France, 1917-1919.

Dr. Taylor entered the department as assistant pomologist in 1891. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science from Michigan State College in 1888, and the degree of Doctor of Science from Michigan State College in 1913.

Additional Money To Institute

The Board of Trustees of the Institute of Forest Genetics announces that "supplementing its grant of $2,100 last spring, the Carnegie Institution of Washington has made an additional grant of $2,800 to the Institute for the current year." The institution is at Placerville, Calif. Lloyd Austin is director of the institute.
FORESTY NEWS DIGEST

REVIEW OF MEETING
(Continued from Page Three)

regulations might be enforced.

G. E. Marshall, Cloquet, Minn., Northern Pine Association representation, said that the discussion should keep in mind the necessity of helping out land owners as well as the communities in which sustained production was to be introduced.

William B. Gleich, Philadelphia, of the Hebard Lumber Company, a non-operating timber company, held that the regulation of selective cutting must be flexible. While it might be possible to cut 50,000 acres selectively, it might not be possible to handle 250,000 acres in that manner.

R. D. Garver, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., advocated partial cutting as more applicable to some sites than selective cutting by individual trees.

E. T. Allen, Western Forestry & Conservation Association, Portland, Ore., mentioned that state representation for public supervision was in the picture as against federal representation.

W. DuB. Brookings, U. S. Chamber of Commerce, dwelt on the problem of meeting the costs of changing over from clear felling to partial cutting.

W. L. Gooch, of West Point, W. Va., forester for a paper manufacturer, emphasized the importance of educating farmer owners of timberland to keep them in a productive condition instead of cutting off all the marketable timber at one time.

THE VOTING DELEGATES

For Lumber and Timber

F. E. Weyerhaeuser, Weyerhaeuser Companies, St. Paul, Minn.
C. C. Shappley, President, National Lumber Manufacturers Association, Clarksville, La.

J. D. Tennant, Long-Bell Lumber Company, Longview, Wash.
C. A. Bruce, Executive Officer, Lumber Code Authority, Washington, D. C.
G. F. Jewett, Potlatch Forests, Inc., Coeur d'Alene, Id.
S. R. Black, California Forest Protection Association.

Henry Hardtner, Urrania Lumber Company, Urrania, La.

B. Greely, Manager, West Coast Lumbermen's Association, Seattle, Wash.

D. T. Mason, Manager, Western Pine Association, Portland, Ore.
A. Colgan, Diamond Match Company, Chippewa Falls, Wis.

C. R. Johnson, Union Lumber Company, San Francisco, Calif.
A. C. Goodyear, Great Southern Lumber Co., Bogalusa, La.

Joseph Irving, West Coast Lumbermen's Association, Everett, Wash.

For Naval Stores

C. F. Smith, Secretary, Pine Institute, Jacksonville, Fl.

Forestry Advisers

A. B. Read, Engel, Professor of Forestry, Cornell University, Chena, N. Y.
W. L. Hall, Hot Springs, Arkansas, Consulting Forester.
O. T. Swan, Secretary-Manager, Northern Hemlock & Hardwood Mfrs. Ass'n, Chilton, Wis.

For Pulp and Paper

S. B. Copeland, Eastern Manufacturing Co., Bangor, Me.
D. C. Everett, Marathon Paper Co., Rothchid, Wis.
R. B. Robison, Champion Fibre Co., Canton, N. C.

For National Grange—L. J. Taber, Fred Breckman.
For American Farm Bureau Federation—Edward A. Jordan, Chester Gray.
For Farmers Union—John Simpson.
For U. S. Chamber of Commerce—W. DuB. Brookings as Technical Adviser;
T. G. Woolford, Atlanta, Ga.
For Canadian Forestry—L. O. Johnson, Union Lumber Company, San Francisco, Calif.

FEAR FOR THE ELM

Conference Urges Quick Action and Hearty Cooperation if Tree Is to Be Saved

A conference was held in Washington Oct. 28 on the Dutch Elm Disease. Representatives of several states were present.

It was the general opinion of those attending the conference that everything possible must be done to save the elms, and that a whole-hearted cooperative eradication program is the only one that can give any promise of success. It must be undertaken at once, and the general idea was that a conference should be held for a single year means abandoning the American elm.

The present status of the disease was reported. The injection in Ohio seems to be under control. The new outbreak found this year around New York City on Oct. 28 consisted of 528 trees in New Jersey, 48 in New York and one in Connecticut. A third independent investigation has been found in the vicinity of Md.

During the summer it was discovered that the disease has been crossing the Atlantic Ocean and entering the United States in elm logs imported for cutting for fuel or veneer.

It is now possible to understand the present known distribution of the disease in this country. The Baltimore infection is not far from the pie in which imported logs were shelved, the Cincinnati tree is in a city where a veneer plant which has imported burl elm is located; the Cleveland trees are near a railroad which handled imported logs; the New York City infected area surrounds the piers where several shipments have arrived and its most heavily infected section is penetrated by log transporting railway.

The life history of the elm bark beetle Scolytus multistriatus long established in the eastern United States was discussed. It carries the disease producing fungus from tunnels in dead trees to the buds and young twigs of healthy elms upon which it feeds.

Make Their Own Light Plant

Big Bear Camp on the Trinity Forest in California boasts of being one of the first and one of the few C. C. C. Camps to have an electric plant of its own. Lieut. F. B. Foote looked after the purchasing and installation of the equipment.

The camp personnel had the privilege of contributing several dollars each toward the fund as the consequence of securing the privilege of free laundry for the six months' period, as well as the advantage of electric light.

Amounts raised were limited. Lieut. Foote scouted around and purchased an old motor, an old generator and rheostat. With the aid of some of the C. C. C's who were experienced electricians and mechanics he overhauled the equipment and assembled same, and soon had the full-fledged power and light plant in commission.

The camp electric light plant furnishes the power during the day to operate the modern washing machine, as well as electricity for the lights at night.
Wallace Warns of Government Regulation of the Industry

In his speech before the conferees at the recent meeting of the Southern Forestry Association, Mr. Wallace, the secretary of agriculture, spoke of government regulation and the power of public opinion in that regard. In part the speech follows:

"The Codes of Fair Competition which the lumber and the pulp and paper industries have adopted, together with the Marketing Agreement for the naval stores industry, can be made to mark a new era in the history of American business.

"The National Lumber Manufacturers Association has recently stated that the National Industrial Recovery Act has abruptly brought about organized conservation effort after three-quarters of a century of talk about it. This is largely true, as far as privately owned forests are concerned. The great achievements in forest conservation during the last 50 years have been almost entirely in the field of public forestry. The public forests, however, even now embrace only 20 per cent of the country's forest land and not much more than 10 per cent of the potential timber-growing capacity. Only 10 per cent of our forest land is still privately owned.

"This is the first time the lumber and timber products industries as a group have committed themselves to a policy of conservation and sustained production of their basic resource, the forest.

"One of the expressed purposes of the Recovery Act is to conserve natural resources. These were not intended to be mere words. They will be included in the law deliberately, not as an afterthought. It is logical that this should be so.

"Although the present Act has less than two years to run, it looks to long-time stability of industry and employment, not only for the next two years. It will profit industry and the country little to bring about temporary stability if instability is to follow after two years. We cannot let this happen. Nor is it conceivable that the principle of industrial self-government as worked out under the Act, if it proves to be in the public interest, will be completely abandoned as soon as the emergency is over.

"We have passed the stage in our economic development where unbridled competition will give satisfactory results from the standpoint either of industry or society.

"Stabilized industry and employment in the natural resource industries such as yours is impossible without conservation and sustained production of the basic resource. The situation would be vastly different if, for example, there were a market for pulpwood. The lumber and the Naval Stores Industry feels that no public work would be of greater or less extent in many other industries.

"Public opinion will sooner or later force such action in this country unless the problem is solved in some other way. The underlying philosophy of the National Industrial Recovery Act is cooperation—cooperation within the industries and cooperation between industries and the public. Under this philosophy every farmer has practically had to depend on one product, namely, naval stores. As stated, all that is necessary to bring about this result is adequate protection of the present crop, and the next crop, and careful management.

"Actually an increase in the markets for turpentine and resin seems to be more essential to owners of these forests than an increased stocking and rate of growth.

"There would appear then to be no danger of a future shortage in Naval Stores provided these forests are afforded protection from fire and are carefully managed.

"Actually an increase in the markets for turpentine and resin seems to be more essential to owners of these forests than an increased stocking and rate of growth.

"The above is the large picture of the Naval Stores Forests. A closer view would cover the situation in the 10,000 to 15,000,000 acres in south Georgia and northern Florida where the industry is now centered and which produces 80% of the annual crop.

"With the exception of the aid received by the turpentine farmer through the liquidation of remnants of the original stand of timber, which remnants are now practically gone, the turpentine farmer has practically had to depend on one product, namely, naval stores. The situation would be vastly different if, for example, there were a market for the trees exhausted for turpentine production. It is estimated that each year over 1,000 cords of wood go to waste, which could be salvaged if there were a market for pulpwood.

"The R. F. C. Act provides for government financing of forestry projects and the Naval Stores Industry feels that no public work would be of greater benefit, as the ejection of pulp and paper mills in the turpentine belt, so that this waste wood may be salvaged.

"Government research, by the Forest Products Laboratory and the Bureau of Chemistry, has been of great aid in the past in maintaining consumption. The industry asks that appropriations for such research be continued and increased as the need is indicated."

POINTS TO VALUE OF NAVAL STORES INDUSTRY

Speaking at the conference on the importance of the Naval Stores Industry, R. E. Benedict, of Brunswick, Ga., said:

"The Naval Stores Industry is classified as a cultured and it has also been applied to the Secretary of Agriculture for a Marketing Agreement, which corresponds to a Code under the Industrial Recovery Act. Naval Stores being also a true forest product, the Lumber Code authority has included this industry in its call for this conference.

"The Copeland Report places the area of the so-called Naval Stores Belt at 52,000,000 acres of which 14,000,000 acres is devital or unsatisfactorily stocked; 3,000,000 acres is old or virgin growth; 35,000,000 acres is second growth of varying stages, sizes and degrees of stocking.

"Present production of 450,000 barrels of turpentine units, now worth about $15,000,000 to the turpentine farmer, is produced from about 13,000 crops of ten thousand cups each, on 13,000,000 acres. The 35,000,000 acres of second growth forest, leaving 22,000,000 acres as a reserve supply.

"Foresters estimate that when fully stocked, under conservative working and adequate fire protection, these forests will support 20 cups per acre, continuously. The 35,000,000 acres of existing forest on this basis would hang 70,000 crops, which would produce over 2,000,000 tons of naval stores annually, or over three times the normal consumption of 600,000 units.

"With fire protection and seeding, the 14,000,000 acres of land now unsatisfactorily restocked, would in 40 years yield 28,000 crops more, or a total of about 100,000 crops, seven times more than the present crop.

"As stated, all that is necessary to bring about this result is adequate protection of the present crop, and some seeding and planting, and conservative working of the timber.

"There would appear then to be no danger of a future shortage in Naval Stores provided these forests are afforded protection from fire and are carefully managed.

"Actually an increase in the markets for turpentine and resin seems to be more essential to owners of these forests than an increased stocking and rate of growth.

"The above is the large picture of the Naval Stores Forests. A closer view would cover the situation in the 10,000-
Greeley Tells Conference of the WestCoast View

Col. W. B. Greeley, of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association said in part:

The full purpose of Article X of the Lumber Code is to put commercial forest land and industries upon a permanent, or sustained production, footing. The West Coast logging and lumber industry is in full accord with this purpose. But we must point out certain cold facts that have to be reckoned with in our region. This is done solely that the whole job before us may be taken, with an intelligent understanding of its difficulties.

It must be recognized that the future of industrial, or commercial, forestry in the Pacific Northwest is now extremely uncertain. This is because of—

(1) The past trend for several years of stationary or declining timber values, reflecting a decreasing consumption of forest products; and the present inability to forecast what timber will be worth for any considerable time in the future.

(2) The additional economic hazards of timberland ownership, particularly the recurring annual property tax on stumpage that must be carried for many years before a money return can be realized. Aside from the present burden of yearly ad valorem taxes on timberlands, the uncertainty as to their future proportions is a hazard of ownership that renders any attempt at orderly, long-time financial management extremely uncertain.

(3) The physical hazards of forest land ownership from storms, fire and disease. These may be illustrated by the record of cut-over land fires on industrial holdings in Western Oregon. Intensive studies by the Forest Service in the principal timber counties of Western Oregon indicate that cut-over and reforesting lands were burned during the period 1926 to 1930 inclusive at a rate of 2.3 per cent annually. That is a risk factor of a fire every 42 years. On land logged since 1920, the annual fire loss was 3.5 per cent, a risk factor of a fire every 26 years. The annual fire loss on state and private lands in Oregon and Washington averaged 401,000 acres during the period from 1926 to 1932 inclusive, and $1,373,000 in money value. The kinds of public action that we particularly recommend include:

(1) The complete execution by the state and federal governments, with requisite appropriations, of the policy of cooperative forest protection set-up by the Clark-McNary Act. This cooperative policy should be extended to include protection from forest insects and disease. We fully endorse the program in the respect recommended in the "Copeland Report" of the Forest Service.

In this connection we recognize the benefits to forest protection obtained from the Civilian Conservation Corps. It has performed useful service in fire-fighting forest areas, constructing facilities for better fire control and suppressing large fires. But such activities should not be confused with those of highly trained, mobile, patrol forces whose primary function is quick detection and immediate suppression of forest fires. The maintenance of the specialized patrol and suppression organizations, developed by the State Forestry Departments and Federal cooperation under the Clark-McNary Act, is vital. We strongly urge the completion of this cooperative work and fire prevention organization as advocated in the Copeland Report.

As an essential part of fire prevention, we ask for a more vigorous development and execution of state police laws in respect to forest protection. Public use of forest areas and incendiarism are responsible for 80 per cent of the forest fire acreage in the Pacific Northwest in recent years. Forest lands are susceptible to an unremitting and constantly increasing fire hazard on account of their public use. Protection from such a possible point that will make forest lands an insurable risk, is an essential public responsibility under Article X.

(2) To put more stability and certainty in the future of private forest ownership, we believe that some change must be made in the present ad valorem taxation of timber lands. Oregon and Washington have both adopted the yield tax on cut-over and reforested lands; but the yearly property tax on merchantable timber remains one of the principal economic pressures for liquidation and one of the chief obstacles to an orderly cutting and sustained yield of timber. In recent years, indeed, it has resulted in an alarming spread of tax delinquency on timber lands, disrupting community revenue and adding further chaos to the whole forest situation in these states.

We do not believe that a sound national policy in which private enterprise can take any considerable part in the sustained production of forest resources under Article X is possible without some substantial relief of non-revenue producing timber lands from the present burden of yearly taxes. It is our judgment that the yield tax affords the more practical and effective basis for such relief. We believe that public opinion in the Pacific Northwest is turning with favor towards the yield tax as the solution of this vexing problem; and we urge vigorous support of this method of forest taxation by public agencies.

In conclusion, we must lift this undertaking above the plane of usual forestry resolutions or platforms. We have tackled a real job in Article X. The industry is prepared to do its part in good faith. To carry out the whole enterprise and command necessary public support will require a dramatization of the "new deal in forestry" and a drive to put it over comparable to the National Recovery Campaign.

Great Mills Tower Completed

Standing on the hilltop at Great Mills, overlooking the St. Mary's River, the highest forest fire tower west of the Chesapeake Bay has just been completed. This new steel structure, towering 120 feet above its cement abutments, overlooks the only natural loblolly pine forests on Maryland's western shore. St. Mary's County has long suffered damaging forest fires. Construction was under the supervision of Walter J. Quick, Jr., Assistant Forester; C. F. Winslow, District Forester, and Robert O'Keeffe, District Forest Warden. Negro conservation employees performed the labor. A special right-of-way for a road leading to the tower was donated by Mr. and Mrs. John F. L. Norris of Great Mills.

Wand To Package Federation

The Federation of Wooden Package Associations, which is the administrative agency for the Lumber Code Authority in the Wooden Package Division, has announced the appointment of J. Ben Wand as secretary-manager. He has been editor and publisher of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Southern Lumber Journal and exhibits a lively interest in the paper's editorial and business policies. The federation will establish offices at Washington.

SILCOX NEW CHIEF

Continued from Page One

...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. "Few 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 timber lands must be integrated with agriculture. We need a vast program of sylviculture to preserve the health of our standing trees."

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

Charles Lathrop Pack Forest Education Board to Make Fifth Award to Foresters.

Announcement is just made by the Charles Lathrop Pack Forest Education Board that it is now receiving applications for its fifth annual award of fellowships for training leaders in forestry.

The purpose of these fellowships is to encourage men who have shown unusual intellectual and personal qualities to obtain training that will best equip them for responsible work, either in the general practice of forestry, in the forest industries, in the teaching of forestry, in forest research, or in the development of public forest policy.

Approximately five fellowships will be available this year, and will range from $500 to $1,500. In special cases higher sums may be authorized by the Board. Appointments may be made for twelve months or for longer or shorter periods, in accordance with the scope of the work, and may be renewed at the discretion of the Board. The amount of the fellowship in each case will be determined by individual circumstances.

Awards are to be made to men who demonstrate natural powers of intellectual and personal leadership and who intend to make forestry their life work. There are no restrictions as to age, educational status or personal experience, but ordinarily fellowships will be granted only to men of American or Canadian citizenship who have completed an undergraduate college course or its equivalent. Special emphasis is placed on character, intellect, imagination, industry and personal interest in forestry.

The Board seeks all possible information concerning candidates from former teachers, associates, employers, and others. Appointments will be made by the Board on recommendation of a Committee on Appointments, consisting of Henry S. Graves, John Foley, and Tom Gill.

Applications will be received by the Board until December 31, 1933, and should be made on forms supplied by the Board. Application forms, as well as further information regarding the fellowships, may be had from the Secretary of the Board, Tom Gill, 1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., or from the following Directors of the Board:

Samuel T. Dana, Dean, School of Forestry and Conservation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.


Henry S. Graves, Dean, School of Forestry, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Wm. B. Greetly, Secretary-Manager, West Coast Lumbermen's Association, Seattle, Wash.


E. O. Siecle, Director, Texas Forest Service, College Station, Tex.

Ellwood Wilson, Acting Professor of Silviculture, New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y.

Hugo Winkenwerder, Acting President, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

Raphael Zon, Director, Lake States Forest Experiment Station, St. Paul, Minn.

TO MEET IN MILWAUKEE

Society to Discuss Code, the Copeland Report and Emergency Conservation Work Program.

The 1933 annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters will be held in Milwaukee, Wis., at the New Pfaifer Hotel, Dec. 28-30.

Open meeting will be held the first two days. The entire third day will be devoted to a closed society affairs meeting. The program will consist, so much of a set of prepared papers, as it will be an extemporaneous discussion under five different headings. No papers will be presented by proxy. If a man cannot be on hand to present his own paper, someone else will be selected to take his place and read a paper of his own. The tentative program is as follows:


4. Results of the Taxation Study—Dr. Fred A. Fairchild. Discussion by S. T. Dana, Henry Schmitz, R. S. Giosmer.


The Committee on Meetings is E. V. Viver, Chairman, Henry Schmitz, Edmund Secret.

The voting closes Dec. 14 and the ballots will be counted Dec. 15. The nominating committee, with H. P. Browne, Swift Berry and Willis Baker. Any unsigned ballots and ballots of delinquent members will not be counted.

The president, C. M. Granger, the vice-president, J. D. Guthrie, the secretary-treasurer, P. G. Redington, and four members of the council, R. S. Hosmer, C. D. Howe, S. B. Show, and C. R. Tillotson, go out of office on Dec. 31, 1933. The outgoing president remains as a member of the council for another two years, or until Dec. 31, 1935. The other six vacancies must be filled by new elections.

The following nominations are made:


The Pine Blister Rust

The Pine Blister Rust is a fungal disease which affects pine trees. It is caused by a fungus that produces a blistery appearance on the tree bark, which can lead to the death of the tree. The disease is spread by wind and rain, and can be a serious threat to pine forests. Therefore, it is important to control the disease by removing infected trees and treating the affected areas to prevent further spread. White pine, which is the most common species in the area, is particularly susceptible to this disease. The disease can be controlled through the use of systemic fungicides, but this requires a coordinated effort between forest managers and local communities. The disease is a threat to the economy and the environment, and must be managed carefully to prevent further damage.
The areas approved for purchase are:

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**TOTAL**

| 546,032       | $2,024,881.15               |

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**PLANT 129,000 ACRES**

Forest planting in the continental United States reached a total of 129,230 acres in 1932, according to the United States Forest Service compilation of State reports. Additional plantings in Hawaii and Puerto Rico make a grand total of 131,541 acres.

The last year's plantings bring the acreage of all recorded forest plantings up to 1933 to the figure of 2,094,012. Of this area 1,607,979 acres is classed as successful plantations.

Forest Service plantings in the national forests contributed 24,928 acres of the 1932 plantings. The States planted 53,032 acres; municipalities, 14,900; industrial organizations, 9,021; individuals, 26,811; and the States, schools, and colleges planted 2,849.

Farmers are credited with planting 22,781 acres; lumber companies, 2,076 acres; pulp and paper companies, 2,968 acres; mining companies, 725 acres; railroad companies, 49 acres; water and power companies, 1,599 acres.

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**School Forest For Oregon**

The School of Forestry at Oregon State College, Corvallis, has acquired for use as a school forest an area of approximately 5,400 acres of forest land. A considerable portion of the tract is covered with second growth Douglas fir. One tract, the McDonald Forest, lies within seven miles of the State College campus close to a paved highroad. Students are often taken for fieldwork to the area on speed trucks carrying twenty men each. The close proximity of this forest area to the school makes it possible for students to have access to practical fieldwork at the same time they are getting theoretical instruction.

This obviates the necessity for the conventional summer camps required by many forest schools.

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**Tribute to Crippled Girl**

A twelve-year-old crippled girl, Margaret Cullen of East Helena, Mont., who hurried over a mile under a blazing sun to report the McClellan Creek fire on the Helena National Forest, is receiving the tribute of the Forest Service. "The Service is proud to include you among its most valued co-operators."
Robert Young Stuart, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service, was accidentally killed on Oct. 23 by a fall from the seventh floor of the Atlantic Building, Washington, in which the Forest Service has headquarters.

One of the last of his big jobs was his contribution to the Emergency Conservation Work program. Since last spring he served as a member of the advisory council of the E. C. W. project, and worked indefatigably for its success.

Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, had this to say about Maj. Stuart when informed of his death:

"I am profoundly moved. Major Stuart was carrying tremendous responsibilities in connection with the emergency program. His death is a great loss to all, both personally and officially. He was an efficient, highly respected public servant, not only in the national tasks of rehabilitating our forests, but also in the new and strenuous work of guiding the forestry work of Civilian Conservation Corps and of helping with many phases of the public works program."

Maj. Stuart was scheduled to deliver an address before the forest conference in Washington, Particularly on that account but fundamentally because the conference brought to a head a program for perpetuation of the private forests of America on a sustained production basis, an objective which was very near Maj. Stuart's heart, the conference adopted the following resolution at the suggestion of John W. Blodgett, former President of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association:

"The members of the Forest Conservation Conference, impressively shocked at the untimely death of their distinguished friend and co-worker, Maj. Robert Y. Stuart, wish to record at this time their deep sense of loss in his passing, where appropriate, the sterling qualities that during his many years in the service of forestry have called forth the respect and esteem of all who knew him. In view of the unseworthy service of Maj. Stuart through his many years, his great contribution to the advancement of forestry, his unwavering faithfulness to duty, and the high standard of personal integrity in public office which he ever upheld, it may truly be said that he devoted his life in the service of his country."

"The Secretary of the conference is instructed to send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of Agriculture, and to the family of Maj. Stuart in token of sincere sympathy and condolence."

Maj. Stuart was born Feb. 13, 1883, at Middletown, Pa., of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He received the degree of B. A. from Dickinson College in 1903, and spent that summer studying forestry in Europe. In 1906 he was graduated from the Yale Forest School with the degree of Master of Forestry, and later received the honorary degrees of M. A. and D. Sc. from Dickinson College.

After his graduation from Yale, Stuart was appointed an officer of the United States Forest Service in the Northern Region with headquarters at Missoula, Mont., where he held the positions of Forest Assistant, Forest Inspector, and Assistant District Forester until 1912. In 1913 he was made Forest Inspector in the branch of forest management at the Washington, D. C., office of the Forest Service, which position he held until 1917.

During the World War Stuart served from 1917 to 1919 as captain and major of the Twentieth Engineers, Forestry. On his return to the United States he re-entered the Forest Service, but resigned in 1920 to become assistant to Gifford Pinchot, then Commissioner of Forestry for the State of Pennsylvania. When Pinchot became governor in 1923, Stuart was made Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, which position he held until 1927 when he returned to the Forest Service to become Assistant Forester in charge of the Branch of Public Relations. On May 1, 1929, he was made Chief Forester of the United States Forest Service.

His widow, the former Janet Wilson of Harrisburg, Pa., and two daughters survive him.

**NEW DEAL IN WORDS**

The U. S. Forest Service is coining new words to describe some 40 million dollars of N. R. A. money which it will spend to aid in the industrial recovery of the country. Hynira, Impnira and Devnira—three words not found in any dictionary—will be used by forest officers to describe some 40 million dollars of N. R. A. money which will aid in industrial recovery. These words are derived from the first syllable of the names of the various forest industries: the lumber industry, the pulp industry, paper industries, naval stores producers and other wood-using industries.

**EDUCATION PROGRAM**

An educational program for the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps in camps in the national and state parks is being planned for the winter, according to Robert Pengrner, Director of Emergency Conservation Work. In a letter to the park superintendents, state park district officers and other C. C. C. officials, A. R. Campmeyer, Director of the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, has urged these supervisors to prepare such a program, and to offer it to the officers of the camps within their supervision.

The proposed program will include study classes and discussion groups, lectures and camp fire talks; field excursions to notable historical, geological and biological features and increased library facilities.

In addition, lantern slides, strip films and, to a limited extent, motion picture machines will be utilized to provide educational purposes by both the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, and the Forest Service.

The American Tree Association has sent thousands of copies of the special C. C. C. Edition of the Forestry Primer to the camps.

**Fire Prevention Parade**

The Albany C. C. C. camp, Eitel Bauer, camp superintendent, put on a forest fire prevention parade at Albany, Ga. The fire demon in the parade was attired in flaming red. Seven units of the parade, each representing some phase of fire prevention, received the applause of a large gathering, and approval by city officials.

**Killed In Auto Accident**

John D. Clarke, member of Congress from New York state, was killed in an auto accident near Delhi, N. Y., on Nov. 5. He was co-author of the Clarke-McNary law and a member of the National Forest Reservation Commission.
URGES C. C. C. AS PERMANENT GUARD FOR U. S. FORESTS

New Chief of Forestry Calls Fire Greatest Hazard on 150,000,000 Acres of Federal Land.

BY HERBERT S. STONE

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 13—(Special to the World)—As fire danger is at its height in the present season, the new Chief of the United States Forest Service, Mr. Leonard H. Stone, urges the continued use of the Civilian Conservation Corps as a permanent guard for the nation's forests in the interest of national defense.

In his statement to the World yesterday, Mr. Stone said the fire season is at its height, and that the nation's forests are in greatest danger as never before, with an increase of 50 per cent in the forest fires of the United States last year over the previous year.

Mr. Stone urged the United States government to continue the Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Youth Administration as permanent agencies for the protection of the nation's forests.

Mr. Stone said the Civilian Conservation Corps has been a great success in the protection of the nation's forests, and that it is necessary to continue the corps as a permanent agency for the protection of the nation's forests.

The corps, Mr. Stone said, has done a great deal of good work in the protection of the nation's forests, and that it is necessary to continue the corps as a permanent agency for the protection of the nation's forests.

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The corps, Mr. Stone said, has done a great deal of good work in the protection of the nation's forests, and that it is necessary to continue the corps as a permanent agency for the protection of the nation's forests.
Fernland A. Silcox was the assistant forest officer of the Secretary of Labor of President Wilson's Cabinet, and by the Shipping Board, to head a Bureau to handle labor problems at the shipyards and shipbuilding. With the war, Mr. Silcox went to Chicago as Director of Industrial Relations for the commercial printing industry, remaining there until 1923 when he became Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association.

On November 12, 1923, he left the latter position to return to the Forest Service as Chief Forester. Of the new Chief Forester, a writer for the Washington Star at the time of his appointment had this to say:

"Before him lies the tremendous task of making work while the labor of 200,000 men in the Civilian Conservation Corps. Ahead of him also is the duty of checking the westward progress of the army of clouds which every dry season manages to destroy the forests of Montana by its own activities, to make the plains of America."

He arrived in his new headquarters in Chicago at the time the American Photo Service, 2946 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn., had just been set up to provide millions of acres of private forest land.

The principal of the school, Mr. Silcox was also a member of the American Photo Service, 2946 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn., just been set up to provide millions of acres of private forest land.
THE FEDERAL APPROACH TO FOREST CONSERVATION

by F. A. Silcox
April 7, 1937

"May I express first my appreciation for having the opportunity to come here, and also for the spirit in which this whole problem is approached. As I listened to Mr. Nettleton's speech and to Dr. Compton's presentation of the program for the wood using industries I was impressed that we have come quite a long way in frankly recognizing the necessity of dealing with these forest resources from the standpoint of continuity of operation and continuity of employment. It seems to me that running through the entire presentation by the industry is that fundamental thesis.

Some of the proposals for federal action we can get at in our committee meetings. The only issue, perhaps, that I am ready to take on the whole presentation (and I want to take it in the spirit in which the whole presentation is made, and I hope that through these discussions and in our future relations we can at least maintain a sense of humor about it) is that I am seriously skeptical in the federal approach, and possibly including the states as the sovereign power of the people, as to whether or not we can accomplish the desirable objectives set out by the industry itself without fundamentally facing the question of a margin of restraint exercised by sovereignty. I cannot find myself going philosophically entirely the way with you that the whole job can be done voluntarily by industry. I find in the analysis of the industry's presentations an admittance of that particular fact, through its insistence that public action be taken in one form or another.

In the question of how far we go in public regulation of lands; how far we go in accomplishing the purpose as set forth here; I should like to see as wide a margin as possible left for voluntary action. I should like to see any action taken by the federal or state governments clearly kept within the democratic pattern, by which I mean that bureaucracies of any sort can be challenged by the electorate group of the people, either to displace them or to challenge their action.

Vivid is my feeling from a quite recent trip to Europe that in the approach to these vital problems affecting us nationally, we avoid some of the things that have happened in Europe, and to do it we must, in approaching a problem of this sort, keep it fundamentally within the democratic pattern.

Now I am not going to make a long statement. I do however want to deal with what I believe to be the fundamental issue which represents a difference in point of view in approaching this particular problem. I can take no issue with the objectives set forth. As to a mounts of money to be appropriated there may be a difference of opinion, but these are details.

As I have looked over this situation in the United States as to our timber resources, discounting the necessity of certain types of action which have been taken in the past and certain results that have come about through that action, and
taking this new orientation approach to the problem, I cannot yet see my way out in meeting this problem without, as I say, some margin of federal or state regulatory control.

Putting aside for the moment the public objectives in this I cannot see how the industry itself can carry forward its own objectives without possibly a margin of restraint. I know how skeptical you all are, necessarily so through your experiences with the NRA. I can imagine and understand perfectly how you might look askance and even possibly with some degree of hostility toward an approach to the problem which starts out differing fundamentally with the promise set forth in the preliminary statement here, that these objectives can be achieved within the field entirely, or practically, by voluntary action. So that is my main thesis this morning concerning the federal approach. I shall not, as I say, go into the details of this program, because I agree with this general objective without argument.

Coming back to this particular point in which you are all vitally interested, we cannot separate the forest problem of the United States from the general industrial and economic and political problems existing in the United States today.

I made two statements when I came back from Europe, two generalizations that I thought could be made (and I am afraid of all generalizations, including the one I am making,) that first of all in taking the general currents running in Europe today you find a general trend toward more central control; you find symptomatically the same problems of unemployment, of agriculture and industry parity, the same problems that we are facing here, somewhat, in some of the nations of Europe, more acute because of more intensive economy. It is interesting for an American to go over merely to strike contrast, because we are speculating about some of the things that might be done here, while in Europe they already are accomplished facts. The second generalization which bears on our situation here is that there is a definite recognition, a social recognition, of the use of land, a recognition of social accountability. In the carrying out of that particular requirement there has been throughout all of the fourteen countries I visited, whether under the Hitler pattern or the Stalin pattern, or the Blum pattern of France or the middle ground pattern of Sweden a definite recognition of the necessity of setting up regulatory control to make sure that this social accountability is taken into consideration and made effective.

Applying it to our own case, we have as a major political issue which is current in all of our minds, the question of our relation between the federal government and the states. This is not going far afield because fundamentally in a federal approach to any of our economic problems, including that of the use of our timber resources, forestry or wood using industries are not in a vacuum; they are an essential sector and part of the general political problem with the United States.

I am not going to repeat, because again it is current in your minds, as to certain issues that are raised in our general political life today involving the question of federal control versus state control or in combination, applying to
the field of industry and to the field of labor and to the field
of use of land, and so on. I merely indicate that it seems to
me, if I read the times aright, that the same currents are run-
ing in this country that have been running in the older European
nations, and that somewhat our experience will parallel theirs.

If my general conclusion is even reasonably sound, then
the question comes, if regulation from the public point of view
is necessary (and I am frank to say that I believe that it is
necessary) I want to see such regulation exercised, as I em-
phasize, within the democratic structure. I have no confidence
in any bureaucracy (that includes the Forest Service, and myself)
to be presumptuously wise enough to settle the issues that will
arise out of any form of regulatory control; neither have I
confidence in self-appointed boards removable at will by the
bureaucracy. I think inevitably the result of is that those
boards get traveling expenses and in the long run are absorbed
within the bureaucracy rather than kept as independent agencies.

The fact that your own organization functioning as a demo-
cratic body can take up problems of this kind and deal with
them in joint effort with the public is the fundamental thing
that I hope we preserve throughout all these difficulties that
we are now trying to handle. If regulation is to be necessary
and if we are to keep within, as I define it, the democratic
structure and keep the associations and the private timber land
owners, the counties, the electorate group of the people in-
dependently free to challenge at all times any enactments made
under such regulatory process, my own feeling is that the in-
dustry has nothing to fear, but something very definite to gain.

To get down to cases to see how this thing will work out
in some of the regions which you represent. There is facing
us in the South today a tremendous accelerated development for
the use of our woods for nitrocellulose products. It is going
on quite apace, the mill capacity doubling up within the last
couple of years, or in process of doubling. When you get down
to an individual case of an individual mill and that area
that must support that mill by a supply of raw material on a
short haul basis, and figure on underwriting the investments
that are made in that mill and underwriting employment with
some degree of continuity, you find within that area -- the
one area that I have in mind -- over four hundred sawmills; you
find a large number of turpentino operators; you find a large
number of pole and piling operators. The question can reason-
ably be asked in that sort of situation: what is the answer?

Can we hope within the general pattern of voluntary action
to reconcile those conflicting groups within that area in the
competitive contest for their supply of raw material and make
sure that the forest land will be managed in accordance with
the objectives set forth here for sustained yield? Or will it
be necessary in frank recognition of that situation to set up
an agency that can act somewhat in the capacity of an umpire
in the particular situation? I am inclined to believe that an
umpire has to act in that situation if you are going to get
a reconciliation of those conflicting interests and save the
industries their source of supply of wood and save the area
and manage it in accordance with the principles here set forth.
I should like to see, if any such pattern is set up, the matter of using possibly the counties as a unit. I can easily see in a regulatory body, whether jointly made up of lumbermen or public or by the public directly, going into a county and raising the diametor limit of the cutting practices from one diametor to another, very vitally affecting the finances of the county, very vitally affecting the entire budget of the local government in meeting its particular problems. Possibly by an approach with the county, with the margin of sovereignty exercised by the federal and state governments, a factual analysis of that particular area can be made, carrying out your educational processes advocated here, and make them more effective, and bring into focus not only the question of management of forest properties in that area, but also the relation of those forest properties to the going concerns in terms of employment and otherwise. If such an analysis is made and such an educational approach is made, you fundamentally have to get down to the question of forest taxation in that county, depending on how important a factor in that particular county the forest taxation is.

I have the feeling that our approach to the problem of forest taxation besides our detailed studies has been largely convincing ourselves of the necessity for it. We have not yet gotten very far in convincing those who have the power of taxation of the necessity for a modification of the taxing system.

I think that with those objectives set up, with the margin of restraint necessary to the making of them effective, the counties can see the necessity for a modification of the taxation system which will make it possible to operate those forest properties to achieve objectives more than that of simply getting the maximum revenue over the shortest period of time, and it will have the distinct advantage of getting forestry down to the grass roots where people are going to exercise the right of their vote in determining policies. So in stating this case under the subject on which I am to talk, the federal approach, I can see no fundamental difference in our objectives, we are all agreed, according to the general statements set forth, on the necessity for sustained yield management of our timber properties, we are all agreed that those properties should be managed with some degree of social accountability in their management, we are all agreed that they should be fire protected for the purpose of making sure we have something to manage. We are not taking issue, and I don't see where there is any ground to take issue, I say again, on those major objectives.

One subject which I hope this meeting will discuss is the one I have raised. It may be too much to hope that an industry will even recognize the necessity for some restraint to be imposed upon it by sovereignty. I can quite recognize that attitude. On the other hand, I think that there ought to be explored, and I think that the effort here is to explore, whether we have fundamental differences of point of view or not, this whole subject and to find whether I am all wrong in believing that it cannot be handled wholly within the field of voluntary action.
If that is my belief, which I am expressing here quite frankly, then of course the federal approach involves fundamentally probably three things: (1) bringing back into public ownership some of these lands, to be directly managed by the public as a balance wheel in the situation; (2) a form of regulation over the operation on private lands which will assure to those of the industry who follow the objectives laid down here, protection against those who do not, and assure to the public that those who do not want to conform to these objectives can be brought under restraint and made to conform; (3) a type of appropriation and legislation which will recognize the overall public responsibility in fire protection and in disease control and matters in which the public has a fundamental responsibility.

In winding up, I might name a three-point forest program from the federal standpoint, which I have just outlined, as, first, acquisition, in cooperation with the states, the extension of the Fulmer Act, the extension of the federal acquisition; secondly, a form of legislation within the democratic pattern, integrated with the states and the local governments, which will place restraints on those who do not conform and, thirdly, a quid pro quo type of legislation which will recognize public responsibility in the field of fire protection and those which have an overall public interest.

I hope that this particular meeting will discuss these problems in the spirit in which the thing has been approached this morning, and if we do have differences of opinion that we can cross our swords and make the sparks fly and still retain a sense of humor about it.

Before closing I want to make just one more comment, and that is that I do not attempt to discount in any way the complicated pattern which is involved in the approach to this problem. The probabilities are, although the information is not available, that the industrial properties of the United States, those where the owner is in control of the property sufficiently to make commitments as to how that property is used, will probably make up a fairly small percentage of the total area of the United States. There is a variation of the pattern tied in under our plan of management, from the large industrial holder with a processing plan, on through the intermediate smaller holdings, down to the farm woodlots, with all variations in between. Even if this association passes resolutions committing itself and its individual members to a program of action, it is seriously doubtful whether such action would commit a great many others in the United States who are not bound by any action of the association. The federal approach is to take into consideration that pattern and to deal with the forest problems as a whole in the national interests.

Minority groups throughout the country have always had the responsibility for leadership. This I would imagine is the same situation. I am not personally very much worried about minorities having the leadership -- they always have and probably always will. It is only a group of progressive men who are interested
in securing certain types of action, who are willing to organize and carry the burdens of organization and the expenses involved, who take any form of leadership. That is true no matter what type of organization we have, and I am hoping that out of this meeting when we get down to discussing the details, we can get a program of action which will be a distinct step forward, but I would like either among ourselves or in joint committee to discuss somewhat the fundamental issue that I have raised.
MEMORANDUM

The subject assigned to me on the program for the Annual
Meeting of the Western Forestry and Conservation Association (held at
Portland, December 13 to 15, 1935) was the public aspects of "National
Organization and Progress Under Article X."

In his address Mr. G. F. Jewett, President of the Association,
developed a number of pertinent questions and expressed the very defi-
nite wish that I reply to them, in order that there might be such dis-
cussion as would form a firm foundation for mutual understanding and
confidence.

This I did, instead of talking on the subject previously
assigned.

The gist of my remarks, which were necessarily extemporaneous,
is attached. Central thought of each major question is indicated, in
this manuscript record (which is based on stenographic report), by
paragraphed subject headings.

E. A. SILCOX,
Chief, Forest Service.
I have been out of the Forest Service for seventeen years. Battling in the business world of New York City has given me a reasonable understanding of the things that happened in 1929, and of some of the things that have happened since then. I came back to the Forest Service primarily because I was interested in current problems involved in the immediate handling of natural resources, as well as in certain critical decisions having to do with the future handling of resources in these United States. Important among these resources is timber.

For our own individual good, and that of our country as a whole, it is time for all of us to take a look at our natural resources in order to see where we are going with them. It is wise for all of us to take an inventory; to find out whether our past plans and operations have been sound. In doing this, let's be honest with ourselves; look matters squarely in the face. And in all our efforts, above everything else, let us preserve the democratic set-up of the United States; the will of local groups to face problems and offer suggestions for changes; the opportunity and the ability for them to do so.

We are, I hope, coming out of what has been the worst depression this country ever had. So serious were the conditions that the whole collective credit of the government had to be thrown into the breach to keep the wheels turning at all. I was in New York when the situation was critical. I saw people in lines three blocks long waiting to take money out of banks - then saw them three blocks long putting money back into banks again. It is easy now to forget, in the attempt to solve our problems, the situation that existed at that time.

I came back into the Forest Service feeling that we must face a better handling of our forest resources; that in doing so there were a number of basic issues on which we must soon make fundamental choices. I came to this Western Forestry and Conservation Association meeting primarily to listen. I want to find out the best thing to do. I want very definitely to maintain friendly cooperative relationship with the lumber industry. I want to work out an integrated program of private and public holdings which shall make for sustained yield operations and so bring about the greatest possible degree of social security for communities and the lumber industry; to lay the foundation for long-time investments at low rates of interest. I want, in other words, to see a much sounder social and economic set-up than that which in the past has been dependent on the forest resources of these United States.

In examining current problems of the lumber industry your President - and others - have at this meeting raised certain very definite questions. They have asked that I express myself on them, here. This I am glad to do, instead of talking on the subject assigned to me on your program. Because I have just heard those questions, my remarks must necessarily be extemporaneous.
Forest Credits. There is more money in the banks today than they know what to do with. Why don't the banks, instead of the public, face the issue of credits in the lumber industry? It is a serious question in my mind if public credit should be tapped to solve any problem which involves private enterprise alone. But if the banks won't help, there is definite public responsibility to make credit facilities available on reasonable terms to an industry such as the lumber industry; to make sure that the lumber industry has a run for its white alloy on a system of financing that is fundamentally sound. This is because there is a very real public interest vested in all forest lands, irrespective of ownership; because its size makes the lumber industry important from the standpoint of employment; because it is in the public interest to see that those timber properties are so handled that there may be continuity, through the industry, for individuals and communities dependent on them.

I shall back sound forest-loan legislation; shall hope to see extension of long-time public credit to the lumber industry. But I shall insist on provisions calling for management of these areas on a long-time rather than a quick liquidation basis; for sustained yield forest management, in other words. I think the public is fully justified in using its collective credit on that basis, and that the Joint Conference growing out of Article X was wise in making a proposal of that sort. Incidentally, why does the lumber industry back off from any mention of sustained yield - which involves long-time management - when it asks for long-time loans? In all fairness, why shouldn't the latter be predicated upon the former?

The Fletcher Bill was designed for the purpose of making credit available to sustained yield operations. Some of the difficulties in getting through legislation of this sort are known to you. One trouble of the federal Government, with its necessary emergency measures, is whether or not more public bonds guaranteed by the Government should be issued. I have run into this and other difficulties with the Fletcher Bill. I have conferred with the Director of the Budget, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Farm Credit Administration in attempting to work out some way to get forest credits legislation under way; to establish a group of forest banks, to have securities of those banks taken by the Farm Mortgage Corporation, to get private capital to come in under that set-up. We shall go ahead with our efforts to get long-term forest loans, working our way through the mass of difficulties as best we may. We want the lumber industry's help. Shying away from sustained yield will not give it to us.

Government Logging and Milling. Mr. Jewett was somewhat alarmed at a statement I made before the Society of American Foresters in Washington about the Government going into logging and milling operations. My personal belief is that the Government should not take over any administrative functions that private industry successfully may carry out, provided that private industry recognizes and fulfills,
as a part of its enterprises, its social obligations. Government rigidities make impossible many advantages which go with private enterprise. I very definitely want to see personal initiative and resourcefulness as exemplified by private industry. There is a wide opportunity for the exercise of it in the lumber industry.

I stated at the Society of American Foresters meeting that in my opinion the government would if necessary go into logging and milling. This was intended as a danger signal; as a note of warning that the lumber industry must, for its own protection, recognize the fundamental necessity for facing certain social responsibilities which are entirely aside from creation of wealth and the bookkeeping aspects of its business problem. For in my opinion the time has come when, if the survival of a forest-industry community is at stake, this issue will be settled by the community, not by the Forest Service or by the lumber industry.

So far as I am concerned, then, I want to see the Government keep out of commercial logging and milling. What the outcome will be if the Government's hand is forced, I can not say.

100% Public Ownership. Your Association's President asks me, as Chief of the Forest Service, whether we have in mind some basis for private and public cooperation, or whether our objective is 100% public ownership of forest land. I hope to see an integrated plan of public and private ownership worked out. The instability of corporate ownership, the many changes and vicissitudes which have on the whole attended private ownership and operation of forest lands in the United States, are cause for real concern. I hope to see that condition changed; to see in the corporate structure of America an adequate degree of stability and continuity in ownership and management of forest lands; for it is essential to success for any sound, constructive forestry program.

I have been searching the United States for areas of cut-over lands which industry has bought for the purpose of growing trees. I can not find any. Nor can I find bankers loaning money for this purpose. If private industry will not do the job, it seems to me that part of this ten billion dollars which the Government is putting into business to keep the wheels turning should be put into public acquisition of forest land to insure its being maintained as a part of our productive resources.

Up to date, what we have actually done in this country is to drain off great reservoirs of virgin timber. These we inherited; no one spent any money to grow them. We inherited them, and we are draining them. I ask private industry, in its own critical analysis of its own problem if it is sound business — granting modification of taxation — for private industry to invest in reforestation properties (as has been done in Europe for long-time periods) to promote sustained yield? Will private industry make such investments? Frankly I am skeptical that it will. I think you are skeptical. Certainly, I
have not seen money going in that direction. Instead, I have seen in Washington enormous pressure on myself and the Forest Service to buy the cut-over lands all over the United States. Eight million acres were dropped on us in one week.

Take cut-over lands in north Idaho as a specific example. I ask you if private owners will go in and buy those cut-over forest lands and consolidate their holdings for the purpose of growing timber? If not, what is the answer for these cut-over areas? And for the total accumulation of cut-over areas in the United States. That total now runs into appalling figures. I am not exaggerating when I say that community after community which once existed on those lands has been wiped out completely.

Take a specific forest area of two million acres in Louisiana. In this area there was a timber-supported community of 5,000 people. The timber has been cut, the area denuded. The community is gone. Nothing is left standing but the jail, which happened to be of concrete.

Mr. Jewett characterizes the possibility of 100% public ownership as "the extreme left." He connects it with the term "socialism". If it is socialism to take over 2,000,000 acres of Louisiana forest lands which are paying no taxes, growing no trees - if it is socialism for Uncle Sam to extract enough money from the national pocketbook, which is your pocketbook and mine, to take care of those people - then let it be called that. Merely calling names does not, however, settle any problem. No matter what it is called, and even if to do it we must have public ownership of the entire two million acres, I believe we should put that land to some good use. I would much prefer to see private owners take over such acreages as that in Louisiana, establish nurseries and go in and plant. But I have not seen them doing so. Probably the only agency to do this is the federal government.

Maybe we are going too far in an extension of public ownership in the south; maybe we shouldn't advocate public ownership in the northwest; maybe we should pull out, let you get your money from the banks if you can, let you work out your own fire protection problems and taxation problems with the States. What do you think? My fundamental interest is to help you work out your problems and to help maintain in private ownership a large proportion of the timber lands of the United States. I expect to stop far short of an 100% ownership program for a number of reasons; one because it is wiser to have an integration of public and private forest industry; another because I don't know where the money is coming from to carry it out 100%.

Integration of Holdings. The statement has been made at this meeting that the main course of progress is integration of private and public holdings. I agree, with the qualification again that private industry must recognize the necessity for taking a look at the whole problem of timber management from the standpoint of soundness of community development.
Acquisition of Merchantable Timber. Public agencies have suggested acquisition of a total of 93 billion feet. Lumber agencies have stepped the amount that the government ought to buy up to 150 billion feet. Perhaps it is wise for the federal government to buy 150 billion feet of the timber stands where carrying charges seem to be such a serious question, hold them so they can contribute to sustained-yield communities, and thus escape that quick liquidation which is hastened by those carrying charges. If by the purchase of 150 billion feet this can be done, I advocate it.

Acquisition by Consent. Mr. Jewett touched on a situation in Georgia. The Forest Service has been purchasing land since 1911 - we did not start when emergency legislation came into being. I don't know of any area the Forest Service has bought - I may be wrong but I think not - but what we have first had the consent of the States and counties. Even if we could go into a county and buy land without its consent, we should run into too many difficulties to do it. For as you know, there are outstanding bond issues and other matters that must be looked into before land safely can be bought. I do not happen to know about this particular Georgia area, but if it was bought without prior consent I should say that the criticism is sound. If any one of the federal agencies attempts to go at acquisition as a straight federal effort; in my opinion that is wrong. Acquisition of forest lands should be worked out with local agencies, the States, and those directly affected in private-industry. Under the decentralized method of the Forest Service that has been our method of approach.

How Much Acquisition? There is a division of thought among lumbermen on this point. The amount of land that has been proposed from various sections of the country would need a minimum of 500 million dollars to start with. You would be amazed today to see what is coming in to us from the various States - not merely from the individual but from public organizations pressing us to buy.

As an Association, and as lumbermen, what policy do you suggest? What do you want the Forest Service to do in the northwest? Leave you entirely alone? Pull out and buy areas in the east? Let you settle your own problem? If, as some of you indicate, you are afraid of government interference through purchase of timber land, we can pull out. If, as others ask, you want us to buy both mature timber and out-over land to bring about stability within the industry, with a release of pressure for quick liquidation, how far do you want the federal government to go?

The real control in this whole northwest lumber situation is in private industry. Do you want a fifty-fifty balance? What does leadership here in the northwest ask? The Joint Conference recommended that 150 billion feet of timber be purchased by the public. Shall we take a common unit of private and public timber, pool it and work out a common long-time method for sustained yield operations, selling the counties the idea of reduced taxation? Shall we go after extension of forest credits to run that type of an enterprise? If you are fearful of federal interference in this matter, it might be well for the Forest Service to stick to its own areas and spend the forthcoming acquisition money in the Lake States and various other parts of the country. I welcome your suggestions.
Taxation. On this matter I am definitely interested, although essentially it is a State and an industry problem. The whole system of forest taxation in the United States is fundamentally unsound, in my opinion. But how far would you lumbermen go, now, if you went to a community to sell the idea of reducing taxes? I can tell you. You'd get much the same answer I got with certain county authorities with whom I talked on the matter. I was trying to find out why they did not see the need for adjustment. Their reply was; - "Here comes a foreign corporation into our county. It cuts our timber and moves on. We must, in self defense, take all we can while the taking is possible."

The result is increased taxes on the amount of timber left standing in that community; forced liquidation with both industry and community committing suicide together. Isn't it the industry's problem to give the counties some degree of assurance that you do not have this timber all tied up in packages for quick-liquidation? If it can be gotten over to State and County authorities that you will operate on a basis upon which they can secure reasonably continuous income - as they could through sustained yield - I am not too idealistic in saying that I think you could get sympathetic consideration.

Although forest taxation is a State rather than a National affair, we investigated the situation, as you know, through Professor Fairchild of Yale University. We have spent ten years trying to get at this whole question. There should be a fundamental readjustment of taxation on timber land. But in view of the doctrine of State sovereignty - a subject on which your President has strong feelings - the federal government has some hesitancy in urging, too strongly, the States and the counties to revise their system of taxation in order to make a deferred yield plan effective.

Industry Leadership. There are plenty of leaders in the lumber industry. I hope their voices become more articulate. I hope that through those leaders the industry is, to a greater degree than it has in the past, considering that though a major function of forest-industry is to create wealth, another is to create it so as to bring stability to dependent labor through continuous production rather than quick ups and downs. In the long run it is more profitable to operate in such a way that people in stable communities may build decent houses and amortize their loans over a long period. I feel that industry leadership, in addition to its other headaches, must in self defense if for no other reason, recognize - now that we are out of the pioneering period - the need for permanency of enterprise and its effects on dependent communities rather than the highest possible immediate profit.

Lumber Tariff. On this matter I am not qualified to talk. Mark Twain once said that religion was a geographical habit; so, I think, is the tariff. The whole reciprocal tariff agreement with Canada was handled through the State Department and the Tariff Commission. Until the matter was settled, the Forest Service did not get a look-in.
We probably should have pleaded the case very strongly had we had an opportunity, for our interests are such that we are of course directly interested in protecting the lumber industry. But as I have said, I do not feel myself a competent judge of the complicated subject, nor have I analyzed the situation sufficiently to find for sure what, specifically, it means.

Social Consequences: Your President says, "foresters are idealists, and do not recognize social consequences of their program." I don't know what he has in mind except as he reveals, a little later, that what he means by "social consequences" is setting up a dictatorship, failure to maintain democratic processes, centralization, the loss of freedom of speech. All these are embraced, Mr. Jewett feels, in the program of sustained yield forest management as outlined by public foresters. Personally, I'll fight more for preservation of our democratic institutions than for sustained yield, any day. For we would lose everything if we lost, in the United States, the capacity to work out our problems in a democratic fashion. What I continually plead for is a program, in the United States and in the Forest Service, where we have meetings like this one of yours, with fellows highly critical, as you should be, of any proposals made by bureaucrats. I hope you remain sharply and constructively critical, and that with your criticism you help to solve some of the difficult problems which face the United States.

Part of my job is to maintain the Forest Service as a sensitive, democratic institution, highly decentralized, working with you and other people on the ground, taking action step by step. I hope to see kept in the Forest Service - and in this whole country - that type of decentralization, for it helps preserve the fundamentals of our democratic structure. The instrument for maintaining it is just such an organization as you have here. It can tear into things and break up any institution that tends to become bureaucratic. In short, no matter what degree of centralization is needed to meet our banking problems, which individually we have not been able to meet, the American system, with its fundamental processes of democracy, must be maintained.

Social Problem the Chief Obstacle to Industry. Mr. Jewett has said that he believes the chief obstacle to carrying out a sustained yield program is the government itself. I have difficulty in reconciling this statement with requests on the government by your industry to extend credits; to buy large areas of cut-over lands and virgin timber, and to modify taxation. Is it possible the lumber industry wants all these things without giving anything in return? Do you think they can be gotten that way? In any legislative program, for example, whatever motives may be charged, security (or social) legislation is absolutely essential to the legislation you want in your own interests. Without the first, the second might easily be brushed aside. That is human nature the world over.

Summing up, it is my earnest and definite desire to cooperate in every way with the lumber industry to help solve some of these problems that you have discussed here - carrying charges on big bodies of
timber, orderly and planned acquisition, sound integration of private and public holdings for sustained-yield forest management, taxation, tariffs, and forest credits. And in fair proportions, there should be definite expenditures of public money to help carry the fire protection burden.

But I ask, in all sincerity, that you make your own social objectives clearer than you have, and thus lend strength to my hand. After doing that let us join forces; first in getting a definite expression as to a fundamental policy of balanced public and private ownership, second in trying to get legislation to make such ownership possible and to modify credit and taxation systems, if those things are necessary.

Just one more word. I came here to listen. From now on I am going to listen. I want to hear what the industry offers, aside from better woods practices. I don't want to discount the difficulties of getting woods practices into effect, but it seems to me that at this particular meeting we have matters of far larger import to face; that our main objective is to get forest areas on a sustained yield basis and leave your operations and their surrounding communities with some degree of stability and security.
MEMORANDUM

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In his address Mr. G. F. Jewett, President of the Association, developed a number of pertinent questions and expressed the very definite wish that I reply to them, in order that there might be such discussion as would form a firm foundation for mutual understanding and confidence.

This I did, instead of talking on the subject previously assigned.

The gist of my remarks, which were necessarily extemporaneous, is attached. Central thought of each major question is indicated, in this manuscript record (which is based on stenographic report), by paragraphed subject headings.

F. A. SILCOX,
Chief, Forest Service.
I have been out of the Forest Service for seventeen years. Battling in the business world of New York City has given me a reasonable understanding of the things that happened in 1929, and of some of the things that have happened since then. I came back to the Forest Service primarily because I was interested in current problems involved in the immediate handling of natural resources, as well as in certain critical decisions having to do with the future handling of resources in these United States. Important among these resources is timber.

For our own individual good, and that of our country as a whole, it is time for all of us to take a look at our natural resources in order to see where we are going with them. It is wise for all of us to take an inventory; to find out whether our past plans and operations have been sound. In doing this, let's be honest with ourselves; look matters squarely in the face. And in all our efforts, above everything else, let us preserve the democratic set-up of the United States; the will of local groups to face problems and offer suggestions for changes; the opportunity and the ability for them to do so.

We are, I hope, coming out of what has been the worst depression this country ever had. So serious were the conditions that the whole collective credit of the government had to be thrown into the breach to keep the wheels turning at all. I was in New York when the situation was critical. I saw people in lines three blocks long waiting to take money out of banks - then saw them three blocks long putting money back into banks again. It is easy now to forget, in the attempt to solve our problems, the situation that existed at that time.

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I shall back sound forest-loan legislation; shall hope to see extension of long-time public credit to the lumber industry. But I shall insist on provisions calling for management of these areas on a long-time rather than a quick liquidation basis; for sustained yield forest management, in other words. I think the public is fully justified in using its collective credit on that basis, and that the Joint Conference growing out of Article X was wise in making a proposal of that sort. Incidentally, why does the lumber industry back off from any mention of sustained yield - which involves long-time management - when it asks for long-time loans? In all fairness, why shouldn't the latter be predicated upon the former?

The Fletcher Bill was designed for the purpose of making credit available to sustained yield operations. Some of the difficulties in getting through legislation of this sort are known to you. One trouble of the Federal Government, with its necessary emergency measures, is whether or not more public bonds guaranteed by the Government should be issued. I have run into this and other difficulties with the Fletcher Bill. I have conferred with the Director of the Budget, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Farm Credit Administration in attempting to work out some way to get forest credits legislation under way; to establish a group of forest banks, to have securities of those banks taken by the Farm Mortgage Corporation, to get private capital to come in under that set-up. We shall go ahead with our efforts to get long-term forest loans, working out way through the mass of difficulties as best we may. We want the lumber industry's help. Shying away from sustained yield will not give it to us.

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have not seen money going in that direction. Instead, I have seen in Washington enormous pressure on myself and the Forest Service to buy the cut-over lands all over the United States. Eight million acres were dropped on us in one week.

Take cut-over lands in north Idaho as a specific example. I ask you if private owners will go in and buy those cut-over forest lands and consolidate their holdings for the purpose of growing timber? If not, what is the answer for these cut-over areas? And for the total accumulation of cut-over areas in the United States. That total now runs into appalling figures. I am not exaggerating when I say that community after community which once existed on those lands has been wiped out completely.

Take a specific forest area of two million acres in Louisiana. In this area there was a timber-supported community of 5,000 people. The timber has been cut, the area denuded. The community is gone. Nothing is left standing but the jail, which happened to be of concrete.

Mr. Jewett characterizes the possibility of 100% public ownership as "the extreme left." He connects it with the term "socialism." If it is socialism to take over 2,000,000 acres of Louisiana forest lands which are paying no taxes, growing no trees - if it is socialism for Uncle Sam to extract enough money from the national pocketbook, which is your pocket-book and mine, to take care of those people - then let it be called that. Merely calling names does not, however, settle any problem. No matter what it is called, and even if to do it we must have public ownership of the entire two million acres, I believe we should put that land to some good use. I would much prefer to see private owners take over such acreages as that in Louisiana, establish nurseries and go in and plant. But I have not seen them doing so. Probably the only agency to do this is the federal government.

Maybe we are going too far in an extension of public ownership in the south; maybe we shouldn't advocate public ownership in the northwest; maybe we should pull out, let you get your money from the banks if you can, let you work out your own fire protection problems and taxation problems with the States. What do you think? My fundamental interest is to help you work out your problems and to help maintain in private ownership a large proportion of the timber lands of the United States. I expect to stop far short of an 100% ownership program for a number of reasons; one because it is wiser to have an integration of public and private forest industry; another because I don't know where the money is coming from to carry it out 100%.

Integration of Holdings. The statement has been made at this meeting that the main course of progress is integration of private and public holdings. I agree, with the qualification again that private industry must recognize the necessity for taking a look at the whole problem of timber management from the standpoint of soundness of community development.
Acquisition of Merchantable Timber. Public agencies have suggested acquisition of a total of 93 billion feet. Lumber agencies have stopped the amount that the government ought to buy up to 150 billion feet. Perhaps it is wise for the federal government to buy 150 billion feet of the timber stands where carrying charges seem to be such a serious question, hold them so they can contribute to sustained-yield communities, and thus escape that quick liquidation which is hastened by those carrying charges. If by the purchase of 150 billion feet this can be done, I advocate it.

Acquisition by Consent. Mr. Jewett touched on a situation in Georgia. The Forest Service has been purchasing land since 1911 - we did not start when emergency legislation came into being. I don’t know of any area the Forest Service has bought - I may be wrong but I think not - but what we have first had the consent of the States and counties. Even if we could go into a county and buy land without its consent, we should run into too many difficulties to do it. For as you know, there are outstanding bond issues and other matters that must be looked into before land safely can be bought. - I do not happen to know about this particular Georgia area, but if it was bought without prior consent I should say that the criticism is sound. If any one of the federal agencies attempts to go at acquisition as a straight federal effort, in my opinion that is wrong. Acquisition of forest lands should be worked out with local agencies, the States, and those directly affected in private industry. Under the decentralised method of the Forest Service that has been our method of approach.

How Much Acquisition? There is a division of thought among lumbermen on this point. The amount of land that has been proposed from various sections of the country would need a minimum of 500 million dollars to start with. You would be amazed today to see what is coming in to us from the various States - not merely from the individual but from public organizations pressing us to buy.

As an Association, and as lumbermen; what policy to you suggest? What do you want the Forest Service to do in the northwest? Leave you entirely alone? Pull out and buy areas in the east? Let you settle your own problem? If, as some of you indicate, you are afraid of government interference through purchase of timber land, we can pull out. If, as others ask, you want us to buy both mature timber and cut-over land to bring about stability within the industry, with a release of pressure for quick liquidation, how far do you want the federal government to go?

The real control in this whole northwest lumber situation is in private industry. Do you want a fifty-fifty balance? What does leadership here in the northwest ask? The Joint Conference recommended that 150 billion feet of timber be purchased by the public. Shall we take a common unit of private and public timber, pool it and work out a common long-time method for sustained yield operations, selling the counties the idea of reduced taxation? Shall we go after extension of forest credits to run that type of an enterprise? If you are fearful of federal interference in this matter, it might be well for the Forest Service to stick to its own areas and spend the forthcoming acquisition money in the Lake States and various other parts of the country. I welcome your suggestions.
Taxation. On this matter I am definitely interested, although essentially it is a State and an industry problem. The whole system of forest taxation in the United States is fundamentally unsound, in my opinion. But how far would you lumbermen get, now, if you want to a community to sell the idea of reducing taxes? I can tell you. You'd get much the same answer I got with certain county authorities with whom I talked on the matter. I was trying to find out why they did not see the need for adjustment. Their reply was; "Here comes a foreign corporation into our county. It cuts our timber and moves on. We must, in self defense, take all we can while the taking is possible."

The result is increased taxes on the amount of timber left standing in that community; forced liquidation with both industry and community committing suicide together. Isn't it the industry's problem to give the counties some degree of assurance that you do not have this timber all tied up in packages for quick-liquidation? If it can be gotten over to State and County authorities that you will operate on a basis upon which they can secure reasonably continuous income, - as they could through sustained yield - I am not too idealistic in saying that I think you could get sympathetic consideration.

Although forest taxation is a State rather than a National affair, we investigated the situation, as you know, through Professor Fairchild of Yale University. We have spent ten years trying to get at this whole question. There should be a fundamental readjustment of taxation on timber land. But in view of the doctrine of State sovereignty - a subject on which your President has strong feelings - the federal government has some hesitancy in urging, too strongly, the States and the counties to revise their system of taxation in order to make a deferred yield plan effective.

Industry Leadership. There are plenty of leaders in the lumber industry. I hope their voices become more articulate. I hope that through those leaders the industry is, to a greater degree than it has in the past, considering that though a major function of forest-industry is to create wealth, another is to create it so as to bring stability to dependent labor through continuous production rather than quick ups and downs. In the long run it is more profitable to operate in such a way that people in stable communities may build decent houses and amortize their loans over a long period. I feel that industry leadership, in addition to its other headaches, must in self defense if for no other reason, recognize - now that we are out of the pioneering period - the need for permanency of enterprise and its effects on dependent communities rather than the highest possible immediate profit.

Lumber Tariff. On this matter I am not qualified to talk. Mark Twain once said that religion was a geographical habit; so, I think, is the tariff. The whole reciprocal tariff agreement with Canada was handled through the State Department and the Tariff Commission. Until the matter was settled, the Forest Service did not get a lock-in.
We probably should have pleaded the case very strongly had we had an 
opportunity, for our interests are such that we are of course directly 
interested in protecting the lumber industry. But as I have said, I 
do not feel myself a competent judge of the complicated subject, nor 
have I analyzed the situation sufficiently to find for sure what, 
specifically, it means.

Social Consequences. Your President says, "foresters are 
idealists, and do not recognize social consequences of their program." 
I don't know what he has in mind except as he reveals, a little later, 
that what he means by "social consequences" is setting up a dictatorship, 
failure to maintain democratic processes, centralization, the loss of 
freedom of speech. All these are embraced, Mr. Jewett feels, in the 
program of sustained yield forest management as outlined by public 
foresters. Personally, I'll fight more for preservation of our 
democratic institutions than for sustained yield, any day. For we 
would lose everything if we lost, in the United States, the capacity 
to work out our problems in a democratic fashion. What I continually 
plead for is a program, in the United States and in the Forest Service, 
where we have meetings like this one of yours, with fellows highly 
critical, as you should be, of any proposals made by bureaucrats. I 
hope you remain sharply and constructively critical, and that with 
your criticism you help to solve some of the difficult problems which 
face the United States.

Part of my job is to maintain the Forest Service as a sensitive, 
democratic institution, highly decentralized, working with you and 
other people on the ground, taking action step by step. I hope to see kept in the Forest Service -- and in this whole country -- that type of 
decentralization, for it helps preserve the fundamentals of our democratic 
structure. The instrument for maintaining it is just such an organization 
as you have here. It can tear into things and break up any institution 
that tends to become bureaucratic. In short, no matter what degree of 
centralization is needed to meet our banking problems, which individually 
we have not been able to meet, the American system, with its fundamental 
processes of democracy, must be maintained.

Social Problem the Chief Obstacle to Industry. Mr. Jewett has 
said that he believes the chief obstacle to carrying out a sustained 
yield program is the government itself. I have difficulty in reconciling 
this statement with requests on the government by your industry to extend 
credits; to buy large areas of cut-over lands and virgin timber, and to 
modify taxation. Is it possible the lumber industry wants all these 
things without giving anything in return? Do you think they can be 
gotten that way? In any legislative program, for example, whatever 
motives may be charged, security (or social) legislation is absolutely 
essential to the legislation you want in your own interests. Without 
the first, the second might easily be brushed aside. That is human 
nature the world over.

Summing up, it is my earnest and definite desire to cooperate 
in every way with the lumber industry to help solve some of these pro-
blems that you have discussed here -- carrying charges on big bodies of
timber, orderly and planned acquisition, sound integration of private and public holdings for sustained-yield forest management, taxation, tariffs, and forest credits. And in fair proportions, there should be definite expenditures of public money to help carry the fire protection burden.

But I ask, in all sincerity, that you make your own social objectives clearer than you have, and thus lend strength to my hand. After doing that let us join forces; first in getting a definite expression as to a fundamental policy of balanced public and private ownership, second in trying to get legislation to make such ownership possible and to modify credit and taxation systems, if those things are necessary.

Just one more word. I came here to listen. From now on I am going to listen. I want to hear what the industry offers, aside from better woods practices. I don't want to discount the difficulties of getting woods practices into effect, but it seems to me that at this particular meeting we have matters of far larger import to face; that our main objective is to get forest areas on a sustained yield basis and leave your operations and their surrounding communities with some degree of stability and security.
TO MEMBERS OF THE FOREST SERVICE:

Due to the stress of closing my work in New York and
assuming my new duties on November 15, it has been impossible for
me to answer personally the many letters from friends and former
co-workers in the Forest Service.

I am asking you now to let this general letter serve to
tell you all how deeply and sincerely appreciative I am of your
good wishes. It has been very heartening to have them. In all
sincerity I am accepting the position of Chief of the Service with
a full sense of humility and with a desire to realize fully the
responsibilities of the task I have undertaken, together with the
hope that I may redeem these responsibilities in the spirit of
the creative social and economic movement now in progress de-
signed to affect so deeply the future welfare of our country. I
shall need the help and support you have so generously offered.

Sincerely,

F. A. SILCOX

Forester
F. A. 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.S. 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.

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 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, 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.

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 the National Forest Policy Commission.

A photograph of Mr. Silcox appears on opposite page.
FERDINAND A. SILCOX
Forest Service career officer

Fifth Chief Forester, 1933-39

Two studies made: western range conditions; watersheds for flood control.

Prairie States Forestry Project began - 217 million trees planted by 33,000 plains farmers.

Fulmer and Norris-Doxey Laws enacted - Increased aid to states and to farm woodland owners.
Mr. Silcox became Chief Forester on November 15, 1933. A former Forest Service career officer (1905-1917), he was Director of Industrial Relations of the New York Employing Printers' Association at the time of his appointment.

Important legislation and notable achievements during the Silcox administration included:

--In 1935, the Fulmer Act, which provided for federal aid in the purchase of lands for state forests.

--In 1935, the Prairie States Forestry Project was begun. This was for the purpose of alleviating the effects of drought in the Dust Bowl. In seven years, the Forest Service supervised the planting of 217 million trees on farms and ranches from North Dakota to Texas.

--In 1937, the Norris-Doxey Cooperative Farm Forestry Act was enacted. It provided for increased technical aid to owners of farm woodland.

--Two studies were done. The first Resulted in a report on western range conditions; the other was a survey of watersheds for flood control.

--After the New England hurricane of 1938 had blown down millions of trees, the Forest Service supervised the salvage of more than 700 million board feet of commercial timber. The Northeastern Timber Salvage Administration was created to do the job. The States cooperated.

Chief Forester Silcox died in December, 1939.