

Watts, Lyle F.

Lumber

MINUTES OF STAFF MEETING (4)
SOUTHERN FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
September 24, 1943

Present: Demmon, chairman; Basnett, Bickford, Bond, Curry, Davis, Eldredge, Hutchison, Lockard, Mitchell, Mook, Snyder, Verrall.

Attached to these minutes is a copy of an address by Chief Lyle F. Watts, delivered on September 20, 1943, in which he states his views on public regulation. In that connection the Regional Foresters and Directors have been requested to again consider the development of tentative rules of forest practice. This is to be done through conferences and discussions with interested persons outside the Forest Service. A report on progress in reaching common understanding as to standards or specific rules is due next February 1.

The Policy Manual for Federal Land Banks has been amended (as of Aug. 14, 1943) with respect to loans on farm woodlands. Such loans are now authorized on the basis of their value for the production of timber or other forest products. The section on Farm Woodlands reads as follows: "Loans may be made on farm woodlands on the basis of their value for the production of timber or other forest products either for farm use or to be marketed. Where material reliance is placed upon the sale of forest products for the repayment of the loan, there shall be required reasonable assurance that a prudent forestry management program will be followed resulting in the protection of young timber and the maintenance of forest production sufficient to retire the loan in an orderly manner. No such loans should be made where unusual disease and insect hazards, excessive fire risk, or serious timber depredations may adversely affect the condition of the property and repayment of a loan. Where only a part of a farm is in woodland, the products from which are principally for the operator's use rather than for marketing, a loan may be made based partly on the value to the farm of the woodland and the foregoing requirements need not be met."

Region 8 has recently compiled a list of Private Consultants in Forest Operations which includes a number of individuals and farms in the Southern States. Those listed have been reported to the Forest Service as being capable of giving advice on the technical management of forest lands and of handling practical woods problems. The Forest Service does not claim that the list is complete, accurate, or authentic. To facilitate the indication of the reported qualifications of the names given on this list, the following number code has been used to indicate the specific line or lines of work which the individual or firm is reported to be especially equipped to handle. This classification should be applied in accordance with the number or numbers as given below each name.

- #1 - Timber estimating, mapping, and surveying.
- #2 - Timber appraisals.
- #3 - Tree planting.
- #4 - Logging engineering, and plans for logging development.
- #5 - Market studies, - best disposal of products.
- #6 - Technical forest management and silvicultural methods.
- #7 - Forest litigation.
- #8 - Taxation of forests and timber operations.

Many of the individuals and firms listed below will serve in any of the Southern States.

Address by
Lyle F. Watts, Chief, Forest Service, U. S. D. A.
at meeting of
Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Section,
Society of American Foresters, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
September 20, 1943

War Activities of the Forest Service

The forests of the United States are being called upon for a tremendous output of materials essential to the war. The indispensability of wood and of wood products becomes more apparent with each month and the difficulties of meeting the demands become more acute as the tempo of war increases. Truly, wood is one of the critical materials in this conflict.

Under these circumstances the Forest Service is devoting its energies to projects that contribute to the war effort. Peacetime activities have been put on the shelf for the duration to the extent consistent with our public responsibilities.

To meet wartime demands the National Forests are being made to contribute to national needs as never before. Despite shortages of manpower to handle the timber-sale business, the cut from the National Forests in the past fiscal year established an all-time high. The total cut was 2,359,463,000 board feet--7 percent more than the previous year and 83 percent above 1939. The value of the timber cut exceeded 8½ million dollars.

I mentioned the handicap of manpower shortage. It will interest you to know that the Forest Service has lost to the armed forces more than 1,500 men and women with civil service status. I need not tell this audience that the proportion of young, technically trained, timber, range, and wildlife men has been high. These are the people who did most of the cruising, scaling, marking, and supervision for timber sales, and it has been difficult indeed to increase timber sales in the face of this loss. Yet it has been done. Standards of work may have suffered somewhat, but we think that this has not been too serious.

Of special importance is the program for obtaining Sitka spruce from the National Forests of Alaska. Working under the most difficult winter conditions, contractors engaged by the Forest Service delivered the first raft of logs to Puget Sound in January. The yield of aircraft quality lumber from the Alaskan logs is exceeding all expectations. Including hemlock and spruce not suitable for aircraft, which are being sold to Alaskan sawmills for military use there, output is now up to the goal of 10 million board feet per month which was set at the outset. It will probably not be possible to maintain this output through the coming winter months.

The National Forest range has also been making an important wartime contribution. Careful management, including continued adjustment of livestock numbers to the carrying capacity of the range, is making it possible to obtain maximum production of meat, wool, and hides without damage to the resource. Stockmen are being urged to market their livestock early to ameliorate the domestic food situation and to supply greatly expanded western consuming centers with grass-fat beef.

Going beyond the National Forests, the Forest Service has been collaborating actively with the War Production Board, the Office of Price Administration, and other agencies in studying requirements, supplies, and output of forest products and in providing a wide range of allied information. Headed most energetically by George Trayer, who recently represented the Forest Service on a mission sent to England to

study the problems of lumber supply, the Branch of Research has brought together a group of men who have shown outstanding versatility and resourcefulness. As an example of the extent to which WPB has learned to depend on our men, the Requirements and Supplies section has recently been asked to provide information on the quantity, character, and style of winter underwear which would be needed for logging operations in northern New England and the Lake States.

During the past year the Forest Service has also given a lot of study to the problem of stimulating the production of lumber and other forest products. It was recognized early in 1942 that output was lagging and that small mills in particular were having difficulties with radical shifts of markets and complicated procedures incident to doing business in wartime. The Forest Service joined with the War Production Board in proposing a plan to utilize its far-flung field organization and to enlist cooperation of state agencies to extend aid to owners and operators and otherwise to stimulate maximum output. This plan was violently opposed by the lumber industry which saw in it a threat of federal regulation of cutting practices, and alleged that the need for the proposed services did not exist.

After months of delay, during which some of the proposals were put into operation without Forest Service assistance, the original plan was dropped. Yet the War Production Board, facing increasing shortages in lumber supply, found that additional effort to maintain output of forest products was essential. A modified plan, the Timber Production War Project, now in operation in a number of eastern states, uses our facilities to provide service, especially to small operators, in meeting the many inevitable procedures incident to total war; to aid in securing a timber supply for mills not now adequately provided with standing timber; to aid in obtaining firm contracts for the output of logs and lumber; and to provide technical guidance to assure efficient use of available manpower and equipment. The state forestry departments and extension services are collaborating actively in the program. It is worth noting that the President's approval of the modified plan was subject to the understanding that where federal aids were advanced, there must be provision to prevent destructive forest practices.

Even before this plan was put into operation, 70 foresters assigned by the Forest Service in cooperation with the States to marketing projects, involving 280 counties in eastern states under the Norris-Doxey Farm Forestry Act, have been instrumental in stepping up production locally and in channeling farm timber into essential war industries.

Protection of the forests from fire has assumed new significance as a result of the war and this has been recognized in emergency appropriations by Congress. To the normal problem of minimizing damage to forest resources has been added the necessity of maintaining uninterrupted service from power plants, transmission lines, railroads, and industrial plants in forested areas, the need to prevent smoke palls which might interfere with air transport or aircraft warning service, and the threat of sabotage. Military installations and the presence of large numbers of soldiers in and near forested areas added to the hazard while the difficulties of fire control were enhanced by the shortage of trained guards and fire fighters. Indicative of the potential disruption and damage to war industry and transportation which forest fires may cause, as well as of the importance of wood in the war, is the record of two enemy incendiary bombings which occurred in the forests of western Oregon. Fortunately neither resulted in a serious outbreak.

I presume foresters here are generally aware of the prominent place the Forest Products Laboratory is taking in the war effort. To me the work being done at the Laboratory is simply unbelievable. In providing data and specifications on the use of wood for aircraft; in designing economical crates and containers for

all sorts of military supplies and equipment, including anti-aircraft guns, armored trailers and cars, as well as munitions and other supplies; in training inspectors for wood products and packaging; and in broadening the use of plywood, plastics, and other chemical derivatives of wood, outstanding contributions have been made.

Less well known, perhaps, is the progress that has been made by research in increasing output and conserving labor in the critical naval stores industry. Using chemical treatments, gum yields in commercial operations have been increased 25 percent. For the long pull substantial progress has also been made in the selection and rooting of strains of pine yielding 2 to 3 times as much gum as their associates of the same size and vigor.

Valuable assistance has been rendered the military in camouflage planting problems. Some of this work was only possible because of accumulated knowledge gained from pre-war investigations. On the other hand, some of the newer findings will have permanent value for the future. For example, treatments to reduce transportation may permit forest planting to be done at almost any season of the year and may extend the area that may be successfully planted to much more adverse sites.

I should not close this brief sketch of the wartime activities of the Forest Service without reference to the guayule rubber project, the success of which will, I believe, lead to early authorization for expansion beyond the limitation established last spring when it appeared that further use of irrigated land for guayule might interfere unnecessarily with food production. On June 30 over 23,000 acres had been planted. It is probable that the project will be expanded to an area of 150,000 acres within the next 2 years. Much of the expansion, if undertaken, will be in Texas and the Southwest where competition for food cropland and for labor is not so acute as in California. Seven nurseries, aggregating about 3,500 acres in extent, are ready with sufficient stock for next year's planting. About 400 tons of high-quality rubber were manufactured from mature shrub harvested in 1942. Experimental plantings of Russian dandelion and of goldenrod are also being carried forward. It is planned to harvest part of the 1943 plantings of both these crops in order to extract a few tons of rubber for testing purposes.

Planning for Peace

Productive forests constitute so vital a part of the national economy that we must not fail, while making the utmost contribution to wartime needs, to be planning for peace. Demobilization of the armed forces and the release of labor from war industries is likely to be accompanied by a period when it may be necessary to undertake a very large program of public works in order to provide full employment.

Forests and intermingled forest range offer a large field for public works that may be readily developed in post-war years. Restoration of forests on nonproductive land by planting; rehabilitation of run-down forests by weeding, thinning, and pruning, and other timber stand improvement; range reseeding; fire hazard reduction; control of injurious insects and diseases; expansion in the forest recreational facilities; and improvements of the wildlife habitat; all call for a large amount of labor with a minimum of other expense. Such work can be quickly started and easily suspended without excessive loss when the need for employment declines. It is work which is worth while in itself and should be carried forward on public forests as a continuing program in any event.

Beyond that there is need for a large amount of construction for the development, protection, and utilization of public forest areas. Only half of the road system planned for the National Forests is now built and of satisfactory standard. Shifts in range management to make the National Forests contribute most fully to the livestock economy of the West under changing conditions will require now water

developments, additional fencing, and other improvements. The success of the partly completed Arroyo Seco flood control project on the Los Angeles National Forest in stabilizing $\frac{1}{4}$ million cubic yards of channel debris during heavy storms last January and the effective protection afforded valley lands, home sites, and public utilities by range reseeding and contour ditching in the Intermountain region indicate that we have only begun the upstream work which is desirable for watershed protection and flood control.

The volume and geographic distribution of work in these fields may be greatly expanded by pushing the acquisition of millions of acres of forest land which seem destined for public ownership.

In planning for public works, I am anxious that foresters do not lose sight of the fact that the need for emergency public works can be kept down as the volume of employment furnished by private industry is kept up. In communities primarily dependent upon forest industries, the level of permanent industry that can be sustained is directly related to the economic productivity of the adjacent forest land. Far more fundamental than relying on the forest as a source of relief employment, is a forest policy that will contribute to the security and stability of private employment by assuring continued productivity of forest lands.

If the forests are to make their optimum contribution to the welfare of the Nation, it will be necessary to provide for better care and management than they have thus far received. An economy of abundance depends upon maintaining the productivity of natural resources at a high level, yet today, after decades of agitation and educational effort, the bulk of the cutting on private forest lands is not under any plans for perpetuating the productivity of the resource and one-third of the private forest area, including a large part of the best timber-growing land in the South, is still without organized fire protection. This is unpardonable!

Looking to the future, there is good reason to believe that post-war needs for lumber and other forest products will, in the aggregate, continue at or near the wartime level. Declining needs for war purposes will be offset by pent-up demands for housing, wider application of new techniques for using wood in construction of all kinds, the upward trend in utilization of pulp and paper products, and other developments. Moulded plywood developed for aircraft will doubtless find post-war use in automobiles, furniture, and perhaps other items. Plastics made largely or entirely from wood have only begun to find commercial uses. And the manufacture of alcohol from lignin is indicative of the field which may be opened by chemical research and industrial engineering.

With pressure from abroad to help supply the huge quantities of lumber that will be needed for the reconstruction of war-torn Europe added to a domestic demand already almost double the rate of annual saw-timber growth, it should be obvious that only by the most aggressive measures can we hope to bring saw-timber growth in line with needs.

Forest Regulation Needed.

Some familiarity with this region and with 3 regions in the West, coupled with trips that I have recently taken into the Deep South and the Northeast, convince me that comprehensive forest legislation, including but not limited to regulation of cutting practices, is now more urgently needed than ever before. In making this statement I am not in the least overlooking or discounting the many examples of good forest management by private owners in almost every section of the country.

In this region I need no more than mention such operations as the Goodman Lumber Co. or the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper Co. Out in Oregon and Montana the J. Neils Lumber Co.

has a sustained-yield program fully equaling in intensity National Forest operations in the ponderosa pine type. The fire protection system on the Clemens Tree Farm of the Weyerhaeuser Lumber Co. in Washington goes far beyond what we have been able to provide for the National Forests.

Without prejudice to what is going on in other regions, I believe I was most stirred by what I saw in the South. In the Forest Service we have always emphasized the social value of productive forests and have striven to make the National Forests contribute effectively to the welfare of local people. But nowhere have the public forests done any better than Mr. Harley Langdale who is building up an intensive forestry program on about 100,000 acres near Valdosta, Ga. Mr. Langdale is not only going far beyond minimum requirements in turpentine practices and timber cutting, but he is providing improved living conditions for the people who work on his property. Houses are refurbished, fish ponds are constructed, and bird food is planted to insure good hunting. It was reported to me that Mr. Langdale's war output had not been handicapped by labor problems as has been so generally the case in the South and elsewhere.

And to refer to Crossett, Ark., which has so often been cited as an outstanding example of integrated utilization and community development, the thing that impressed me most was current plans to split the 5 districts, into which the half-million-acre property had previously been divided, so that the 10 technical men responsible for timbermarking and other forestry work would average only about 50,000 acres each. They talk in terms of a 10-year cutting cycle. Here again is an intensity of management equal to that of the National Forests.

But with all these and the many others that might be listed, I saw much more destructive cutting than good forestry. To me the basic facts on the Nation's forestry situation are clear enough. We do not need any further refinement of statistics or survey of war impacts, desirable as that may be, to determine what our policy should be. The war has served to exaggerate the trend of forest deterioration and depletion which was only partially and temporarily relieved during the depression of the thirties.

There is nothing to be gained by dodging the fact that, except in localities where virgin timber still dominates, we cannot continue indefinitely to cut more than we grow without impairing future forest productivity. But our land has the capacity and we should have the determination to meet the challenge. For if we take steps to improve and build up the productive growing stock by Nation-wide application of good forest practices, the annual growth can be increased to a level which will supply our people and industries with ample timber for all foreseeable needs at reasonable cost, and a margin will be left for export or for emergency use.

The most urgent need is to stop destructive cutting so that the productivity of every acre now bearing merchantable timber may be retained. I want to say with all the force I have that Nation-wide regulation of cutting practices on private forest land under strong federal leadership is absolutely essential if needless destruction of productive growing stock is to be stopped.

It is unfortunate that a well-financed publicity campaign sponsored by the forest industries during the recent past should tend to cultivate public complacency when the situation with respect to our forest resources is so unsatisfactory. As head of the agency chiefly concerned with the public interest in maintaining the productivity of our forests, I cannot let the misleading publicity of the forest industries pass unchallenged.

This campaign creates the impression that little not already being done on private land is needed to assure the Nation ample timber supplies for the future. It implies

an inevitable increase of annual growth when as foresters we know that the usable growth depends upon merchantable growing stock and that it cannot increase if destruction of the productive growing stock is indefinitely continued. It exaggerates the extent and adequacy of industry progress in good forest practice.

Since a forthright facing of the facts would not be inconsistent with the alleged objectives of the industry, namely, "to perpetuate the supply of forest products through sound forest management and to promote understanding of forest ownership and enterprise." I cannot escape the conclusion that the real object of this campaign is to ward off public regulation which was recommended in one form by the Department of Agriculture in 1940, brought before Congress in several forms since then, and proposed for legislation in 14 states during the past winter.

I think it fair to state that the need for public regulation is now recognized by many informed people. But conservation leaders are not in agreement as to the responsibility of the Federal Government in such regulation. It is my firm belief that regulation by state action unsupported by strong federal legislation cannot be effective. Furthermore, I do not believe that financial aid to the states to meet the costs of regulation will induce reluctant or strongly independent states to enact appropriate regulatory legislation. Nor will it give adequate assurance that the level of practices will be set at a satisfactory level. In order that Nation-wide regulation of cutting practices may come promptly and be reasonably uniform in standards and enforcement, federal legislation is needed which will as a minimum give the Secretary of Agriculture authority (1) to set the standards for required forest practices; (2) to pass on the practices adopted by the States; (3) to inspect enforcement; and (4) to take direct action where suitable state legislation is not enacted and where enforcement or the standards established are not acceptable.

Of the three major lines of public action which I would advocate for a comprehensive national program in forestry—namely, regulation of forest practices on private lands, aid to forest landowners, and increased public ownership—regulation has invoked the most controversy.

It is quite probable that the larger part of the job of public acquisition will fall to the Federal Government. This does not in the least discount the desirability of an enlarged program of state and community forests.

The Federal Government should also play an important part in the aids and incentives offered to private landowners. Federal contributions loom large in fire control and extension services. Forest research has made its most substantial contributions in the work of the federal forest experiment stations and the Forest Products Laboratory. The forest survey would be a hopeless jumble if left to uncoordinated state action. The fields of forest credit and forest insurance could not be safely underwritten on a state basis. All these clearly call for action on a national level.

In the light of the significance of forest conservation for national defense and national welfare, the interdependence of states in regard to timber supply, and the extent to which the Federal Government must function in the fields just mentioned, it is strange that the question of federal responsibility in respect to regulation of cutting practices has appeared so controversial.

Without prejudice to the capacity and ability of several strong states to shoulder the public responsibility for keeping forest lands within their borders productive, it is true that many of the states where action is most urgent will have great difficulty in handling the job effectively. And only under federal leadership can the public have assurance of uniformity of policy between states and of freedom from undesirable competitive conditions arising either from temptation or pressure in individual states to keep standards low.

The time has come to look beyond the exigencies of war to assure full and continued productivity of our vital natural resources. A comprehensive forest policy in which regulation of forest practices must go hand in hand with better protection, expansion of public aids, increased public ownership, and continuing research will prove indispensable in the structure of security which we hope will mark an enduring peace.

NORTH PACIFIC REGION
FOREST SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



E. T. ALLEN
Dec. 1908 - Nov. 1909



C. S. CHAPMAN
Dec. 1909 - Mar. 1911



GEO. H. CECIL
April, 1911 - Feb. 1925



C. M. GRANGER
Mar. 1925 - Feb. 1930



C. J. BUCK
Feb. 1930 - Mar. 1939



LYLE F. WATTS
April 1, 1939 -

He Guards a Forest Legacy

Teddy Roosevelt Called It a Job
Of 'Sacred Trust' . . . Today It Is
In the Hands of a Portland Man

ance against the destruction of reforested areas as well as commercial timber stands."

For many years divergent groups have wrangled over the use of America's national forests. Fishermen want power and irrigation dams kept out. Lumber companies believe that careless fishermen start wanton fires. Campers dislike indiscriminate grazing. Stockmen resent the influence of recreationists. Some conservation groups believe the national forests should be entirely closed to commercial development. They claim that commercial use is ruining the solitudes.

What is the attitude of the new chief forester in this respect? "Obviously," he contends, "our national forests, our timbered mountains, are essential to a lot of uses. It is my philosophy that all these uses can be enjoyed on any sizeable area at the same time. Surely there are areas like camp grounds and roadsides where neither timber cutting nor grazing can be allowed, or if it is allowed, then restricted to the off-season. There are winter ranges which must be held for game, and there are areas where the system of timber cutting must be varied to meet public demands.

CO-OPERATION:

**Insures All Groups
Of Forest Equipment**

"But, by and large, we can do all of these things on the same area if there is a fine degree of co-operation between the different classes of users; if we have tolerance of the other fellow's views and he of ours. Probably no single use can be enjoyed 100 per cent under this multiple-use administration. But the stockman can enjoy 75 per cent of the things he wants. The wildlifer can have perhaps 75 per cent as much big game as he would have with com-

said to him, "Remember that other fellow may be right. And Watts commented, "You have to approach issues with that kind of open mind. Otherwise you will be arbitrary and dogmatic and stubborn. No one is infallible."

Safeguarding the wilderness is practically a creed with the slender man who has made forestry his career. Trees to him are no mere inanimate growth

WOODS:

**Hold Deep Meaning
For Chief Forester**

As Watts strolls through wood in Oregon or a grove in Montana, each sight has meaning for him—the acorns on the ground, the scars on the tree trunks, the patches of snow on the distant hills, the color of the water in the creeks, the chirping of the squirrels, the tracks of deer and elk. These things tell him about the health of the wilderness, just as vein and skin and eyes denote to a physician the condition of his patient. After a journey in eastern Oregon, Watts observed to Justice William O. Douglas of the supreme court that he had seen some uplands grazed bare and that grazing would have to be watched.

Lyle Watts will not be the desk-pounding, noisy type of executive. He is essentially quiet. Around the logs of a leaping fire in the woods, I have seen him say less than anyone else in the group, although he has been of all was qualified to comment on the topics of conversation. But when he did talk, everyone listened and what he said was generally right to the core of the subject. "Mr. Watts knows an awful lot about the woods, doesn't he?" young Jimmy Rosenman, son of Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, asked me on a drive up the Hood river valley one sunny afternoon three years ago.

Watts' friends in the Pacific



Moccasin lake in the Wallowa mountains is typical of the northwest forest solitudes. To Lyle Watts, America's new chief forester, forests like this represent the

Watts started in forest service at 26 as a laborer. Today chief forester of the United States. He is the first man the far west in years to reach that high position.

Lyle Watts, New Chief Forester, Views Nation's Wooded Regions As a Heritage of All the People

HARD L. NEUBERGER
Staff Writer, The Oregonian
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In the United States forest service Lyle Watts came up the hard way. He is, so to speak, the former switchman who became president of the railroad, the paper boy who became editor. In 1913, when he was 23 years old, he started with the forest service as a laborer. He cleared trails, felled trees, saddled horses, cleaned stables. Most of this toil took place in Utah. In 1915 he met Nell Bowman in Ogden and married her. They have two children—Gordon L. Watts, a lieutenant of engineers at Camp Claibourne, Louisiana, and June A. Watts, who is an employe of the Willamette

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The Guards a



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Lyle Watts, New Chief Forester, Views Nation's Wooded Regions As a Heritage of All the People

BY RICHARD L. NEUBERGER
Special Writer, The Oregonian

THE FIRST WILDERNESS trip I ever made with Lyle Watts was on the steep watershed of the Mount Hood national forest. We were sitting on a lava crag which faced off towards eastern Oregon. In the shadows of late afternoon, the firs of the Pacific slope blended evenly with the distant pine woods of the dry region. We seemed to be riding the bowsprit of a ship cleaving a measureless green sea.

Watts pointed eastward, out over the vast solitudes. "This scene represents the heritage of America," he said. "Forests like this one belong to all the American people, to men and women in every state. It is up to us to

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using these forests and saving them. We must use them today for lumber, for recreation, for grazing, for drainage and water supply. And we must save them for the next generation, so that they, in turn, can claim similar benefits."

"In the gathering dusk his blue eyes—the eyes of a forester—were bright with enthusiasm.

This is the philosophy which Lyle Ford Watts now brings to the most important forestry post on earth, the position of chief of the United States forest service. At 52 he has just become America's first chief forester in four years. Since Ferdinand A. Silcox died in 1939, the forest service has had no permanent head. The assignment had been filled by temporary appointments until last month, when President Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard suddenly decided upon Watts.

AMERICA:
Foremost Among Lumber Producers

ter company in Portland.

In 1928 Lyle Watts took graduate courses in forestry at Utah Agricultural college, and the next year was appointed a silviculturist for the forest service. He studied trees from roots to crown. From 1931 until 1936 he was director of the northern Rocky mountain forest experiment station, and in 1936 he was appointed regional forester for the north central region, which centered on the states of the Great Lakes. There he did an outstanding job in aiding in the resuscitation of a once-great lumber area.

Five years ago Mr. Silcox, then chief of the forest service, placed Watts in charge of the organization's most important region. This region is the Pacific northwest, which supplies more than a third of the lumber of the nation. Watts moved to Portland, where he made his home until last month, when he was called to Washington to head the forest service in all 48 states and Alaska. He and his

family lived at 809-N. E. 39th avenue.

The forest service's new chief is a friendly, mild-mannered man. On the trail he says little but sees much. At the end of a wilderness day he can tell his companions around the camp fire the condition of the range, the flow of the streams, the quality of the timber, the survival opportunities of the wild life. Like Thoreau, the wilderness to him is a page to be read. Watts has the long, easy lope of a woodsman and covers ground tirelessly. Tramping is no effort for him, although in recent years some trouble with his back has restricted his activity.

In a world at war, with America the principal arsenal of the democratic nations, the position of chief forester of the United States is more important than ever before. Lumber is a critical material, one of the most critical of all. It requires hun-

dreds of board feet to house each soldier. Shipyards use vast quantities of lumber for piles and airplanes. The forests and England's accumulations are war is five amounts will be re the shatter rope.

FOREST Lumber

Lyle F. Watts is available for the forests and wood... he said on the slopes of Mount Hood that bright... he must try both to... save them... chief forester ever faced a former task for

by high wages, sh the more recent tions."

As basic precautionures Watts has uirements for be

1. Insure the lea ed seed trees of c cies and prevent sary destruction tion and immat growth.

2. Insure safegus control of fire, inc lude of preventive

3. Prevent clear deforestation unles surance is forthcoo rnal restocking or of replanting.

4. Prevent the us tive logging methoc ment.

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AMERICA:

Foremost Among Lumber Producers

The United States produces more lumber than any other nation. In America grow the world's greatest stands of timber. The management and protection of this invaluable resource are now the responsibility of a lean, rangy Portlander who in 1938 became head of the forest service in the Pacific northwest. Watts occupies a post long held in esteem by the American people. Gifford Pinchot first filled it, John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt called it a job of sacred trust.

The chief forester of the United States is directly in charge of the national forests of the land. These forests embrace the country's most magnificent wilderness—the hardwood forests of Michigan, the Lake Superior meadows, the dense "rain forests" of the Oregon sea coast, Idaho's lordly Ponderosa pines, the gentle woodlands of the southern states. America's national forests aggregate 151,897,000 acres. This is nearly three times the area of the British Isles.

To a post so crowded with responsibility Lyle F. Watts of Portland, Oregon, brings a rich background of forestry experience. He was born in Cerro Gordo county of Iowa on November 18, 1890. He attended the public schools of Clear Lake, Iowa, and later his family moved to Bellingham, Washington. He returned to his native

hard way. He is, so to speak, a former switchman who became president of the railroad, the paper boy who became editor. In 1913, when he was 23 years old, he started with the forest service as a laborer. He cleared trails, felled trees, saddled horses, cleaned stables. Most of this toil took place in Utah. In 1915 he met Nell Bowman in Ogden and married her. They have two children—Gordon L. Watts, a lieutenant of engineers at Camp Claibourne, Louisiana, and June A. Watts, who is an

ter company in Portland.

In 1928 Lyle Watts took graduate courses in forestry at Utah Agricultural college, and the next year was appointed a silviculturist for the forest service. He studied trees from roots to crown. From 1931 until 1936 he was director of the northern Rocky mountain forest experiment station, and in 1936 he was appointed regional forester for the north central region, which centered on the states of the Great Lakes. There he did an outstanding job in aiding in the resuscitation of a once-great lumber area.

Five years ago Mr. Silcox, then chief of the forest service, placed Watts in charge of the organization's most important region. This region is the Pacific northwest, which supplies more than a third of the lumber of the nation. Watts moved to Portland, where he made his home until last month, when he was called to Washington to head the forest service in all 48 states and Alaska. He and his

Moccasin lake in the Wallowa mountains is typical of the northwest forests. Watts, America's new chief forester, forests like this represent the "her

family lived at 809 N. E. 39th avenue.

The forest service's new chief is a friendly, mild-mannered man. On the trail he says little but sees much. At the end of a wilderness day he can tell his companions around the camp fire the condition of the range, the flow of the streams, the quality of the timber, the survival opportunities of the wild life. Like Thoreau, the wilderness to him is a page to be read. Watts has the long, easy lope of a woodsman and covers ground tirelessly. Tramping is no effort for him, although in recent years some trouble with his back has restricted his activity.

In a world at war, with America the principal arsenal of the democratic nations, the position of chief forester of the United States is more important than ever before. Lumber is a critical material, one of the most critical of all. It requires hun-

dreds of board feet to house each soldier. Shipyards use vast quantities of lumber for piles and decking. Spruce for airplanes is needed in America and England. Military cantonments are literally huge lumber accumulations. And when the war is finally won, enormous amounts of American timber will be required to reconstruct the shattered continent of Europe.

FORESTER: Has to Make Sure Lumber Adequate

Lyle F. Watts must see to it that sufficient lumber is available for victory. And he also must see to it that the forests and woodlands are spared for the next generation. As he said on the slopes of Mount Hood that bright afternoon, he must try both to use the forests and save them. No chief forester ever faced a sterner task, for never was lumber in such urgent demand. In fact, the war production board has listed wood along with steel and aluminum as one of the vital sinews of war. Without an adequate supply of lumber, the war machine would jolt to a creaking halt.

Lyle Watts is an advocate of sustained yield. This means that the forest should be maintained as a going institution, the amount of lumber cut being kept in balance with the new growth. "Yet," he recently added, "sustained yield for the nation or region or state is not enough. We must get right down to sustained yield for communities or working circles. Just so long as we are satisfied with a type of sustained yield that balances an overcut on Puget sound territory by an undercut in southwestern Oregon—that long we will miss the answer to the real problem.

"It's a human problem. Frankly, it is the woods' workers and their families which come first in my mind as I view our forest problem. It is the communities that are built up and broken down. It is the unemployment and relief loads and distressed local governments that follow in the wake of closed mills that make a national problem. If you have worked in the Lake states or the Ozarks, you get the point. Shifting populations and ups and downs in community well-being can never be overcome



—Forest Service photo.
Fishermen want power and irrigation dams kept from streams; lumbermen accuse careless fishermen of starting fires . . . etc. But Lyle Watts believes there is room in the forests for all groups if they but co-operate and heed other fellow's rights.

Guardians a Forest Legacy



**Teddy Roosevelt Called It a Job
Of 'Sacred Trust' . . . Today It Is
In the Hands of a Portland Man**

ance against the destruction of reforested areas as well as commercial timber stands."

For many years divergent groups have wrangled over the use of America's national forests. Fishermen want power and irrigation dams kept out. Lumber companies believe that careless fishermen start wanton fires. Campers dislike indiscriminate grazing. Stockmen resent the influence of recreationists. Some conservation groups believe the national forests should be entirely closed to commercial development. They claim that commercial use is ruining the solitudes.

What is the attitude of the new chief forester in this respect? "Obviously," he contends, "our national forests, our timbered mountains, are essential to a lot of uses. It is my philosophy that all these uses can be enjoyed on any sizeable area at the same time. Surely there are areas like camp grounds and roadsides where neither timber cutting nor grazing can be allowed, or if it is allowed, then restricted to the off-season. There are winter ranges which must be held for game, and there are areas where the system of timber cutting must be varied to meet public demands.

CO-OPERATION:

**Insures All Groups
Of Forest Equipment**

"But, by and large, we can do all of these things on the same area if there is a fine degree of co-operation between the different classes of users; if we have tolerance of the other fellow's views and he of ours. Probably no single use can be enjoyed 100 per cent under this multiple-use administration. But the stockman can enjoy 75 per cent of the things he wants. The wildlifer can have perhaps 75 per cent as much big game as he would have with complete elimination of livestock. The recreationist can get an

said to him, "Remember the other fellow may be right." And Watts commented, "You have to approach issues with that kind of open mind. Otherwise you will be arbitrary and dogmatic and stubborn. No one is infallible."

Safeguarding the wilderness is practically a creed with this slender man who has made forestry his career. Trees to him are no mere inanimate growths.

WOODS:

**Hold Deep Meaning
For Chief Forester**

As Watts strolls through a wood in Oregon or a grove in Montana, each sight has meaning for him—the acorns on the ground, the scars on the tree trunks, the patches of snow on the distant hills, the color of the water in the creeks, the chirping of the squirrels, the tracks of deer and elk. These things tell him about the health of the wilderness, just as veins and skin and eyes denote to a physician the condition of his patient. After a journey in eastern Oregon, Watts observed to Justice William O. Douglas of the supreme court that he had seen some uplands grazed bare and that grazing would have to be watched.

Lyle Watts will not be the desk-pounding, noisy type of executive. He is essentially quiet. Around the logs of a leaping fire in the woods, I have seen him say less than anyone else in the group, although he best of all was qualified to comment on the topics of conversation. But when he did talk, everyone listened and what he said was generally right to the core of the subject. "Mr. Watts knows an awful lot about the woods, doesn't he?" young Jimmy Rosenman, son of Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, asked me on a drive up the Hood river valley one sunny afternoon three years ago.

Watts' friends in the Pacific northwest are legion. They include fellow foresters like Jack

in the Wallowa mountains is typical of the northwest forest solitudes. To Lyle Watts, the new chief forester, forests like this represent the "heritage" of the nation, a nature to "all the American people, to men and women of every state."

809-N. E. 39th
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noid standing lumber industry men like E. T. Clark and Colonel Greeley, wildlife authorities like William L. Finley, forestry experts like Dr. George W. Peavey, planners like Lieutenant-Colonel Roy Bessey. Not for many years has anyone from the far west been elevated



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As basic precautionary measures Watts has urged five requirements for better forestry:

1. Insure the leaving of needed seed trees of desirable species and prevent the unnecessary destruction of reproduction and immature young growth.
2. Insure safeguarded use and control of fire, including exercise of preventive measures.
3. Prevent clear cutting and deforestation unless positive assurance is forthcoming of natural restocking or, if need be, of replanting.
4. Prevent the use of destructive logging methods and equipment.
5. Prevent excessive grazing in critical run-off, erosion and forest reproduction areas.

Some of these proposals are already in effect. A number of lumber companies have adopted them. The 1941 session of the Oregon state legislature, at the urging of Governor Charles A. Sprague, enacted laws requiring a certain proportion of trees to be spared in the cutting of timber. These trees will serve to seed the land for a new growth. Many lumbermen have voluntarily abandoned the old "cut out and get out" philosophy and have undertaken strenuous conservation programs.

Watts regards the Pacific northwest as the one region in the land where a substantial growth of timber can be perpetuated. In other regions entirely new starts must be made. "The Pacific northwest," he said not long ago, "still has vast areas of virgin forests, in spite of the fact that we already have cut out the better half of the timber of Washington and are beginning to concentrate in Oregon. The Douglas fir belt in western Oregon and Washington has one-third of the remaining old growth timber of continental United States."

Watts has frequently declared that adequate reforestation is dependent upon effective fire control. Otherwise, in his opinion, the new trees will simply constitute a fire trap. Small trees, scattered among underbrush, are mostly tinder. "In many places," he once told a meeting of lumber workers, "a tree-planting program would be providing fuel for fires which will occur unless a nationwide program for protecting all forest lands from fire gives insur-

allowed, then restricted to the off-season. There are winter ranges which must be held for game, and there are areas where the system of timber cutting must be varied to meet public demands.

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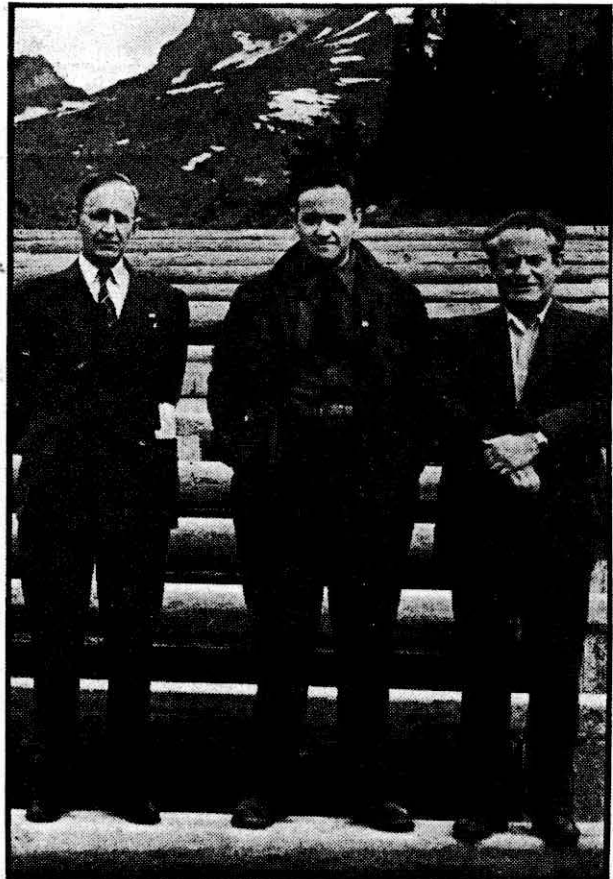
wants from the hills even though some areas look bad immediately after logging or a band of sheep has trailed a road he travels and destroyed the wild flowers. That's multiple use. It's tolerance with the other man's viewpoint so that our vast wilderness can do the most to improve our conditions."

This statement epitomizes the kind of chief forester Lyle F. Watts will probably be. An ardent conservationist, he nevertheless believes that the vast national forests of the United States can be adjusted to all the demands of a complex society, in war as well as in peace. Once he told me that an old pioneer in eastern Oregon

held standing, lumber industry men like E. T. Clark and Colonel Greeley, wildlife authorities like William L. Finley, forestry experts like Dr. George W. Peavey, planners like Lieutenant-Colonel Roy Bessey. Not for many years has anyone from the far west been elevated to the principal forestry position in the land. Men who have been associated with Lyle F. Watts feel certain he will establish a distinguished precedent. And they also point to the advantage of having America's forest resources supervised by a man thoroughly familiar with the dominant forest region of the continent, the Pacific northwest.



Forest Service photo. Captured from streams: fighting fires . . . etc. The forests for all the fellow's rights.



Three years ago Lyle Watts, left, and the author, center, took Judge Samuel L. Rosenman, one of President Roosevelt's chief advisers, to Timberline lodge, high on Mount Hood. Rosenman was much impressed with Watts' forestry knowledge.

History-

The following information may be of interest to some of the current and retired members of the Forest Service "family":

Mrs. Nell B. (nee Bowman) Watts, the widow of Lyle F. Watts (chief of the Forest Service 1942-52), died peacefully in her sleep early March 28, 1983, at Ave Maria Convalescent Hospital in Monterey, California. She was 95 years old - born January 29, 1888, in Park City, Utah.

She is survived by a son - Gordon Lyle Watts, of nearby Carmel, California - and by six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Gordon, his wife Virginia, and two of the grand-daughters were with her shortly before her death. She was weak but serene and still smiling.

(Used in Daily News Digest
about a month ago.)

Rec'd 2-2-82

9500 Center Street, Apartment 10
Carmel, California, 93923
January 27, 1982

Mr. Charles P. Teague, Jr.
Director of Administrative Management
Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20013

Dear Chuck:

Since I wrote to you on February 23, 1981, some further information about my father (Lyle F. Watts) has been provided to me. This makes it desirable for me to make some substantial changes in some of the data which I provided to you then, in Items No. 1, 2, 3, and 6, in the writeup titled "LYLE FORD WATTS - BIO-GRAPHICAL DATA".

It appears to be simpler to rewrite these items completely than to attempt to detail the changes individually. The revised items are enclosed.

Recently, while I was visiting our daughter in Santa Cruz, I talked briefly by phone to Ronald Fahl of the Forest History Society. I told him I was sending you these changes. He suggested that I send a copy directly to him, in case time might be important in the biographical project. I am doing this.

Please feel free to contact me if it appears that I can be of any further service.

Warmest regards to you and anyone else I may still know in the Washington Office.

Sincerely,



Gordon L. Watts

Enclosure

LYLE FORD WATTS - REVISED BIOGRAPHICAL DATA
(Provided by Gordon L. Watts 1/27/82)

1. My father, Lyle Ford Watts, was born on the Watts family farm (settled on by Lyle's grandfather, Daniel Philmore Watts, in 1875 - farm size unknown) in Section 28, Lincoln Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa (near Clear Lake) on November 18, 1890. Lyle's middle name probably came from his mother's mother (his grandmother) Jean Ford, whose father (Lyle's great grandfather) was James Ford.
2. Lyle's parents were James A. Watts and Mary Jane Liggett, who were married on April 27, 1879. (Some family records show his mother's name as "Leggit", and others as "Ligget" and "Liggitt", but the first spelling was used by Lyle.

James was born on July 3, 1851, in Gloucestershire, England, at a place presently unknown. He died on May 29, 1924, in Bellingham, Washington. Mary Jane was born on January 11, 1860, in ~~the~~ Waukon, probably Iowa (some family records show Waukon, Wisconsin, but no such place is listed in current atlases). She died on May 17, 1919, in Bellingham, Washington.

3. Information about Lyle and his brothers and sisters, in the order of their births:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Death Date</u>	<u>Last Residence</u>
Lester (Died in infancy)	Jan. 14, 1880	Mar. 21, 1880	Cerro Gordo County, Iowa
Shirley A. (Brother)	? , 1881	? , 1945	Probably Clear Lake, Iowa
(Leslie) Robert (Brother)	? , 1882-3?	Unknown	Fon du Lac, Wisconsin
Alice (Sister - married name Meyers) - <u>twin</u>)	? , 1884	Feb. ? , 1962	Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Gladys (Sister - married name O'Neil - <u>twin</u>)	? , 1884	Unknown	Bellingham, Washington
Cecil Clair (Brother)	Aug. 23, 1888	Aug. 9, 1969	Clear Lake, Iowa
✓ Lyle Ford	Nov. 18, 1890	June 15, 1962	Portland, Oregon

6. Available information indicates that Lyle and his parents moved to Bellingham, Washington, for about one year (1903-04) during his youth. However, otherwise he attended grade school and high school (and was graduated from high school) in Clear Lake, Iowa, before attending Iowa State College in Ames.

Watts
File

Biographical Sketch of Lyle Ford Watts (1890-1962)

By Frank J. Harmon

Lyle Watts, seventh Chief of the Forest Service (1943-52), was born November 18, 1890 near Clear Lake, Iowa, and studied forestry at Iowa State College, Ames, receiving his B.S. degree in 1913. He later received M.S.F. and honorary D.Sc. degrees there. As a student he had two summer jobs with the Forest Service, which he joined upon graduation, remaining in it for over 38 years, virtually his entire career, both in field research and land management work.

He was soon put in charge of timber survey work in Wyoming and Utah, then directed nursery tree planting in Idaho. He served as supervisor of three National Forests in Idaho, 1918-26, then as assistant chief, forest management, Intermountain Region, 1926-28. For 15 months he organized and headed the school of forestry at Utah State College, Logan, then rejoined the Forest Service as senior silviculturist for the experiment station at Ogden, directing watershed studies. In 1931 he became director of the experiment station at Missoula, Mont., supervising a broad range of research studies.

In February 1936 Watts was appointed North Central Regional Forester at Milwaukee, Wis., during a period of largescale establishment and expansion of National Forests in that region. Three years later he took the same post for the heavily forested Pacific Northwest Region at Portland, Ore. In the fall of 1942 he was special assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard for farm labor activities. On January ⁸/~~16~~ 1943 he became Chief of the Forest Service, serving during the critical war and postwar period when many special forest product and planning projects were undertaken.

Watts was ^{an} earnest advocate of State, private, and Federal cooperation to assure more efficient and less wasteful timber harvesting methods by operators

on privately owned land, backed up by Federal regulation as a last resort. However, Federal regulation never became law, and in this respect he was unsuccessful as had been his like-minded predecessors, Gifford Pinchot, Henry Graves, Ferdinand Silcox, and Earle Clapp. Nevertheless, conditions gradually improved through State laws and the good example of some major firms. Watts also helped get much important cooperative legislation passed that advanced forestry nationwide, particularly technical services to landowners.

Watts himself regarded his major accomplishments as Chief as a more than 20 percent reduction in cattle grazing on national forest lands in 10 years despite fierce opposition, a balanced increase in timber cut up to sustained yield levels, to meet greatly increased postwar demands, and a policy of selecting vigorous and capable young men for leadership positions aimed at retaining the agency's forward-looking, aggressive tradition. Watts also helped start international forestry work under the United Nations, for which he received an award from France. He died June 15, 1962 in Portland.

References:

Biographical file of press releases, History Section, Forest Service.

"They Never Retire," American Forests, 60:7 (July 1954), pp. 13, 52-54.

"He Guards a Forest Legacy," The Sunday Oregonian, Portland, Ore., February 21, 1943, p. 6.

Obituary, Journal of Forestry, 60:7 (July 1962), p. 582.

Retyped 1/28/81

Daniel Dildine (1973-74)

LYLE F. WATTS (1890-1962)

In studying Lyle F. Watts, seventh Chief of the Forest Service (1943-52) one is impressed by the man's unassuming character, his simplicity, his patience and tolerance: traits that belied, yet strengthened, a strong potential for leadership. A European forester, described Watts' role after World War II in bringing international forestry into the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: "It was Watts, the American, who contributed most. He brought us what we so greatly needed--a vision and tolerance and integrity. We trusted him." This perhaps embodied his style.

Watts gained his reputation for understatement and dedication early in his long Forest Service career. Born in November 18, 1890 near Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, Watts ~~and his family later moved to Bellingham, Wash. He returned to his native State to study forestry, perhaps inspired by the virgin forests of the Northwest,~~ and earned his bachelor's degree in that subject at Iowa State College, Ames, graduating in 1913, cum laude. He worked earlier as a student assistant during two summers for the Forest Service in Utah and Minnesota.

NO

Shortly after graduation he spent his last two dollars on train fare to Forest Service Intermountain Region headquarters at Ogden, Utah. There the lean, shy 23-year-old announced his presence with a humble "reporting for duty, Sir," and gratefully accepted an advance on his first month's pay. He felled trees, saddled horses, cleaned stables, and learned forestry from the ground up. Exact knowledge of the timber resources of the National Forests was scarce at the time. The need for information was met by crews of young foresters engaged in mapping and timber surveys--timber reconnaissance. This was

considered a sort of finishing school for new foresters itching for a taste of western National Forests. The work was hard, the hours long and usually spent in rugged terrain. Watts gained a reputation as one of the best men on the trail. At the end of a day of bushwhacking he could tell his companions around the campfire the conditions of the range, the flow of the streams, the quality of the timber, the survival opportunities of the wildlife. Watts could read the wilderness, detect symptoms of distress, much as a doctor diagnoses a patient. It soon became apparent that Watts' low-profile demeanor was an attitude, not an indication of his capabilities.

His aptitude for on-the-trail, in-the-woods diagnoses remained with him for life. In 1947 his knowledge of the Northern Rockies, garnered years before from many weeks of packing over high ranges, stood him in good stead. A Congressional committee had summoned Watts, then Chief, to a stormy hearing on grazing rights held in Grand Junction, Colo. An embittered rancher thinking to call Watts to task addressed him, "Mister, you're just one of those swivel chair guys from Washington. I don't believe you know a damned thing about ranching!" Watts pointed to a wall map and asked the rancher whether he'd ever been up through several of the more remote passes. The rancher grudgingly said no, he hadn't. Watts had been, and recently. He had seen the eroded soil, the result of overgrazing by that very same rancher's cattle. His on-the-ground inspection tours and informal surveys as Chief provided him with a warehouse of important information about the back country.

Young Watts spent his first two Forest Service years as a forest assistant doing timber reconnaissance work in the Intermountain Region. During this period he met Nell Bowman in Ogden and married her. Ascending through the ranger grades to forest examiner, deputy supervisor and supervisor of the Boise

National Forest, then from 1920 to 1926 serving successively as Supervisor of the Weiser and Idaho National Forests, all in Idaho, Watts continued with quiet persistence to make a name for himself.

During his days as forest examiner on the Cache National Forest, Idaho, Watts was also charged with nursery production of trees for forest plantings. He was sent to Pocatello, Idaho, and put in charge of 25 men with food and supplies to plant trees in the dry sagebrush country. It seemed certain to Watts the trees would die, and the waste of sugar, flour, and money during wartime (World War II) seemed criminal. Watts wrote to Lee Kneipp, the Regional Forester, and expressed his views. Kneipp insisted Watts continue with the work. Later, the job completed, Kneipp commented on the episode and established a career guidepost for Watts: "You did a good job, Watts. It wouldn't have been a test of your ability if you had had confidence in what you were doing. You made it a real test by doing a good job anyway." The trees died but Watts' reputation grew.

In 1926 he was made forest inspector at Ogden. In 1928 he received his honorary master of forestry degree from Iowa State College. That spring he left the Forest Service to organize and direct the School of Forestry at the Utah State Agricultural College. In the fall of 1929 he returned to the Forest Service as senior silviculturist of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Ogden where for two years he worked on forest and watershed studies in Utah. In 1931 he was named director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Mont., where he directed Forest Service research in Montana and Northern Idaho. Watts was a scholar as well as a woodsman. Forestry to him meant scientific understanding of the growth of timber. Indeed with his frameless glasses, high forehead,

thin face and quiet manner, Watts looked more a college professor than a ranger.

During his term as director of the Experiment Station he worked on a portion of the comprehensive study of the western public range published in 1936, entitled "The Western Range--A Great But Neglected Resource." Prepared by a corps of Forest Service specialists, it revealed the massive degradation of the range from many years of over stocking and over grazing, and the urgent need for restoration and conservation. Elevating range management to the high level of timber management remained a major goal for him. In an evaluation of his accomplishments as Chief, he put a reduction of more than 20 percent in national forest range use by cattle at the top of the list.

In 1936 Watts was appointed Regional Forester of the North Central Region with headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis. The region--embracing the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin--was undergoing large-scale public land acquisition and reforestation to restore its once great timber resource. In 1939 he was transferred to Portland, Oreg., in charge of the North Pacific (now Pacific Northwest) Region. There he gained an intimate knowledge of the intricacies and problems of our nation's most heavily forested area.

In the fall of 1942 Watts was called to Washington, D.C., as a special assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard for wartime farm labor activities. His experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his extensive contacts with livestock men, construction outfits, and the public, made him an ideal choice. The previous two years he had served as chairman of the Department's regional committee on postwar planning. On January 8, 1943, Watts was appointed Chief of the Forest Service. With 30 years as a career forester under his belt; experience as a

regional research director, a field worker, director of 2 National Forest regions and service in 4 out of the 10 regions, Watts was eminently suited for the position that John Muir and Theodore Roosevelt had both called one of sacred trust. Watts took this concept seriously, once remarking: "Sorta makes you feel good all over to know your country trusts you with all this (the vast acreage of National Forests). And the thing that keeps you on your toes is--will the next generation think you've done all right by 'em?"

Lyle Watts' first duty as Chief Forester was to insure sufficient timber for a nation at war. As a stern advocate of sustained yield he also had to see that forest reserves remained for the next generation. His mandate was to use the forests, his creed was to preserve them for future productivity. War demand for lumber was prodigious; the emphasis was on use.

Early in the war it was recognized that lumber output was lagging. The Forest Service joined with the War Production Board in proposing a plan to utilize its far-flung field organization in a cooperative effort to stimulate maximum private timber output. The plan was violently opposed by the lumber industry, which claimed that there was no need for the plan, whereas the real fear was the threat of federally regulated cutting practices. The original plan was dropped under pressure. Yet the Board, facing increasing shortages in supplies, found that special efforts to maintain output of forest products was essential. A modified plan, the Timber Production War Project, was put into effect. This boosted sagging production and at the same time encouraged logging methods that left trees for future use. It's notable that the President's approval of the modified plan was subject to the understanding that where Federal aid was advanced, there had to be provisions to prevent destructive forest practices.

Watts' forest policy was summed up succinctly by former Chief William B. Greeley, using Watts' favorite symbol for his philosophy, the tripod. "One leg stood for the National Forests. He believed there had to be a larger backlog of forests in public ownership to stabilize the situation. The second leg was cooperation. The government should bring about as much of the needed betterment as it could by cooperation with the States and private owners. The third leg was regulation. He believed the program would be incomplete without Federal power, as a last resort to stop destructive cutting."

Watts believed regulation was vital to assure continued productivity of forest lands--to insure timber for the war effort, stability for communities and industries primarily dependent upon forest industries, emergency employment for demobilized troops after the war, and to provide for the timber needs of the country during postwar reconstruction. Watts saw the war as aggravating a trend of forest deterioration and depletion. He was particularly disturbed over a well-financed forest industries publicity campaign assuring the public ample precautions were already in use on private lands to insure the nation's future timber needs. However, Federal regulation never became law. In this legislative effort Watts failed as did Clapp, Silcox, and Pinchot before him, and with McArdle, his successor, regulation ceased being a major issue.

Some 2,000 employees left the Forest Service to enter the armed forces during World War II. Watts was nonetheless able to maintain the Agency's efficiency while also performing numerous special war jobs. These jobs included the guayule rubber project, large-scale logging of Sitka spruce in Alaska to provide lightweight frames for fighter aircraft, surveys of quinine, balsa, and other special forest product resources in Latin America, and emergency fire protection measures including a program that Watts personally supervised to train conscientious objectors to fight forest fires. Although the war effort was paramount, forest conservation legislation was not entirely

neglected. The Cooperative Sustained Yield Forest Management Act of 1944 ^{allowed} enabled communities and industries dependent on Federal forest resources access to Federal stumpage without competitive bidding. Legislation appropriating funds for advancing the nation-wide forest survey and increasing cooperative fire and reforestation work with the States was passed. The war years were full years indeed for the Service and its Chief.

Significant legislation improving cooperation between Federal and State governments and private landowners followed, including the Forest Pest Control Act of 1947 and the Cooperative Forest Management Act of 1950. The first established Government responsibility for protection of all forest lands from destruction by insects and disease. The second superseded the earlier Norris-Doxey Act and increased cooperation between the Department of Agriculture and the States in providing technical services to private landowners. Also in 1950 Watts, who had labored long in promoting and planning the project, launched the Timber Resource Review, a comprehensive appraisal of forest conditions in the United States. It was carried forward during McArdle's term.

Cooperation and technical help in forestry throughout the world became an issue after World War II, and Lyle Watts played a key role in making it viable. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), dedicated to alleviating world food and shelter problems, was a humanitarian result of the war. Lyle Watts represented the United States on a technical committee which pressed FAO to include international forestry in the scope of its activities. The committee's report, known as the "Third Report to the Governments of the United Nations," was a landmark conservation document. It defined the integral position of forestry in the world's economy. Watts was

later appointed chairman of FAO's standing advisory committee on forestry. International forestry consciousness today owes much to Watts for his efforts in its behalf.

True to his dictum that "leadership rested with young men," and feeling that "domination by old-timers would sap the crusading spirit" of the agency, Watts retired at the age of 62 in 1952. He thus followed a policy he himself began, of early retirement of leaders, once his earlier self-imposed task of finding "vigorous and capable younger men to replace" leaders who were becoming too old to "remain aggressive" and "forward looking." Watts remained active. His 38-year career with the Forest Service including 9 1/2 years as Chief made him a sought-after authority on national forestry matters. He returned to Portland, Oreg., and involved himself in conservation activities, serving as chairman of the Interim Committee to study Oregon's water resources.

Watts received the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole from France in 1947 for his work in world forestry. His alma mater, Iowa State College, awarded him an honorary Doctor's degree and the Alumni Merit Award. In 1950 he received a USDA Distinguished Service Award for "leadership in advancing the conservation of United States and world forest resources." These honors evidenced his devotion to world conservation and his effectiveness in its cause. Lyle Watts died June 15, 1962. Conservationists and foresters mourned the passing of a stalwart ally.

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Lyle F. Watts

GLAZIER
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They

Never Retire

An American Forests Profile

American Forests magazine
Vol. 60, No. 7
July 1954
p. 13, 52, 53, 54.

First asked what he regards as the main achievements in the Forest Service during his tenure as Chief. Mr. Watts replied, "Shortly after becoming Chief, I decided that management of watershed and range lands in the national forests must be brought up to the high level of timber management we had attained in the previous 40 years. As a result, we started to bring our house in order, so to speak.

"The ground for this new policy had been laid by the comprehensive study of the western range published in 1936 (Senate Document 199, 74th Congress, 2nd Session). This work, prepared by a corps of Forest Service specialists, among whom I was one, revealed the fearful deterioration of the range, much of which was in national forest, and the urgent need for restorative and above all recuperative measures.

"I was convinced that we couldn't continue to overstock and overgraze without inviting more devegetation and erosion, and in many areas watershed ruin. Although the reduction in cattle numbers on critical ranges wasn't popular with stockmen—to say the least—we stubbornly stuck to the policy. Opposition reached a climax shortly after the end of the war, when the stockmen, with the help of some members of Congress, tried to pass legislation to stop us. But our forest supervisors carried on, with the backing of the Secretary of Agriculture, and sometimes in the face of personal harassment and vilification.

"In ten years we effected a reduction of more than 20 percent in annual month-use by cattle of national forest range. The reduction should have been larger, but in my opinion it constitutes a substantial record, and has helped to build up many ranges and halt the ruin of important watersheds.

② "The second major policy change which I sponsored as Chief Forester was to increase the timber cut on the national forests, working circle by working circle, and bringing it up, wherever possible, to sustained-yield levels.

"During the depression of the 30's the lumber industry had insisted that the Forest Service should not cut much of its timber, in order to reserve the market for private owners. Recognizing the validity of this argument, the Service under President Hoover originated the policy of selling national forest timber only where it was needed to keep local sawmills in operation. When we entered the war demands for lumber skyrocketed,

Timber cutting

and pressure mounted to open up national forest stands. The Forest Service threw all its available energies into its job of helping to win the war. During the years 1943-52 the national forest timber cut jumped from one and one-half billion to nearly five billion feet annually, without impairing sustained yield. Had Congress given us adequate money to build access roads, the annual harvest could have risen to six and one-half billion feet.

"Thus, the policy inaugurated by Gifford Pinchot that national forest timber should be held in reserve to cushion the shock resulting from overcutting of private lands was an eminent success. Without the heavy contributions of the national forests, the shortage of sawlogs would have been far more acute.

③ "The third major policy change during my tenure as Chief dealt with the administration of the Forest Service (Turn to page 52)

AMERICAN FORESTS

They Never Retire

(From p. 13)

Every government agency must guard against the fatal dry rot which sets in with age. A criticism often hurled against old-line agencies is that they are backward rather than forward looking, unable to adjust to the times.

"It seemed to me that the magnificent organization which Pinchot, Graves, Greeley, and others had put together could not remain aggressive unless leadership rested with young men. Domination by old-timers would sap the crusading spirit and impair the Forest Service's crucial role.

"One of my persistent tasks, therefore, was to find vigorous and capable younger men to replace those who dropped out of positions of leadership through retirement or other causes. A study made a few years ago showed that the average age of the incumbents of the top 50 positions in the Forest Service was about eight years less than it had been ten years previously.

"Moreover, the Service started to build a tradition of early retirement—about 62 years of age. This tradition is still largely in effect. I have lived up to it myself by retiring at 62, and am still convinced that it is sound both for the individual and the organization."

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon ^{V.} Watts
9500 Center Street
Apartment ~~2~~ 10
Carmel, California 93927 3
Telephone: 408-624-9765

(1979)

Mrs. Nell (Lyle) Wat
~~lives in same bldg~~
1981 - lives in Monterey.
in wheelchair. Broke hip; over 4
Nursing home.

(Son of Lyle and Nell Watts - he ~~was~~ was a Forest Service
Chief ~~officer~~) } ARF - Region 4 - Ogden, UT
Retired in mid-1970's.

Does he have any of his father's
papers or memorabilia? Yes.

3/80.

Mrs. Watts, widow,

and Gordon L. Watts, son

~~(married)~~ (married)

(retired a few years ago)

from Region 4 - Ogden

are living in Carmel, Calif.

9500 Center St., Apt. 10

93923

They ^{do} ~~may~~ have some of his
papers, etc.

Tel.: 408-624-9765.

There is also a daughter. Dead.

Cyle F. Watts

Photo at desk

p. 47-l.

Chas. Hardy ms. -

The Histone Era of Forest
Fire Research

Watts Photo

432088

(with

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in Alaska

Form 265—(Revised Mar. 1944)
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
The Chief *JFW*

Lake Co. Examiner
(Name of paper)

Lakeview, Ore.
(Where published)

June 27, 1946
(Date of issue)

Fremont N. F.
(Sent by)
Lakeview, Oregon

Chief Forester Visits Fremont

The chief of the U. S. Forest Service, Lyle F. Watts, inspected timber areas on the Fremont National Forest this week. Watts, former regional forester of the North Pacific region, was accompanied by Regional Forester H. J. Andrews of Portland and Larry Mays, supervisor of the Fremont forest.

Watts expressed pleasure over the scenic timber strip along the Fremont highway northwest of Silver Lake. This scenic roadside area and those along the Lakeview-Klamath Falls highway on Quartz mountain have recently been acquired by the forest service and will be preserved in their natural beauty for those traveling these roads.

The chief forester also looked over some of the selectively logged areas of the Fremont forest and commented favorably on the condition of these young growing timber stands. Watts left Tuesday for the Ochoco, Malheur and Wallowa forests of eastern Oregon. On his way back to Washington he plans to visit his son, Gordon L. Watts, former army major now a forester in Idaho. The Watts also have a daughter, Mrs. Edward Perry, living near Corvallis.

son + adopted daughter
Former June A. Watts.
she died between 1955
and 1970.
Brother lost contact with
her family.

ROOM

WHO'S WHO

Vol. 24

May 1946

**PROOF FROM
PAGE AS OKEHED
FOR PLATING**

WATTS, Lyle Ford, forester; b. Cerro Gordo County, Ia., Nov. 18, 1890; s. James A. and Mary Jane (Liggett) W.; B.Sc. in forestry, Ia. State Coll., 1913, M.F., 1928; m. Nell Bowman, Dec. 5, 1915; children—Gordon Lyle, Arline June. Forest asst., U.S. Forest Service, 1913, forest examiner, 1917, asst. forest supervisor, 1918, supervisor, Weiser Nat. Forest, 1920, supervisor, Ida. Nat. Forest, 1922 forest inspector, 1926; dean Sch. of Forestry, Utah State Agrl. Coll., 1928; with U.S. Forest Service since 1929, sr. silviculturist, Intermountain Forest and Range Expt. Sta., 1929-30; dir., North Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Expt. Sta., 1931-36; regional forester, North Central Region (comprising Ind., Ill., Ia., Mich., Mo., N.D., O. and Wis.), 1936-39; regional forester, N. Pacific Region (Wash. and Or.), 1939-42; chief, U.S. Forest Service. Mem. Soc. Am. Foresters, Am. Forestry Assn., A.A.A.S., Izack Walton League, Alpha Zeta, Phi Kappa Phi, Presbyterian. Mason. Club: Cosmos. Contbr. of numerous scientific articles to tech. jous. and reports of Dept. of Agr. Home: 1911 R St. N.W. Office: U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Jan. 8, 1943

LYLE F. WATTS NAMED NEW CHIEF

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, and in recent months an assistant to the Secretary, as Chief of the Forest Service.

His appointment fills the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox, who was Chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939. Earle H. Clapp has been in charge as Acting Chief since Mr. Silcox's death.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts has had broad training for the assignment as Chief of the Forest Service. His experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions; several years in the research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the School of Forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. Mr. Watts' work in the Forest Service has been in four of the nine National Forest regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region, with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region, which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the Northern Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

For the past two years Mr. Watts has been Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

Because of his wide experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, he was brought to Washington last fall to assist the Secretary in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

Secretary Wickard said, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the nation in conserving and developing its forest lands."

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LYLE F. WATTS
Chief, United States Forest Service

Lyle F. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, November 18, 1890. After graduating from Iowa State College with a B. S. Degree in forestry, he entered the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in 1913. He spent two years as forest assistant on what is now the Bridger National Forest, Wyoming, and the Targhee National Forest in Idaho, and three years as forest examiner on the Wasatch and Cache National Forests, Utah, and Idaho, and the Bridger National Forest, assisting in timber survey work and grazing activities. On the Cache National Forest he also had charge of production of trees for forest planting at Pocatello Nursery.

In 1918 Mr. Watts became deputy forest supervisor of the Boise National Forest, Idaho. From late in 1920 to 1926, he served successively as supervisor of the Weiser and Idaho National Forests in Idaho. On March 1, 1926, he was transferred to the Intermountain Regional Office at Ogden, Utah, as assistant in forest management. The regional office has jurisdiction over Forest Service activities in Utah, southern Idaho, western Wyoming, and Nevada.

Mr. Watts left the Forest Service in 1928 to organize the School of Forestry of the Utah Agricultural College. A year later he reentered the Forest Service to serve at the Intermountain Forest Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah, where he directed silvics investigations and inaugurated important erosion-streamflow studies in southern Idaho. On August 1, 1931, he was transferred to the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station, with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. As Director of the Station he supervised forest research activities, including silvics, range, forest products, forest economics, and forest influence investigations, and coordinated the research of the Station with that of other agencies in related fields.

In 1936 he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as Regional Forester in charge of the North Central Region, embracing National Forests in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, where a large program of public land acquisition and reforestation was under way. On April 1, 1939, he became Regional Forester in charge of the North Pacific Region (Washington and Oregon), with headquarters at Portland. In January of 1943 Mr. Watts became Chief of the Forest Service.

Mr. Watts is a member of Alpha Zeta, honorary agricultural fraternity; Phi Kappa Phi, honorary science fraternity; the Society of American Foresters, the American Forestry Association, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

#

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THREE PLANTS TO SERVE YOU

Spring Meeting, Southern California Section

One hundred California foresters and their wives attended the annual spring meeting of the Southern California Section of the Society of American Foresters last May in Riverside at the Azure Hills Country Club. New Section officers elected at the meeting were: Carl Hickerson, U. S. Forest Service, Mentone, *chairman*; Ed Corpe, U. S. Forest Service, Pasadena, *vice chairman*; and Robert Lancaster, U. S. Forest Service, Fontana, *secretary*. Career Guidance Chairman Ralph Van Wagner reported on the successful First Annual Junior Forestry and Conservation Conference, co-sponsored by Section members. A field trip to the Big Bear Timber Company and Big Bear Particle Board Products plant near Redlands finished the day's activities. Members and wives participated in the spring banquet in the evening at the Country Club.

DON K. PORTER
Publicity Chairman



Oscar Montgomery Evans (1878-1962)

Oscar Montgomery Evans, 83, died at his home in Berkeley, Calif., after a brief illness on June 9.

Born in Chatham, Ontario, Canada, November 15, 1878, Mr. Evans received his B.S. in forestry from the University of Michigan in 1910.

Virtually all of his active career was spent in Region Five of the U. S. Forest Service where he was in charge of timber surveys for many years. After his retirement from the Forest Service, he worked for some time for the American Forest Products Company.

He had been a member of the Society of American Foresters since 1915.

Lyle F. Watts (1890-1962)

Lyle F. Watts, former chief of the U. S. Forest Service, died in Portland, Ore., June 15, after a long illness at the age of 71.

Mr. Watts was born at Clear Lake, Iowa, November 19, 1890. He obtained his B.S. in forestry from Iowa State College in 1913 and his Master degree from that institution in 1928. Entering the Forest Service in July 1913 he began early to progress upward through the ranks in national forest administration. He served successively as assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, super-



LYLE F. WATTS

visor of the Weiser and the Idaho National Forests, and as forest inspector in the Ogden, Utah, regional office.

In 1928 Mr. Watts left the Forest Service to organize and direct the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College.

Returning to the Service in 1929 he began work in research at the Invermount Forest and Range Experiment Station and two years later became director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Station.

From 1936 to 1939 Mr. Watts was regional forester of the North Central Region of the Forest Service. He then assumed the equivalent post in the Pacific Northwest Region. He was appointed chief of the Forest Service in January 1943, from which position he retired in June 1952 after a distinguished career marked with many honors. Among these were the Department of Agriculture Distinguished Service Award, the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the government of France, an honorary Doctor degree and the Alumni Merit Award from Iowa State College.

Mr. Watts served as chairman of the standing advisory committee on forestry of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and was United States representative to many international meetings involving conservation.

Mr. Watts became a member of the Society of American Foresters in 1921 and was elected a Fellow in 1945.

Edward J. Whalen (1913-1962)

Edward J. Whalen, 48, district forester of New York State Conservation Department District No. 5, died suddenly on June 7.

Born in Ithaca, N. Y., in 1913, Mr. Whalen began his forestry work in 1935 and graduated from Cornell University in 1937. He entered the U. S. Forest Service in 1937 and was assigned to the Bureau of Forestry, Department of Agriculture, where he subsequently transferred to the Indian Agency in New York. He transferred to the New York State Conservation Department in 1954, and was made a member of the New York State Foresters' Association in 1954.

Members and A

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Lyle F. Watts

They Never Retire

*An American Forests Profile

WHEN Lyle F. Watts stepped down as Chief Forester two years ago after 38 years with the Forest Service he returned to Portland, Oregon, in his native Northwest. However, his "retirement" to 5650 Sandycrest Terrace in the City of the Roses was very temporary. Like thousands of other professional and business leaders, Mr. Watts quickly showed that the word "retirement" is mostly a figure of speech in the American language these days. The Izaak Walton League promptly signed him up for special work. More recently Mr. Watts was called in to serve as chairman of the Interim Committee to study Oregon's water resources. Other assignments continue to beckon. In a word, Mr. Watts continues to be a very busy man.

Watts is known to thousands of people in the United States due to his long career with the Forest Service, including nine-and-a-half years as Chief. It is not uncommon to hear people remark "What does Lyle Watts think" of such and such an issue or subject. And while Former Chief Watts has been very actively engaged in the Northwest in a variety of undertakings, the fact dawned on AMERICAN FORESTS recently that not too much has been heard from him nationally since he left the Washington, D. C. scene. Accordingly, it was decided to ask Mr. Watts how he views his long career in the Forest Service in retrospect and what his opinions are on forestry progress today.

First asked what he regards as the main achievements in the Forest Service during his tenure as Chief, Mr. Watts replied, "Shortly after becoming Chief, I decided that management of watershed and range lands in the national forests must be brought up to the high level of timber management we had attained in the previous 40 years. As a result, we started to bring our house in order, so to speak.

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(Turn to page 52)



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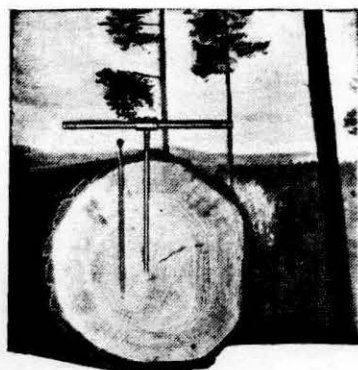
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They Never Retire

(From page 13)

ice. Every government agency must guard against the fatal dry rot which sets in with age. A criticism often hurled against old-line agencies is that they are backward rather than forward looking, unable to adjust to the times.

"It seemed to me that the magnificent organization which Pinchot, Graves, Greeley, and others had put together could not remain aggressive unless leadership rested with young men. Domination by old-timers would sap the crusading spirit and impair the Forest Service's crucial role.

"One of my persistent tasks, therefore, was to find vigorous and capable younger men to replace those who dropped out of positions of leadership through retirement or other causes. A study made a few years ago showed that the average age of the incumbents of the top 50 positions in the Forest Service was about eight years less than it had been ten years previously.

"Moreover, the Service started to build a tradition of early retirement—about 62 years of age. This tradition is still largely in effect. I have lived up to it myself by retiring at 62, and am still convinced that it is sound both for the individual and the organization."

Since Lyle Watts is one of the best informed men on the over-all forestry situation in the United States, AMERICAN FORESTS was anxious to know his present views on this subject.

"Great progress," he said, "has been made in the management of private timberlands, particularly in the past 15 years. This is most evident in the type of forestry practiced by industrial owners. It has been a great satisfaction to me to see the

spread of forestry on private lands to watch Gifford Pinchot's precepts take root. Many industrial owners, employing well-trained young foresters, are doing a capable job in handling their lands but some are not.

"Nor must we forget that half of our commercial woodland is in the hands of small owners, and despite a substantial increase in farm income, education and tree planting, there is little to be complacent about in that type of ownership—especially when we remember that the hard core of forest products for a growing American population must come from small holdings. Progress is just a little slow.

"One of the answers to the problem of how to align forest management with the greatest good of the greatest number—to use a hackneyed phrase—is, I think, some type of control of cutting on private lands. Many of my friends in the industry will object, perhaps strenuously to such an approach. Yet the first steps in this direction have been taken by many states including California, Oregon and Washington. Unfortunately, they are merely a promising beginning since in no state are timber cutting requirements adequate for the proper management of second-growth stands.

"The kind of regulation I would advocate is a combination of state and federal control, the states enacting the laws and doing the regulation job on the basis of broad requirements established by the federal government much as in Clarke-McNary fire control activities."

Since Mr. Watts is now a resident of Portland, Oregon and is active in conservation movements in the Pacific Northwest, AMERICAN FORESTS asked what he thought of the forest situation in this region, which contains the bulk of America's sawtimber.

"You ask about the forestry situation in this region," Mr. Watts continued. "If you mean intensive forestry, I will say it's hard to find any. There probably won't be until we have a profitable market for small material. That means a much greater demand from pulp and paper mills. To me it is clear that such a demand will come rapidly yet our Pacific Northwest foresters seem satisfied with a stand of 400 to 500 trees per acre—instead of 1000 to 1500—

ten years after the old growth is cut. That sort of an understocked stand will mean the loss of an improvement thinning in 25 years, and perhaps a second thinning in 40 years. It will also mean a poor quality of sawlogs when the forest matures 100 years hence. We might call this half-loaf forestry.

"I am uneasy that too much emphasis is being placed on the rapid harvesting of old-growth Douglasfir lands because of overmaturity. We must rationalize the overcutting of sawtimber in Oregon by overstressing losses in virgin stands. I do not underestimate the need for salvage and sanitation cuttings to aid in insect and disease control, but one may well be concerned about a cut of nearly one billion board feet in Oregon in 1952 with a total sawlog volume of only 314 billion feet in the state, or a cut of 4.3 billion feet in Washington with a total sawlog stand of 238 billion feet. It's so easy to forget that if we are to have an adequate supply of sawlogs in the future our old-growth forests must be spread out until the second growth matures.

"But beyond this is the fact that current old-growth cutting in the Northwest is not distributed in accordance with the present stand. Too many lumber-producing centers are rapidly cutting their accessible timber and while undercutting the inaccessible mountain stands. We need more access roads and fewer sawmills in too many places in Oregon and parts of Washington.

"Then, too, in Washington and Oregon we have more than two and two-thirds million acres of so-called commercial cutover forest that is less than ten percent stocked. We have another one and a half million acres from ten to 40 percent stocked with seedlings and saplings. We have more than a million acres of pole-size stands less than 40 percent stocked. We boast of planting about 50,000 acres a year—and a lot of that planting is on newly cutover lands. At the rate we're going it will take at least 100 years to plant up the commercial forest land in the Pacific Northwest that will not produce a crop except by reforestation.

"I am pleased with the start made in small block cutting in the Douglasfir region. Yet one should not be misled by the pictures and publicity. As I travel over the state of Oregon I see that cutting is still almost entirely in large blocks. Examples of small block cutting in Douglasfir are so rare that one stops to admire it.

"I am too old to stick my head in

the sand all the time. We have barely scratched the surface of real forestry in the Pacific Northwest, and we brag too much about the little we have done.

"I wish we could speed up the adoption of intensive forestry on industrial holdings and get more of even the beginnings of forestry on small holdings.

"The tremendous population increase predicted for the United States and the potential market for forest products in a world short of wood point to the urgent need of making our commercial forest land really produce. We will not meet the nation's demand for wood in say 50 years with half-loaf forestry. And I am sure that much stronger public controls than we now have is an essential part of any adequate, long-time program.

"During the past year I have been chairman of the Interim Committee for the Study of Water Resources of Oregon. Recently we held 15 public hearings throughout the state. At almost every hearing sharp criticism was voiced about the management of forest and range lands. Siltation of streams and reservoirs arising from harmful logging practices is being increasingly recognized here as in the

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eastern sections of the United States. Considering the tremendous value of the water resource to western farms, ranches and communities, it is clear that watershed land-use must be of such a character as to do minimum damage to the quality and quantity of streamflow. If the hearings we have just concluded are indicative of the popular temper in the Pacific Northwest we may expect some sort of controls on logging methods, and particularly logging-road construction and skidding practices, in addition to more controls on timber cutting.

What are your impressions of the present administration's natural resources policies? Mr. Watts was asked.

"I am very much disturbed about the present situation," he replied. "A pattern is developing that must alarm those who are interested in conservation. The administration at the outset promised it would stand by the conservation policies of Teddy Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. But it is not going in that direction.

"For example, it has already divested itself of the offshore oil properties worth billions of dollars. It has taken a position on public power that is just the opposite to Teddy Roosevelt's philosophy as evidenced by the Hells Canyon damsite for which the Idaho Power Company is fighting. Likewise, the partnership proposed for the John Day dam on the main Columbia River would substitute private control for public control of a tremendous power resource.

"The proposal to build a huge dam and reservoir within the Dinosaur National Monument shows that the administration places little value on the inviolability of our national parks and monuments. Decimation of the Bonneville Power Administration will remove it as an effective agency in planning for power development in the Pacific Northwest.

"Nor are these all the things that disturb me. The reorganization of the Soil Conservation Service has just about wrecked the great agency which Hugh Bennett developed. Substitution of political acceptancy for career accomplishments is becoming the touchstone for appointments to top positions in the Soil Conserva-

tion Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service and many other technical conservation agencies. In fairness, I should add that the administration does favor more research in most conservation fields.

"The Budget Bureau has been largely in its recommendations of funds for some vital conservation programs. I am thinking particularly of the Forest Service. Here are examples of cuts recommended by the Bureau in the budget for fiscal 1955: maintenance of improvements, including recreational improvements, \$283,000; tree planting, \$450,000; reseeding worn-out range land, \$300,000; forest fire control on private lands, \$500,000.

"Fortunately, several of these cuts recommended by the President's budget were restored by House action. I hope the Senate concurs.

"I agree fully with Ira Gabrielson, ex-chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service when he writes, 'The new administration has had a year to find itself and to establish a conservation program. In general, it can be said that no constructive, progressive program for advancing conservation activities has yet been developed, and little interest has been shown by the two great departments (Agriculture and Interior) responsible for the most important of our conservation estate in protecting the gains made in the past.'

"The Agriculture Department failed to get in the record a strong position against the D'Ewart grazing bill (H.R. 4023), which was killed in the last sessions. It reported adversely on the Ellsworth timber bill (H.R. 4646), but later withdrew that report only to find that Congressional action recommitted the bill to committee by a vote of 226 to 161. I am unable to get a current adverse report on D'Ewart's mining bill (H.R. 4983) despite the fact that it will in no way really solve the mining claim problem.

"Similarly, the Interior Department testified favorably on the D'Ewart grazing bill and Ellsworth's timber bill as well as on the D'Ewart mining bill.

"I knew Gifford Pinchot well," Mr. Watts declared. "He talked to me by the hour about the plans he and Teddy Roosevelt had for conservation and use of our natural resources. I am sure they would be amazed that this administration claims to be following in their footsteps."

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service

Washington, May 11, 1950

Chief Forester Watts Honored by U. S. Department of Agriculture

(For Sunday, May 21, Release)

Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service, will receive a Department of Agriculture distinguished service award from Secretary Charles F. Brannan at ceremonies in the Sylvan Theatre on the Washington Monument Grounds on May 25. The award is the highest given by the Department to its employees.

In the citation for this award, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan commended Mr. Watts for his distinguished leadership in advancing the conservation of forest resources in the United States and the world. Chief Forester Watts, he said, has stimulated better forestry practices in this country and has energetically defended public interests in the use of forest resources. He has played a leading role in the development of a world forestry organization.

Mr. Watts came to Washington as Chief of the Forest Service in 1943 with a broad background of experience in all branches of the Service.

Upon graduation from Iowa State College in 1913 with a B.S. degree in forestry, Mr. Watts entered the Forest Service as a field assistant in timber cruising and survey work, with headquarters at Afton, Wyo. He worked up through the ranks in national forest administration - assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, supervisor of the Weiser National Forest in Idaho and later the Idaho National Forest at McCall - to forest inspector, working out of the Ogden, Utah, regional office.

In 1928 Mr. Watts left the Forest Service to organize and direct the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College.

Returning to the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in 1929 Mr. Watts started his work in the research branch of the Service. For two years

(over)

2-Mr. Watts

he was engaged in forest and watershed studies in the Utah area, before heading up the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Missoula, Mont. There he directed all research activities of the Forest Service in Montana, northern Idaho, and a section of northwestern South Dakota.

From 1936 to 1939 Mr. Watts served as regional forester of the North Central Region which includes the national forests located in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. He then transferred to a similar position in the tall timber region of Washington and Oregon.

Because of his experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers and his wide contacts with livestock men and construction outfits, Mr. Watts was called to Washington in 1942 to take charge of the farm labor activities of the Department of Agriculture. He returned to his forest work in Portland, Ore., for a short time before coming to his present position.

Mr. Watts serves on the General Administration Board of the USDA Graduate School. He is a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters. Iowa State College, from which he received his Masters degree in 1928, conferred on him an honorary Doctors degree and the Alumni Merit Award. He was also presented the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the French government.

Mr. Watts is chairman of the standing advisory committee on forestry of the Food and Agriculture Organization. Prior to the forming of FAO he was a member of the technical committee on forestry for the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture. He has served as technical advisor to the U. S. delegate to the Food and Agriculture Organization sessions in Washington, D. C. in 1948 and 1949, in Copenhagen in 1946, and in Quebec in 1945. He was also the U. S. delegate to the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver in 1948, and he attended the United Nations Scientific Conference at Lake Success, N. Y. in 1949.

(For Sunday, May 21, Release)

1944?

Biographical Sketch of Lyle F. Watts

Lyle F. Watts has been Chief of the Forest Service in the United States Department of Agriculture since January, 1943. Broad training in public service preceded his assignment as Chief Forester.

Mr. Watts' experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions (the National Forests embrace ten forest regions including public forest lands in Alaska and Puerto Rico); several years in the forest research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the school of forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. In all, his work has carried him into four Regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the North Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

During 1941 and part of 1942, Mr. Watts served as Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

In the fall of 1942, because of his wide experience in employing, organizing and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, Mr. Watts was brought to Washington to assist the Secretary of Agriculture in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

When Mr. Watts was appointed as Chief Forester, Secretary Wickard made the following statement, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the Nation in conserving and developing its forest lands."

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service on July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

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January 15, 1943

1864

(Lyle F. Watts)

"THANKS SINCERELY," SAYS OUR NEW CHIEF

"You folks can't know just how much the many letters of congratulation from within the Forest Service mean to me in tackling this great job as your Chief. I got an inspiration out of each one of them, and an additional chuckle from the one signed by the big group of my 'girl friends' at Missoula. Thanks sincerely.

"As most of you know, I have been away from the Forest Service for a few months. They were interesting and worth-while months, but I am not going to say anything more about them now. I just want to tell each one of you how glad I am to be back again in the Forest Service, and then to say just a little about forestry and people.

"One reason I am glad to be back in the Forest Service is that our organization, yours and mine, has always had strong, outstanding leadership, right from the days of Gifford Pinchot to those of Earle Clapp, whom every one of us hoped might have been our Chief. I feel humble indeed in trying to maintain that high standard of leadership. If I do, it will be because of the organization to which I belong.

"The Forest Service has always been dedicated to service to the public. It lives up to fine traditions and maintains high standards. It is tops among truly democratic organizations. And I know that all of you, who in the main and over the years are the ones who have made the Forest Service what it is, are determined not only that it shall remain tops, but also that our organization shall play its full part in winning the war.

"You and I have a lot to do with trees in the forest and in the farm woods; with forage on open ranges and in pastures; with wild life; and with soil erosion and the like. But as members of the Department of Agriculture and its Forest Service I am confident that we all think about and work with these things because they are tools through which people may be served. What I am trying to say is that I am a forester because I know what happens to people in forest communities after their timber has been liquidated improperly or too fast. That all of us who are part and parcel of the Forest Service know that forest land resources can bring reasonable security to people who work in a given locality and who want to own homes and raise families. And that I will do all that I can to help you make sure that these resources are so managed that they will do just that.

"All of which boils down to this: Let's always think of forests and forestry in terms of all of the people we in the Forest Service may serve."

(By Dorothy Martin
March 1950)

LYLE F. WATTS, CHIEF, U. S. FOREST SERVICE

Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service since January 1943, started as a fire guard on national forests and worked up through the ranks to become head of the Federal agency he has now served for nearly 40 years.

In recognition of Mr. Watts' outstanding service, he was presented the Department of Agriculture's distinguished service award in 1950. Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan commended Mr. Watts for his leadership in advancing the conservation of forest resources in the United States and the world. He stated that Mr. Watts has stimulated better forestry practices in this country, has defended public interests in the use of forest resources, and has played a leading role in developing a world forestry organization.

Mr. Watts has served in four of the ten national forest regions. He has been regional forester of two regions; he has spent several years in the research branch, including four years as director of a forest experiment station; and he has the distinction of having organized the School of Forestry at the Utah State Agricultural College.

He was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913 and was granted the Master of Forestry degree at the same institution in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts later served as assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Weiser National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Idaho National Forest at McCall, and as forest inspector working out of the Ogden, Utah, regional office.

In 1928 he left the Forest Service to organize and direct the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College, Logan.

Returning to the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Ogden in 1929, Mr. Watts began his work in the research branch of the Forest Service. For two years he was engaged in forest and watershed studies in the Utah area, before heading up the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Missoula, Mont. There he directed all research activities of the Forest Service in Montana, northern Idaho, and a section of northwestern South Dakota.

From 1936 to 1939 Mr. Watts served as regional forester of the North Central Region which includes the national forests located in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. He then became regional forester of Washington and Oregon with headquarters at Portland.

Because of his experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers and his wide contacts with livestock men and construction outfits, Mr. Watts was called to Washington in 1942 to take charge of the farm labor activities of the Department of Agriculture. He returned to his work as regional forester of the Pacific Northwest for a short time before coming to his present position.

Mr. Watts serves on the General Administration Board of the USDA Graduate School. He is a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters.

2-Watts

Iowa State College has conferred on him an honorary Doctor's degree and the Alumni Merit Award. He was also presented the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the French government.

Mr. Watts has had an important part in the development of international activities in the field of forestry. He is chairman of the standing advisory committee on forestry of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. He was a member of the technical committee on forestry for the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture which preceded the establishment of FAO. He has served as technical advisor to the U. S. delegate to the Food and Agriculture Organization sessions in Washington, D. C., in 1948 and 1949, in Copenhagen in 1946, in Quebec in 1945, and in Rome in 1951. He was also the U. S. delegate to the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver in 1948, and he attended the United Nations Scientific Conference at Lake Success, N. Y., in 1949.

April 2, 1943.

NEWS BUDGET #2

LYLE WATTS' APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF FORESTER
WELL DESERVED

Extension of Remarks
of
Hon. Homer D. Angell
of Oregon
In The House of Representatives
Tuesday, March 9, 1943

Mr. Angell. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to call attention to the well-deserved promotion in the appointment of Lyle Watts as the new Chief Forester. At the age of 52 Mr. Watts assumes this important position.

While Mr. Watts was born in Iowa, at an early age his family took up residence in the State of Washington and he has throughout the years of his adult life been closely associated with the West. At the age of 23 he entered the Forest Service as a laborer, and his promotion to the top position in this great industry is a well deserved recognition of faithful, continuous, and effective service in the forestry industry.

Under leave heretofore granted, I include as a part of my remarks a factual study of Mr. Watts and his work, written by Richard L. Neuberger, and appearing in the Portland Oregonian in its February 21, issue as follows:

He Guards A Forest Legacy - Lyle Watts, New Chief Forester, Views Nation's Wooded Regions As A Heritage Of All The People - Teddy Roosevelt Called It A Job Of Sacred Trust, Today It Is In The Hands Of A Portland Man (By Richard L. Neuberger)

The first wilderness trip I ever made with Lyle Watts was on the steep watershed of the Mount Hood National Forest. We were sitting on a lava crag which faced off toward eastern Oregon. In the shadows of late afternoon, the firs of the Pacific slope blended evenly with the distant pine woods of the dry region. We seemed to be riding the bowsprit of a ship cleaving a measureless green sea.

Watts pointed eastward, out over the vast solitudes. "This scene represents the heritage of America," he said. "Forests like this one belong to all the American people, to men and women in every State. It is up to us to achieve the twin goal of both using these forests and saving them. We must use them today for lumber, for recreation, for grazing, for drainage and water supply. And we must save them for the next generation, so that they, in turn, can claim similar benefits."

In the gathering dusk his blue eyes - the eyes of a forester - were bright with enthusiasm.

This is the philosophy which Lyle Ford Watts now brings to the most important forestry post on earth, the position of Chief of the United States Forest

Service. At 52 he has just become America's first chief Forester in 4 years. Since Ferdinand A. Silcox died in 1939, the Forest Service has had no permanent head. The assignment had been filled by temporary appointments until last month, when President Roosevelt and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard suddenly decided upon Watts.

America Foremost Among Lumber Producers

The United States produces more lumber than any other nation. In America grow the world's greatest stands of timber. The management and protection of this invaluable resource are now the responsibility of a lean, rangy Portlander who in 1938 became head of the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest. Watts occupies a post long held in esteem by the American people. Gifford Pinchot first filled it. John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt called it a job of sacred trust.

The Chief Forester of the United States is directly in charge of the national forests of the land. These forests embrace the country's most magnificent wilderness - the hardwood forests of Michigan, the Lake Superior meadows, the dense "rain forests" of the Oregon sea coast, Idaho's lordly Ponderosa pines, the gentle woodlands of the southern States. America's national forests aggregate 151,897,000 acres. This is nearly three times the area of the British Isles.

To a post so crowded with responsibility Lyle F. Watts, of Portland, Oreg., brings a rich background of forestry experience. He was born in Cerro Gordo County of Iowa on November 18, 1890. He attended the public schools of Clear Lake, Iowa, and later his family moved to Bellingham, Wash. He returned to his native State to study forestry and won both bachelor's and master's degrees in that subject at Iowa State College. His graduation was cum laude.

In the United States Forest Service Lyle Watts came up the hard way. He is, so to speak, the former switchman who became president of the railroad, the paper boy who became editor. In 1913, when he was 23 years old, he started with the Forest Service as a laborer. He cleared trails, felled trees, saddled horses, cleaned stables. Most of this toil took place in Utah. In 1915 he met Nell Bowman in Ogden and married her. They have two children - Gordon L. Watts, a lieutenant of engineers at Camp Claibourne, La., and June A. Watts, who is an employee of the Willamette Hyster Co. in Portland.

In 1928 Lyle Watts took graduate courses in forestry at Utah Agricultural College, and the next year was appointed a silviculturist for the Forest Service. He studied trees from roots to crown. From 1931 until 1936 he was director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station, and in 1936 he was appointed regional forester for the North Central Region, which centered on the States of the Great Lakes. There he did an outstanding job in aiding in the resuscitation of a once great lumber area.

Five years ago, Mr. Silcox, then chief of the Forest Service, placed Watts in charge of the organization's most important region. This region is the Pacific Northwest, which supplies more than a third of the lumber of the Nation. Watts moved to Portland, where he made his home until last month, when he was called to Washington to head the Forest Service in all 48 states.

and Alaska. He and his family lived at 809 Northeast Thirty-ninth Avenue.

The Forest Service's new chief is a friendly, mild-mannered man. On the trail he says little, but sees much. At the end of the wilderness day he can tell his companions around the camp fire the condition of the range, the flow of the streams, the quality of the timber, the survival opportunities of the wildlife. Like Thoreau, the wilderness to him is a page to be read. Watts has the long, easy lope of a woodsman and covers ground tirelessly. Tramping is no effort for him, although in recent years some trouble with his back has restricted his activity.

In a world at war, with America the principal arsenal of the democratic nations, the position of chief forester of the United States is more important than ever before. Lumber is a critical material, one of the most critical of all. It requires hundreds of board feet to house each soldier. Shipyards use vast quantities of lumber for piles and decking. Spruce for airplanes is needed in America and England. Military cantonments are literally huge lumber accumulations. And when the war is finally won, enormous amounts of American timber will be required to reconstruct the shattered continent of Europe.

Forester Has To Make Sure Lumber Adequate.

Lyle F. Watts must see to it that sufficient lumber is available for victory. And he also must see to it that the forests and woodlands are spared for the next generation. As he said on the slopes of Mount Hood that bright afternoon, he must try both to use the forests and save them. No chief forester ever faced a sterner task; for never was lumber in such urgent demand. In fact, the War Production Board has listed wood along with steel and aluminum as one of the vital sinews of war. Without an adequate supply of lumber, the war machine would jolt to a creaking halt.

Lyle Watts is an advocate of sustained yield. This means that the forest should be maintained as a going institution, the amount of lumber cut being kept in balance with the new growth. "Yet," he recently added, "sustained yield for the Nation or region or State is not enough. We must get right down to sustained yield for communities or working circles. Just so long as we are satisfied with a type of sustained yield that balances an overcut in Southwestern Oregon - that long we will miss the answer to the real problem.

"It's a human problem. Frankly, it is the woods workers and their families which come first in my mind as I view our forest problem. It is the communities that are built up and broken down. It is the unemployment and relief loads and distressed local governments that follow in the wake of closed mills that make a national problem. If you have worked in the Lake States or the Ozarks, you get the point. Shifting populations and ups and downs in community well-being can never be overcome by high wages, short hours, or the more recent paid vacations."

As basic precautionary measures, Watts has urged five requirements for better forestry:

1. Insure the leaving of needed seed trees of desirable species and

4.

prevent the unnecessary destruction of reproduction and immature young growth.

2. Insure safeguarded use and control of fire, including exercise of preventative measures.
3. Prevent clear cutting and deforestation unless positive assurance is forthcoming of natural restocking or, if need be, of replanting.
4. Prevent the use of destructive logging methods and equipment.
5. Prevent excessive grazing in critical run-off, erosion, and forest reproduction areas.

Some of these proposals are already in effect. A number of lumber companies have adopted them. The 1941 session of the Oregon State Legislature, at the urging of Gov. Charles A. Sprague, enacted laws requiring a certain proportion of trees to be spared in the cutting of timber. These trees will serve to seed the land for a new growth. Many lumbermen have voluntarily abandoned the old "cut out and get out" philosophy and have undertaken strenuous conservation programs.

Watts regards the Pacific Northwest as the one region in the land where a substantial growth of timber can be perpetuated. In other regions entirely new starts must be made. "The Pacific Northwest," he said not long ago, "still has vast areas of virgin forests, in spite of the fact that we already have cut out the better half of the timber of Washington and are beginning to concentrate in Oregon. The Douglas Fir Belt in western Oregon and Washington has one-third of the remaining old growth timber of continental United States."

Watts has frequently declared that adequate reforestation is dependent upon effective fire control. Otherwise, in his opinion, the new trees will simply constitute a fire trap. Small trees scattered among underbrush, are mostly tinder. "In many places," he once told a meeting of lumber workers, "a tree-planting program would be providing fuel for fires which will occur unless a Nation-wide program for protecting all forest lands from fire gives insurance against the destruction of reforester areas as well as commercial timber stands."

For many years divergent groups have wrangled over the use of America's national forests. Fishermen want power and irrigation dams kept out. Lumber companies believe that careless fisherman start wanton fires. Campers dislike indiscriminate grazing. Stockmen resent the influence of recreationists. Some conservation groups believe the national forests should be entirely closed to commercial development. They claim that commercial use is ruining the solitudes.

What is the attitude of the new chief forester in this respect? "Obviously," he contends, "our national forests, our timbered mountains, are essential to a lot of uses. It is my philosophy that all these uses can be enjoyed on any sizable area at the same time. Surely there are areas like camp grounds and roadsides where neither timber cutting nor grazing can be al-

lowed, or if it is allowed, then restricted to the off-season. There are winter ranges which must be held for game, and there are areas where the system of timber cutting must be varied to meet public demands.

Cooperation Insures All Groups Of Forest Equipment

"But, by and large, we can do all of these things on the same area if there is a fine degree of cooperation between the different classes of users; if we have tolerance of the classes of users; if we have tolerance of the other fellow's views and he of ours. Probably no single use can be enjoyed 100 percent under this multiple-use administration. But the stockman can enjoy 75 per cent of the things he wants. The wildlifer can have perhaps 75 per cent as much big game as he would have with complete elimination of livestock.

"The recreationist can get an equal part of the pleasure he wants from the hills even though some areas look bad immediately after logging or a band of sheep has trailed a road he travels and destroyed the wild flowers. That's multiple use! It's tolerance with the other man's viewpoint, so that our vast wilderness can do the most to improve our conditions."

This statement epitomizes the kind of chief forester Lyle F. Watts, will probably be. An ardent conservationist, he nevertheless believes that the vast national forests of the United States can be adjusted to all the demands of a complex society, in war as well as in peace. Once he told me that an old pioneer in eastern Oregon said to him, "Remember the other fellow may be right." And Watts commented, "You have to approach issues with that kind of open mind. Otherwise you will be arbitrary and dogmatic and stubborn. No one is infallible".

Safeguarding the wilderness is practically a creed with this slender man who has made forestry his career. Trees to him are no mere inanimate growths.

Woods Hold Deep Meaning for Chief Forester

As Watts strolls through a wood in Oregon or a grove in Montana, each sight has meaning for him - the acorns on the ground, the scars on the tree trunks, the patches of snow on the distant hills, the color of the water in the creeks, the chirping of the squirrels, the tracks of deer and elk. These things tell him about the health of the wilderness, just as veins and skin and eyes denote to a physician the condition of his patient. After a journey in eastern Oregon, Watts observed to Justice William O. Douglas of the Supreme Court that he had seen some uplands grazed bare and that grazing would have to be watched.

Lyle Watts will not be the desk-pounding, noisy type of executive. He is essentially quiet. Around the logs of a leaping fire in the woods, I have seen him say less than anyone else in the group, although he, best of all, was qualified to comment on the topics of conversation. But when he did talk, everyone listened and what he said was generally right to the core of the subject. "Mr. Watts knows an awful lot about the woods, doesn't he?" young Jimmy Rosenman, some of Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, asked me on a drive up the Hood River Valley one sunny afternoon 3 years ago.

Watts' friends in the Pacific Northwest are legion. They include fellow foresters like Jack Horton, John Kuhns, and Arnold Standing, lumber industry men like E. T. Clark and Colonel Greeley, wildlife authorities like William L. Finley, forestry experts like Dr. George V. Peavey, planners like Lt. Col. Roy Bessey. Not for many years has anyone from the far West been elevated to the principal forestry position in the land. Men who have been associated with Lyle F. Watts feel certain he will establish a distinguished precedent. And they also point to the advantage of having America's forest resources supervised by a man thoroughly familiar with the dominant forest region of the continent, the Pacific Northwest.

LYLE F. WATTS, CHIEF, U. S. FOREST SERVICE

Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service since January 1943, started as a fire guard on national forests and worked up through the ranks to become head of the Federal agency he has now served for 38 years.

In recognition of Mr. Watts' outstanding service, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan last May presented him with a distinguished service award in a ceremony on the Washington Monument grounds. Secretary Brannan commended Mr. Watts for his leadership in advancing the conservation of forest resources in the United States and the world. He stated that Mr. Watts has stimulated better forestry practices in this country, has defended public interests in the use of forest resources, and has played a leading role in developing a world forestry organization.

Mr. Watts has served in four of the ten national forest regions. He has been regional forester of two regions; he has spent several years in the research branch, including four years as director of a forest experiment station; and he has the distinction of having organized the School of Forestry at the Utah State Agricultural College.

He was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913 and was granted the Master of Forestry degree at the same institution in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Early in his career Mr. Watts began working up through the ranks in national forest administration. He served successively as assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Weiser National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Idaho National Forest at McCall, and as forest inspector working out of the Ogden, Utah, regional office.

In 1928 he left the Forest Service to organize and direct the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College.

Returning to the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Ogden in 1929, Mr. Watts began his work in the research branch of the Forest Service. For two years he was engaged in forest and watershed studies in the Utah area, before heading up the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Missoula, Mont. There he directed all research activities of the Forest Service in Montana, northern Idaho, and a section of northwestern South Dakota.

From 1936 to 1939 Mr. Watts served as regional forester of the North Central Region which includes the national forests located in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. He then became regional forester of Washington and Oregon with headquarters at Portland.

Because of his experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers and his wide contacts with livestock men and construction outfits,

Mr. Watts was called to Washington in 1942 to take charge of the farm labor activities of the Department of Agriculture. He returned to his work as regional forester of the Pacific Northwest for a short time before coming to his present position.

Mr. Watts serves on the General Administration Board of the USDA Graduate School. He is a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters.

Iowa State College has conferred on him an honorary Doctors degree and the Alumni Merit Award. He was also presented the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the French government.

Mr. Watts is chairman of the standing advisory committee on forestry of the Food and Agriculture Organization. Prior to the forming of FAO he was a member of the technical committee on forestry for the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture. He has served as technical advisor to the U. S. delegate to the Food and Agriculture Organization sessions in Washington, D. C., in 1948 and 1949, in Copenhagen in 1946, and in Quebec in 1945. He was also the U. S. delegate to the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver in 1948, and he attended the United Nations Scientific Conference at Lake Success, N. Y., in 1949.

There was no obituary
in this magazine.
He died June 15.

a Tribute

Editorial - Lyle Watts

By TOM GILL

IT was Watts, the American, who contributed most. He brought us what we so greatly needed—vision and tolerance and integrity. We trusted him."

The words were spoken by a European forester at the end of the often stormy days when the Allies were striving to bring international forestry into the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. And that had not been easy. Prejudices, national pride, and memories of ancient antagonisms all conspired to make agreement difficult. But Lyle Watts carried none of these Old World conflicts to the conference table. All he had come for was to help make forestry of fuller service to a war-impoverished world. There was no "quid pro quo," no jockeying for position, no covert attempt at national aim. That was why they trusted him.

Looking back, now that he is gone, one sees more clearly how much this simple, direct integrity of his was part of a life pattern. In the difficult years that he spent as Chief of the Forest Service, this quality of evoking confidence may have served him even better than the breadth of background he brought to that office. Yet, even for a career forester, that background was exceptional. Beginning as a fire guard, he had come up the long, hard way.

All in all, he served in four of the ten National Forest Regions. He had been Regional Forester of two of them; for four years he was an Experiment Station Director, and he organized and for a year directed a forest school.

Then in 1913, he became Chief of the Forest Service and held that position for almost ten crisis-ridden years. His early efforts were geared strictly to the demands of war. The Service, badly crippled by the loss of 2,000 men who had left to join the armed forces, was faced with a need to extend its efforts as never before. It was a time when smooth cooperation between the Service and a host of federal agencies was indispensable. It was also a time of tension, when official tempers were short and rivalries abundant. And it was precisely here that Watt's inherent talent for inspiring teamwork played a major part.

E. I. Kotok, who served with Watts both at home and abroad, said of him, "He worked and lived in the best tradition of the Forest Service. No man ever sought the limelight less. He used his powers as chief with firmness but never paraded them, and in his Washington staff conferences there was absolute freedom of expression."

Throughout his Washington years Watts worked tirelessly for the passage of constructive forest legislation. In 1914, the sustained yield forest management act was passed, establishing cooperative state-private sustained yield units. Other legislation provided funds for advancing a nationwide forest survey and greater appropriations for cooperative fire and reforestation programs with the states.

Much of Lyle Watts's official life was focused on an effort to impose good forest practice on private timber lands through federal regulation. Yet, here too, he gave full scope to cooperation, hoping to invoke the regulatory powers of government only as a last resort. William B. Greeley, in FORESTS AND PEOPLE, sums up Watts's regulatory philosophy in these words: "Lyle F. Watts's favorite symbol for the policy he advocated was the tripod. One leg stood for the national forests. He believed there must be a larger backlog of forests in public ownership to stabilize the situation. The second leg was cooperation. The government should bring about as

much of the needed betterment as it could by cooperation with the states and private owners. The third leg was regulation. He believed the program would be incomplete and inadequate without federal power, as a last resort, to stop destructive cutting."

But regulation never became law. It was one of Watts's few legislative efforts that failed.

Outstanding as were Lyle Watts's contributions to United States forestry, and deep as has been his imprint on domestic forest policies, his role in world forestry was no less impressive.

One of the outcomes of World War II had been the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, formed to create something that in all history had never existed—a world organization dedicated to making food and shelter more abundant to mankind. As part of this effort, Lyle Watts represented the United States on a technical committee, whose task it was to establish a place for forestry and forest products. The report of this committee has been termed one of the world's important forestry documents. It is known as the "Third Report to the Governments of the United Nations," and represents the first integrated effort by the foresters of many lands to define the place of forestry in the world's economy. Later, Watts was one of the forestry leaders at a conference in Quebec which formed the permanent FAO. He chaired its Standing Advisory Committee for Forestry and still later went to Oslo and Geneva to help draw up the essential blueprints for the organization of forestry in the United Nations. The structure of world forestry today owes no small debt to his administrative wisdom and foresight.

Meanwhile, honors came to him. His alma mater, Iowa State College, conferred an honorary Doctor's degree and the Alumni Merit Award. From the Government of France came the *Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole*. In an impressive ceremony at Washington in 1950, he received a Distinguished Service Award for "leadership in advancing the conservation of U. S. and world forest resources."

He had been a career forester now for almost 40 years, serving under two Presidents and three Secretaries of Agriculture. His health was failing and, in 1952, he retired. Letters and telegrams deluged him.

Watts never held office in the Society of American Foresters, yet he always urged the society to take a strong stand on forestry affairs, whether the stand was for or against any of his own particular goals. He rarely missed a section meeting of the society, and Henry Clepper, its Executive Director, recalls how on one occasion he told Watts that his loyal attendance was an inspiration to the younger men. "That's good," Watts answered, "but don't put me at the head of the table all the time. I want to be with the boys."

From someone else, it could have been a pose. With Watts, it was part of a life pattern—a quality as natural to him as breathing. That may have been part of the secret of his frictionless teamwork with so many diverse groups. Certainly it was the quality that helped, in great part, to evoke the warmth of affection from those who had worked with him out on the western trails and in Washington and around the conference tables of the Old World.

A leader who never ceased "being with the boys."

Editorial — Lyle Watts

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All in all, he served in four of the ten National Forest Regions. He had been Regional Forester of two of them; or four years he was an Experiment Station Director, and he organized and for a year directed a forest school.

Then in 1943, he became Chief of the Forest Service and held that position for almost ten crisis-ridden years. His early efforts were geared strictly to the demands of war. The Service, badly crippled by the loss of 2,000 men who had left to join the armed forces, was faced with a need to extend its efforts as never before. It was a time when smooth cooperation between the Service and a host of federal agencies was indispensable. It was also a time of tension, when official tempers were short and rivalries abundant. And it was precisely here that Watt's inherent talent for inspiring teamwork played a major part.

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A leader who never ceased "being with the boys."

Forestry News

R. E. McArdle Succeeds Lyle F. Watts, Chief, U. S. Forest Service

Appointment of Richard E. McArdle as chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been announced by Secretary Brannan. He succeeds Lyle F. Watts, chief for the past nine years, who retired from active duty June 30.

Paying tribute to Mr. Watts, Secretary Brannan said: "He has been one of the most effective and courageous leaders of the Forest Service in the great tradition of its service to the American people. Under his guidance, forestry has taken a much greater part in the agricultural resources conservation program and has become an essential part of American agriculture."

In recognition of his outstanding public service, Mr. Watts, in 1950, received the Department of Agriculture's distinguished service award "for distinguished and effective leadership in advancing the conservation of forest resources in the United States and internationally."

Mr. McArdle has been a member of the Forest Service for more than 25 years. Since 1944 he has served as assistant chief in charge of cooperative forestry programs. Under his leadership the federal programs carried on in cooperation with the states to encourage and facilitate the protection and sound management of the country's forests have been greatly accelerated.

A native of Lexington, Ky., McArdle is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he received the B.S. degree in forestry in 1923 and M.S. in 1924, and a Ph.D. degree in 1930. He served as part-time instructor in forestry at the University of Michigan from 1927 to 1930.

McArdle entered the Forest Service as a junior forester in 1924 and was assigned to the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Following a three-year leave of absence for graduate study he returned to the Forest Service to continue his research work in 1930. In 1934 he accepted appointment by the University of Idaho to head its school of forestry. He returned to the Forest Service

in 1935 to become director of the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Fort Collins, Colo., and three years later he became director of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, N. C. In 1944 he was brought to Washington, D. C. as assistant chief of the Forest Service, in charge of state and private forestry cooperation, the position he has held to date.

McArdle is a member of Sigma Xi, Scientific Honor Society, and has been a member of the Council of the Society of American Foresters since 1948.

Mr. Watts is chairman of the standing Advisory Committee on Forestry of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. He took an active part in the organization and development of the forestry branch of FAO.

Iowa State College has conferred on Mr. Watts an honorary doctor's degree and its alumni merit award. He was also presented the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the French Government.

He is a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo



RICHARD E. MCARDLE
... new chief.

County, Iowa in 1890. He received a B.S. degree in forestry at Iowa State College in 1913 and earned the M.S. degree at the same institution in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as a technical assistant in the Wyoming National Forest. He advanced rapidly in national forest administration, serving successively as assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Weiser and the Idaho national forests, and as forest inspector working out of the Ogden, Utah regional office.

During a leave of absence from the federal service in 1928 and 1929, Mr. Watts organized the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College. He returned to the Forest Service to engage in research work at the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Ogden. In 1931 he was named director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Mont. From 1936 to 1939 he served as regional forester of the ^{North} Central Region. He then became regional forester of the Pacific Northwest Region.

In 1942 Mr. Watts was called to Washington, D. C., to take charge of the wartime farm labor activities of the department at Washington. The following year he was named chief of the Forest Service.



LYLE F. WATTS
... retiring after 40 years.

Chief Forester Tells Need For New National Policy

OGDEN—Lyle F. Watts, chief forester of the U. S. forest service, arrived in Ogden Tuesday from Washington, D. C., for an extensive visit in region four, both in Utah and Idaho. Afterward he will go to region five, with headquarters in San Francisco.

The chief forester, who was connected with the intermountain region from 1913 to 1931, except for a period in 1928 and 1929 spent in aiding the establishment of the school of forestry at the Utah State Agricultural college, stressed the needs basic to a forest policy for the United States.

Speaking before all members of the regional office, many of them old friends, Mr. Watts declared: "It takes a lifetime to grow a tree," and pointed to the conservation of the forests as vital to the survival of this country.

Stresses Attitude

"Don't think of your work with grass, watershed, recreation and timber as work with things," he told the assembled forest workers. "Think of these as the only way in which the world can get a better standard of living. That is the basis of all philosophy back of our work."

A national forest policy, he declared, should include three elements. The first of these he named as aids to private timber industry so that such interests can practice proper forestry on private lands at a profit.

Pointing to the benefits of re-



Lyle F. Watts . . . Calls for strong national forest policy.

search as an example of the needed assistance, he indicated that in its Utah and southern Idaho phases research has done work in range reseeding infinitely of more profit to the private owner of land and cattle than it is to the forest service. Control of insect pests, he mentioned as one specific aid to private timber owners.

Public ownership of lands was advised in cases where productivity is so low that these lands cannot stay in private hands with profit, or where watershed balance is so acute that special assistance is required.

Public control of cutting practices on privately owned land was also named as a thing to be done, and third measure recommended in order to conserve the forests. What is needed, Mr. Watts said, is legal authority to establish the minimum practices which will conserve the timber resources of the United States. He said that he was, in general, optimistic about the future of forestry, but was pessimistic about "a great nation that cuts its saw timber twice as fast as it grows it."

In this connection, the speaker branded as license the assumption that ownership entitles a person to do as he wishes in his pursuit of free enterprise. "It is not my notion of such enterprise that it entitles on to do what will injure his neighbor, himself or the government," he said.

Indicating that 75% of private timber lands are poorly managed, he pointed out that when it takes 75 years to grow a stand of timber, the public has the right to say that minimum standards shall be observed on privately owned acreage. Twenty-five per cent of private timber lands are being operated profitably and according to good conservation practices, thus proving that the other three-fourths can be managed similarly, it was indicated.

Turning to the favorable side of the picture, Mr. Watts reported that the U. S. forest service has done special work during the war in many projects, often unaccustomed ones. Named were extensive work with rubber producing plants, operating of saw pulp and timber mills for the government, aiding small saw mills in the south unable themselves to cope with the complexities forced upon them by the war.

In Paris, the forest service is also conducting a school for training in repacking goods to be shipped to the Pacific theater, and also a program has been worked out for the treatment and preservation of European forests. One gigantic program in the war emergency involved salvaging a great stand of southern timber of about 2,000,000 acres gravely damaged by wind.

During the remainder of the week, the visitor expects to tour the Davis county watershed conservation project and afterward certain reseeding projects in the Richfield area.

Formerly supervisor of the Weiser national forest in Idaho, in 1919 and 1920, and of the Boise national forest from 1921 to 1926, he will spend some time in those

Texas

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Release - Immediate

Washington, D. C., January 8, 1943

Lyle F. Watts Named
Forest Service Chief

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, and in recent months an assistant to the Secretary, as Chief of the Forest Service.

His appointment fills the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox, who was Chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939. Earle H. Clapp has been in charge as Acting Chief.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts has had broad training for the assignment as Chief of the Forest Service. His experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions; several years in the research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the School of Forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. Mr. Watts' work in the Forest Service has been in four of the nine National Forest regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region, with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in

the Northern Rocky Mountain region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region, which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the Northern Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

For the past two years Mr. Watts has been Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

Because of his wide experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, he was brought to Washington last fall to assist the Secretary in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

Secretary Wickard said, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the nation in conserving and developing its forest lands."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary

Washington, June 5, 1952

Lyle F. Watts to Retire; Richard E. McArdle Nemed U. S. Chief Forester:

Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan announced today the appointment of Richard E. McArdle as chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. He will succeed Lyle F. Watts, chief forester for the past nine years, who has announced his decision to retire from active duty June 30.

Paying tribute to Mr. Watts, Secretary Brannan said: "He has been one of the most effective and courageous leaders of the Forest Service in the great tradition of its service to the American people. Under his guidance, forestry has taken a much greater part in the agricultural resources conservation program and has become an essential part of American agriculture. His other associates and I will miss Lyle Watts very much, but we are pleased at the prospects of having his advice and counsel readily available during his well-earned retirement."

Mr. Watts' retirement from active duty as chief of the Forest Service will mark the completion of a public career service of nearly 40 years. He has headed the Federal forestry agency since ^{Jan} 1943.

Starting as a fire guard in a western national forest, he worked up through the ranks to the Nation's top forestry position. In recognition of his outstanding public service, Mr. Watts in 1950 received the Department of Agriculture's distinguished service award "for distinguished and effective leadership in advancing the conservation of forest resources in the United States and internationally." He was commended for his work in stimulating improved forestry practices in this country, for his stalwart defense of public interests in the use of forest resources, and for his important role in the development of a world forestry organization.

A career government forester, Mr. McArdle has been a member of the Forest Service for more than 25 years. Since 1944 he has served as assistant chief in charge of cooperative forestry programs. Under his leadership, the Federal programs

carried on in cooperation with the States to encourage and facilitate the protection and sound management of the country's forests have been greatly accelerated.

In the Federal-State cooperative fire control program, the area of State and private forest land under organized protection from fire now totals more than 360 million acres, and since 1944, the area that still lacks such protection has been reduced by some 60 million acres.

Cooperative production and distribution of trees for woodland and shelterbelt planting, which dropped to a low rate during World War II, last year passed all previous records. The Federal-State program to provide on-the-ground technical advice and assistance to woodland owners was developed largely during the past eight years.

Mr. McArdle's earlier governmental forestry service included the directorship of two regional forest experiment stations, where he conducted important research work on fire control and on timber growth and yield. During a year's absence from the Forest Service in 1934-35 he served as dean of the School of Forestry, University of Idaho. He served overseas with the U. S. Army during World War I.

A native of Lexington, Ky., Mr. McArdle was brought up in Norfolk, Va. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he received the Bachelor of Science degree in forestry in 1923, an M. S. in 1924, and a Ph.D. degree in 1930. He served as part-time instructor in forestry at the University of Michigan from 1927 to 1930.

Mr. McArdle entered the Forest Service as a Junior Forester in 1924, and was assigned to the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. One of his early research projects was a study of forest fires, and his research on the subject was interrupted several times by calls to help fight fires as a crew leader during emergency periods in the national forests. Following a three-year leave of absence for graduate study, he returned to the Service to continue his research work in 1930. In 1934 he accepted appointment by the University of Idaho to head

its School of Forestry. He returned to the Forest Service in 1935 to become director of the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Fort Collins, Colo. Three years later he moved east to assume the directorship of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, with headquarters at Asheville, N. C. In 1944 he was brought to Washington, D. C. as assistant chief of the Forest Service, in charge of State and private forestry cooperation, the position he has held to date.

Mr. McArdle is a member of Sigma Xi, scientific honor society, and a member of the council of the Society of American Foresters.

Prior to his appointment as chief forester, Mr. Watts' forestry career included service in four of the ten national forest regions, two of which he headed as U. S. regional forester. He also spent several years in research work, including five years as director of a forest experiment station. He was the organizer and first head of the School of Forestry at Utah State Agricultural College.

Mr. Watts is chairman of the standing advisory committee on forestry of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. He took an active part in the organization and development of the forestry branch of FAO, and was technical advisor to the U. S. delegate to general sessions of FAO in Quebec in 1945, Copenhagen in 1946, in Washington, D. C. in 1948 and 1949, and in Rome in 1951. He was also a U. S. delegate to the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver in 1948, and attended the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources at Lake Success in 1949.

Iowa State College has conferred on Mr. Watts an honorary Doctor's degree and its Alumni Merit Award. He also was presented the Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole by the French Government. He has served on the general administration board of the Department of Agriculture Graduate School. He is a fellow of the Society of American Foresters.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at Iowa State College in 1913, and earned the Master of Forestry degree at the same institution in 1928. Following short-term employment as a student assistant on timber survey work, he entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as a technical assistant in the Wyoming National Forest. He served successively as assistant supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, as supervisor of the Weiser and the Idaho National Forests, and as forest inspector working out of the Ogden, Utah, regional office.

It was during a leave of absence from the Federal service in 1928 and 1929 that Mr. Watts organized the forestry school at Utah State Agricultural College. He returned to the Forest Service to engage in research work at the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Ogden. In 1931 he was named director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Mont. From 1936 to 1939, he served as regional forester of the North Central Region. He then became regional forester of the Pacific Northwest Region.

In 1942 Mr. Watts was called to Washington, D. C. to take charge of the wartime farm labor activities of the Department of Agriculture.

(EDITORS: Photographs of both Mr. McArdle and Mr. Watts are available for publication purposes from the Press Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.)

Biography - Watts

From USDA FOR February 19, 1945

Chief Forester

LYLE F. WATTS became Chief Forester in January 1943. He took on what the late Teddy Roosevelt had called a job of "sacred trust." His preparation for that trust was 30 years of wide and varied forest experience. As a field assistant and forest examiner in Wyoming and Idaho, he had cleared trails, saddied horses, surveyed timber, planted trees, scaled logs for timber sales. He had served as deputy supervisor and supervisor on three national forests in Idaho, and as assistant chief of forest management at the Intermountain regional office.

Watts started his forestry work at the bottom—in the Missouri River bottoms, to be exact. As a student assistant back in the summer of 1912 he estimated cottonwood timber along the east bank of the Missouri. He also did fire patrol in Minnesota and timber reconnaissance in the Rockies before he graduated from Iowa State College and entered the Forest Service.

Born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, he moved to Bellingham, Wash., with his parents as a youngster, and was brought up in the big timber country of the Northwest. He returned to his native State to enter forestry school and received his B. S. in 1913. He entered FS as a regular field assistant that same year. Iowa State College tacked on a Master of Forestry degree in 1928.

During a brief absence from FS, Watts organized the School of Forestry at Utah Agricultural College. Returning, he directed range and stream flow studies at the Intermountain Forest Experiment Station in Utah, and, in 1931, was named director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Mont. In 1936 he became regional forester for the North Central States, with headquarters at Milwaukee, Wis., and, in 1939, was transferred to Portland, Oreg., as regional forester for the Pacific Northwest.

No desk powder

The pioneer Chief Forester, Gifford Pinchot, gave the conservation movement in America its first real impetus. The present Chief has the job of translating that movement into a practical, working program. In spite of all that has been accomplished, our forest situation is far from healthy. The trend of forest deterioration has yet to be reversed. Forest depletion already has gone so far, Mr. Watts is convinced, that we are going to face a period of wood shortage before adequate new supplies of timber can be grown. If we are to meet prospective long-range requirements for timber, he says, our present annual rate of timber growth will have to be doubled.

Lyle Watts is not the loud, desk-pounding type of executive. At a conference he is apt to talk less than others in the group. But when he does talk, it is usually right to the point. He is tall, straight and slender, blue-eyed, informal, and friendly. He has the long, easy stride of a man of the woods. He thinks of forests, however, in terms of human welfare. At a family meeting of FS employees soon after he became their Chief, Lyle Watts told his co-workers:

"I know what happens to people in forest communities after their timber has been liquidated improperly or too fast. We all know that forest land resources can help bring reasonable security to people who want to own homes and raise families. And I will do all that I can to help you make sure that these resources are so managed that they will do just that."—C. E. RANDALL, FS.

fall
Summer 1912
Summer 1911

15 mos.

LYLE F. WATTS:

Date of birth: 11-18-90.

Cerro Gordo County, Iowa.

July 1, 1913 - Entered the Service as technical assistant, Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts is a graduate of the Iowa Forest School, having received the degree of B. S. in Forestry and M. F. Since graduation, he has been constantly engaged in forestry, with about seventeen years Forest Service experience in scientific and administrative work as Forest Assistant, Forest Examiner, Assistant Forest Supervisor, Forest Supervisor, Assistant in the Office of Forest Management of Region 4, and Senior Silviculturist. During 1928-9 he was Dean of the Forest School, Utah Agricultural College, Logan, Utah, returning to the Forest Service September 1, 1929.

Summer of 1911, reconnaissance for three months on Sevier National Forest; summer of 1912, three months spent on fire patrol on Superior National Forest; fall of 1912, one month estimating cottonwood on east side of Missouri River in Iowa; Spring of 1913, had charge of the laboratory in Forest Planting for the Iowa State College, supervision and construction of beds and care, transplanting of seedlings and willow and cottonwood cuttings, July 1, 1913 (permanent appointment) assigned as field assistant to Wyoming National Forest, timber survey, brush burning and general timber-sale work, 1915 and 1916 in charge of timber-survey work Wyoming and Wasatch National Forests. 1917 assigned to Cache National Forest as Forest Examiner in charge of forest planting at Pocatello Nursery. May 1918 to April 1920, Deputy Supervisor on Boise Forest, last three months with designation of Forest Supervisor; Spring 1920 to 1922, Supervisor Weiser National Forest; January 16, 1922 to March 1, 1926, Supervisor Idaho National Forest; March 1, 1926, transferred to Ogden office as second man in Forest Management; resigned from Forest Service, May 31, 1928 to accept position as head of forestry department at Utah Agricultural College, Logan.

Reinstated September 1, 1929 - Great Basin Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah. (Intermountain Forest Experiment Station).

August 1, 1931, transferred to Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station as Director.

February 1936 - Regional Forester, R-9.

February 1939 - " " " R-6.

EDUCATION:

Public School, Clear Lake, Iowa.
4 years High School, Clear Lake, Iowa. ? in Bellingham, Wash. then?
4 years Iowa State College, B.S. in Forestry 1913, M.F. 1928.

*Journal of Forestry, Oct. 1962, p. 582
says Nov. 19, 1890.*

College, 1913 1928

organized and

Membership in scientific societies and offices:

Alpha Zeta, Honorary Agric. Fraternity; Phi Kappa Phi, Honorary Science Fraternity; Society of American Foresters; American Forestry Association; Ecological Society of America; Northwest Scientific Association; Utah Academy of Science.

Final

"Daily Contact"



NOT FOR PUBLICATION

RECEIVED U.S. FOREST SERVICE

FEB 23 1939

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
February 20, 1939.

831-39

Brig. Watts

EXTRA-WATTS TO LEAVE R-9

WATTS GOES AND PRICE COMES

After more than three years of an outstanding leadership which has created a spirit of teamwork and esprit d' corps throughout Region Nine unsurpassed, if equalled, in the Forest Service, Regional Forester Lyle F. Watts is being transferred to the helm of Region Six with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

A fair and understanding leader, he has secured lasting and beneficial results along wide forestry fronts. It has never been necessary for him to assume the role of a driver, because everyone in the organization has been eager to contribute his best in the appreciation of square treatment and for the good of the conservation cause. He and his equally friendly and appreciated wife will leave with their son and daughter about April 1 with the deeply sincere well wishes of everyone in this region of the Forest Service. That in the Service -- where coming and going is part of existence -- is the one thing most hoped for by us all.

We greet as new Regional Forester the present Associate Regional Forester of Region Five, Jay H. Price. Just when he will arrive in Milwaukee with his wife and children has not been given out, but they will find a warm welcome when they do come.

Mr. Price was here in 1937 on a general inspection trip with Assistant Chief Marsh, and became acquainted with our field men and regional office staff while getting a broad view of our objectives, problems and progress. He is one of the senior Associate Regional Foresters, having held that position at San Francisco since it was created. He is a graduate in engineering of the University of California and has had valuable logging engineering experience in private industry before entering the Forest Service. During the war he commanded a company. All in all he has had an unusually well rounded experience, both in our Service and out of it, which combines with a personality which instills confidence and wins friends to make him a natural choice for this well merited promotion. He will find here an organization with fine traditions of service and ready to cooperate to the fullest degree.

C. J. Buck, present Regional Forester at Portland, is being transferred to the Washington Office as General Inspector and Special Assistant to the Chief, according to the Associated Press of today.

Utah State Agricultural College

Candidates for the Honorary Doctor's Degree

Monday, June 1, 1953

ELLA V. REEDER
Doctor of Humanities

Citation:

Mr. President:

I take great pleasure in presenting Mrs. Ella V. Reeder, mother, home-maker and tireless advocate of more effective organization among farm women to bring about better educational, social, and spiritual opportunities for rural people. As an ardent champion of a more productive and more prosperous agriculture, Mrs. Reeder has served in many capacities her country and her state.

Because of these services, and because of her years of unselfish devotion as Board Member and patron to the highest interests of the Utah State Agricultural College, I am honored to recommend on behalf of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees that Mrs. Reeder be granted the degree of Doctor of Humanities.

LYLE F. WATTS
Doctor of Science

Citation:

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present Lyle F. Watts, retired chief of the United States Forest Service. As a public servant Mr. Watts has devoted his life to the conservation of our heritage of forests, streams, and scenic grandeur, a service for which he was recently granted the distinguished service award of the United States Department of Agriculture "for distinguished and effective leadership in advancing the conservation of forests in the United States and internationally."

Because of him, the groves, "God's first temples" offer a greener sanctuary. Because of him the wild denizens of forest, mountain, stream and lake are more abundant and more secure. Because of him our watersheds better conserve and store winter snows and summer rains.

For all these contributions to the nation's wealth, health and scenic beauty, and for his service in organizing the Utah State School of Forestry, I take pleasure in recommending on behalf of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees that he be granted the degree of Doctor of Science.

HAROLD B. LEE
Doctor of Humanities

Citation:

Mr. President:

I am greatly honored to present Elder Harold B. Lee. As educator and publisher Elder Lee has made notable contributions to the culture of our state and region. As a public servant and a citizen he has worked single-mindedly for the highest standards of public and private duty. As a churchman he has demonstrated, through his service to the Welfare program of his Church, that the Christian principles of love and service to mankind can be made practically effective in the modern world. As family man and neighbor he has set an example of noble living before the youth of this land, and as author he has stimulated and inspired that youth by his faith, his wisdom, and his understanding.

On behalf of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees I take pleasure in recommending that the College honor itself by conferring upon Elder Lee the degree of Doctor of Humanities.

June 30, 1952

Lyle F. Watts, retiring Chief of the U. S. Forest Service, intends to carry on any way he can in the interests of forest conservation, he told his fellow employees in a farewell statement on his last day of official service.

He is keenly interested in the development of international cooperation in forestry, he said, and hopes to continue his support of the forestry activities of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. For the United States and for the entire world, conservation of natural resources, he feels, is one of the foremost needs. It is absolutely essential if the people of this country and of the free world are to continue their progress and development as free peoples.

For the next few months, Mr. Watts said, he plans to do a lot of fishing. One of the things that attracted him to the forestry profession when he was a young man, he said, was the thought that it might provide frequent opportunities to go fishing along cool woodland streams. But after nearly 40 years on the job with the Forest Service, he is still waiting for a chance to really fish to his heart's content.

During his last week of official service, Mr. Watts was feted on a number of occasions by members of the Forest Service and officials of other agencies. Mutual goodbyes were said at a Forest Service "Family Meeting" arranged and conducted by the clerical staff of the Service. The retiring Chief Forester was guest of honor at a supper and dance at the Beltsville Log Cabin, attended by Forest Service employees, "alumni", and friends. The Secretary of Agriculture's staff meeting on June 26 was devoted mainly to a farewell statement by Mr. Watts to associates in the Department of Agriculture. On June 24, he was given a luncheon by a group of officials of the Department of the Interior. Mr. Watts formally turned over the reins to his successor as Chief of the Forest Service,

Richard E. McArdle, at a meeting of the U. S. Regional Foresters and Directors of Forest Experiment stations in Washington this week.

"I am grateful for the wonderful opportunity I have had for nearly forty years to serve the people of America," Mr. Watts said in his farewell statement. "Whatever success I have had is due to the splendid organization and the traditions of public service of the Forest Service. As I wind up my tour of active duty, my only advice to my fellow workers is: Never forget the basic goal on which the Forest Service has grown great, the criterion on which all its decisions have been based. That goal is 'the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run.'"

Biographical Sketch of Lyle F. Watts

Lyle F. Watts has been Chief of the Forest Service in the United States Department of Agriculture since January, 1943. Broad training in public service preceded his assignment as Chief Forester.

Mr. Watts' experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions (the National Forests embrace ten forest regions including public forest lands in Alaska and Puerto Rico); several years in the forest research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the school of forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. In all, his work has carried him into four Regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the North Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

During 1941 and part of 1942, Mr. Watts served as Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

In the fall of 1942, because of his wide experience in employing, organizing and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, Mr. Watts was brought to Washington to assist the Secretary of Agriculture in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

When Mr. Watts was appointed as Chief Forester, Secretary Wickard made the following statement, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the Nation in conserving and developing its forest lands."

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service on July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

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Lyle Ford Watts: chief forester of the nation



Lyle Watts

LYLE FORD WATTS, 56-year-old chief forester of the United States, is a career man in the truest sense of the word. In the summer of 1913, less than a month after walking off the campus of Iowa State College at Ames fortified with a degree of Bachelor of Science in forestry, he entered the forest Service of the Department of Agriculture as technical assistant in Wyoming. He's been in the service ever since with the exception of a few months in 1942 when his chief, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, called him to Washington as special assistant in charge of farm labor activities. But on January 1, 1943, Wickard returned him to the Forest Service in the role of chief forester. As such his authority extends over 461,697,000 acres, about one-third of the land surface of continental United States.

True to the legendary tradition of the outdoors, Watts seldom makes a formal address, prefers to do his talking seated on a log or an upturned box with the people of the forest or the range. Tall, spare, he lights his pipe and sits easily in his chair at staff meetings while he does a homey travel talk—generally about one of the frequent trips he makes to the country's many wooded regions in the public domain. He is an entertaining speaker with a simple, forthright style and retains interest by frequently bringing his listeners into his talks by asking, "You're from down there, Joe. How do they call that town?"

Shunning recrimination, Watts has been content to brand as "misleading" claims that "there's still plenty of timber." He points to survey reports of the Forest Service and the American Forestry Association that there is 44 per cent less standing sawtimber in the country today than 36 years ago, and that timber is still being cut 50 per cent faster than it is growing. After 34 years in the Forest Service he is thoroughly convinced that the "scarcity trend" in the nation's forests cannot be reversed without strict and long-range federal-state control of cutting.

Three National Forest Parts Consolidated

WASHINGTON, June 6. - (AP) - President Truman Thursday consolidated parts of three national forests in California as "the Six Rivers National forest."

A proclamation said that parts of the Siskiyou, Klamath and

Trinity national forests were consolidated "in the interest of administrative management."

The proclamation added that the action does not change the status of any land ownerships.

PARADE JULY 13, 1947

OREGON JOURNAL, Portland, Ore. 6/6/47

e future will need such information
cies of government interested in re-
attendant conservation problems.
will have to proceed on a hit-and-
g crude estimates which can in no
actory.

Virginia we have too long delayed
f the problems which have arisen
ns and hillsides have been denuded
resources. However, now that at
e making an intelligent approach to
we will need every bit of information
plied.

3-MTN. Elkins, W.Va. 6/19/47

Reserves

dress at Oklahoma City recently,
of Agriculture Anderson asked a
question: "What will the United
like 100 years from now?"

peaking with reference to food and
he continued: "Will the people
y of milk, meat, fruit and vege-
balanced diet. . . Or will they be
sickly, aging and dying before
" Mr. Anderson pointed out that
depends mainly on what we do
conservation. He further called to
he fact that it was only about a
a half ago that we really began to
to cast up our losses on a na-
and to decide that only a nation-
would stop them.

1933 that the soil erosion service
shed, and erosion-control demon-
projects came into being to help
understand soil conservation. The
conservation corps helped provide the
or for these demonstration proj-
1935, with the soil conservation act
the soil conservation service es-
soil erosion had official recognition
al problem—and the next year an
gram of conservation got under-
officially the activity included the
strip cropping, terracing, contour
crop rotation, cover crops for
rotection of fields, tree and grass
a badly eroded land, control of gul-
nstruction of small reservoirs.
ld war 2 broke into that program
a good beginning had been made.
ortunate in our production during
years, and we have been fortunate
years that have followed. But
een drawing on our soil reserves,
time for a break or a slowdown in
vation program.

TRIBUNE, Great Falls, Mont.

6/2/47

GIFT HORSES

For the past several years, at no addition-
al tax expense to the South Carolina public
the State Forest Service has been construct-
ing, maintaining and improving a group of
state parks for the benefit of the South Car-
olina public. This system of parks didn't
cost the people of South Carolina an extra
thin dime. A large part of the building ex-
pense was borne by the United States gov-
ernment, and the initial work was done by
the boys of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

This park system put within reach of ev-
ery citizen of South Carolina—some within
not quite as easy reach as others—recrea-
tional advantages never before enjoyed.
Picnic areas with eating pavilions and out-
door fireplaces were set up; recreation halls
for meetings and dancing; eating places
where those who wished could put their
shins under a table and order a nice meal;
day camps and recreation centers for needy
children; cottages for vacationists; lakes for
swimming and boats for fishing, and so on
and on.

And it was all a free gift, except for nomi-
nal charges for the special privileges and
services, but still these advantages were
available where they never had been before
in South Carolina and at nominal cost.

At one of the state parks a fence was
built separating the bathing beach from the
rest of the park area. It had numerous ad-
vantages. It gave the bathers freedom from
those who were not bathing but merely look-
ing around. It also brought in additional
revenue as many took advantage of the lack
of control to slip around the bath houses and
snitch a swim. Any way it was considered
advantaegous by the park service.

But the beneficiaries of the park did not
like the fence. They set up a howl. The
fuss was so great that in order to quiet the
disturbance the fence was taken down.

It seems well to remind the South Carolina
public who enjoy our state parks that these
installations cost them practically nothing,
although the details of management may not
meet with the personal approval of all the
beneficiaries, we are still getting a lot for
nothing, and the park officials are trying to
operate them in the best interests of safety
and other considerations of the public, and
it is bad taste to look a gift horse in the
mouth.

STATE - Columbia, So. Carolina, 6/17/47

LYLE WATTS

He's Father to the Forests

"He's like a father to the forests," a motherly looking Washington stenographer said the other day of Lyle Ford Watts, sixth chief forester of the United States. She'd just typed up "The Chief's" remarks to his headquarters staff of scientists, technicians and administrators on a visit he made to Uncle Sam's southland forests. The trip was one of many he continually takes without fanfare or formality to the woods regions throughout the country.

Lyle Watts delivers a formal address only when the necessities of his official post -- Teddy Roosevelt called this "a position of sacred trust" -- demands. He prefers to do his talking seated on a log or an upturned box in the back country with the people of the forest or the range, lumbermen, cattlemen, sheep herders, hunters, campers or forest rangers. At staff meetings, this tall, slightly stooped bureau veteran of 56 sits easily in his chair, lights his pipe and does a homely travel talk.

He has a photographic eye, pictures well what he's seen, makes no pretense of remembering names exactly, gets interest by frequently asking if he's right. "You're from down there, Joe. How do they call that town?" When through, he has restated, with object lessons neither emphasized or criticized, the desirable and undesirable on Uncle's 150 national forests and on the nation's forest land as a whole. "He reminds me of the favorite professor every schoolboy remembers," one of his foresters said awhile back.

This Iowa-born westerner whose work affects about one-third the land surface of continental United States believes most everyone would do the right thing if they really knew "the how and the why." Thus he's at pains to see that all his Forest Service employees know both sides of all forest and range controversies. This philosophy popped up surprisingly

when he was recently asked why he circulated among his own men published material bitterly criticizing him and why he did not attack his assailants. Said the soft-voiced Watts: "We want members of the Forest Service to know not only the public side of this controversy, but both sides," and "We make no attacks on anyone."

No name caller either, Chief Watts has been content to brand as "misleading" certain forest industry publicity that "there is plenty of timber," although recent survey reports by the public's Forest Service and the privately financed American Forestry Association agreed there is today 44 percent less standing sawtimber in the country than there was 36 years ago, and that we are still cutting sawtimber 50 percent faster than it is growing. After 34 years in the bureau -- he began as a laborer in Utah in 1913 -- "The Chief" is convinced that the "scarcity trend" in sawtimber cannot be reversed without Federal-State control of cutting, different but comparable in its own field to regulation of the stock exchange or the public utilities.

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U. S. Forest Service

May 26, 1947

Wilderness Boss

BY RICHARD L. NEUBERGER

We're losing forests at the rate of five billion feet a year. But Chief Forester Lyle Watts has a plan to save them

IN FADED dungarees, new camping togs or leftover Army clothes, the American people are vacationing this summer amidst the green solitudes of the country's National Forests. More than 35,000,000 — including many ex-GI's — will have bivouacked beside snow-fed lakes and plumed waterfalls by the time autumn tints the woodlands once more.

Whether America's wilderness vacationers mix flapjack batter in the White Mountain National Forest of New Hampshire or trudge along a canyon trail in the Fremont National Forest of Oregon, they are the guests of a tall, lean man with silvery hair—Lyle Ford Watts, hard-working chief of the United States Forest Service.

He has charge of a domain that reaches into 42 states and is larger than that of any governor, for not even Texas is the size of the National Forests. He occupies the job which the late Franklin D. Roosevelt once said he

had "a hankering for" after he retired from the White House.

The millions who invade the National Forests this summer will quickly see the problems of their host, the boss forest ranger of the U.S.A. Desolate acres of cut-over stumps in the near-by foothills will tell them the gravity of these problems. Charred remnants of magnificent groves will emphasize the peril that confronts Watts' domain whenever lightning forks from the sky or a camper is careless with a match.

Conservation — or Trouble

"**T**O BUILD homes for veterans and for other domestic uses," says Watts, "we'll need about fourteen billion cubic feet of lumber each year. Fire and insects and disease destroy two billion feet annually. Yet we have a growth of only eleven billion feet. This means our forests are being depleted at the rate of five billion cubic feet every twelve months. If that goes on we'll drop into the laps of our children a shortage not only of lumber but also of scenery, water, wildlife and recreation."

To perpetuate the nation's forests, which provide 3,750,000 jobs and store up in lakes and rivers the drinking-water supply of half

the population, Watts contends that a six-point program ought to be adopted. This is it:

1. Forests must be selectively logged, so that only certain trees are felled.
2. Sufficient trees must be spared in order that the land will surely be re-seeded.
3. Forest-fire protection must be more vigilant and intensive.
4. Young timber must not be cut.
5. Logging methods which drag chains and cables against uncut trees must be prevented.
6. The American people must be conservation conscious and aware of the importance of safeguarding our great natural resources.



A former timber cruiser, Lyle Watts heads foresters ranging in 42 states

man in Oregon's fir groves. Lyle met his wife when she was timber-appraisal clerk at Ogden, Utah, and he was marking lodgepole pine along the Blacks Fork River in the High Uintas Mountains.

No More Dishwashing

WHILE her husband fought forest fires, seeded tree nurseries and patrolled the grassy ranges, Nell Watts lived on the frontier with him. She fried Dolly Vardens on rusty iron stoves and carried water from bubbling up-land springs. She remembered all this the day he phoned her and said, "I'll dry the dishes for you from now on, Nell, but I won't wash them any more."

"Lyle, what's the matter?" she asked.

"I've been appointed Chief of the Forest Service," he replied.

From the day he got his degree in forestry at Iowa State College a third of a century ago, Watts has been a scholar in the woods. Forestry to him has meant scientific understanding of the growth of timber as well as throwing a diamond hitch on a pack horse or walking 30 miles between dawn and sundown.

With his frameless glasses, high-domed forehead and thin face, Lyle Watts looks considerably more like a college professor than the top kick of America's forest rangers.

An old-timer at Ogden remembers that two of the best men on the trail when the government undertook to mark boundaries in the Yellowstone basin were Watts and a young lieutenant of cavalry whom everyone called

Continued on page 17

Release

Forest Service Chief Looks to South
for One Half of Post War Wood Supply

The South will be called on to supply about one half of the nation's future timber requirements which are estimated now at 21 billion cubic feet, Lyle F. Watts, chief, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, told the Southern Forestry Conference of forest owners, operators, industrialists and State and Federal officials meeting today (Jan. 20) in Atlanta, Ga.

Watts said the nation appeared to be entering upon a new era of wood, with many new uses opening up in the field of chemistry and new engineering techniques enabling wood to hold its own in competition with other building materials. For the period immediately following the war, he said reconstruction requirements abroad hold promise of greatly increased export markets. This outlook, he indicated, supports the 21 billion post war estimate, which compares with current wartime consumption and losses of somewhat less than 17 billion cubic feet per year.

Citing the South's vast acreage of forest land and prolific and commercially useful trees, he wondered, he said, if the region realized the extent of its responsibility to the nation in meeting increased future sawtimber needs.

If these needs were to be supplied, he told the conference, it would be necessary to double the annual growth in the southern States, since even before the forests were subjected to stepped-up wartime cutting annual growth was estimated at 5.6 billion cubic feet, or only about half post war output to be expected of them. Sawtimber drain, he said, is already almost twice current annual growth. In this doubling of the productivity of its forests, he added, lay the chief hope for much of the industrial expansion now "so eagerly sought by the South."

Results of forestry efforts of the past 20 years in the South, he

declared, still leave its forest problem largely unsolved. He was appalled, he said, "by our failure to solve the problem of fire control," and spoke of many localities where forest depletion had reached such an advanced stage that restoration could no longer be affected by private owners alone.

The chief forester advocated public regulation of cutting and other practices on privately owned forest land as indispensable if prospective post war production goals were to be met. He told the conference that the type of regulation urged by the Forest Service would provide for direct Federal action only when and where a State failed to enact and enforce suitable legislation, and said that from the standpoint of sheer self interest the South should welcome this "aid and stimulus for developing the great potentialities of its forest resource."

Mr. Watts held that public regulation of forest practices was in keeping with broader government controls which he believed must come because of changes brought about by the war and because of the demands which a prospective 130 billion dollar a year economy, as compared to the 60 or 70 billion dollar pre-war economy, would make on the nation's resources. The type of regulation proposed, he said, was a basic rule to protect the public interest and not in any way comparable to "the arbitrary edicts necessitated by war." He declared it would not interfere with ordinary business transactions, and denied that it meant in any shape or form "displacing private enterprise and taking over management of land or industry by government."

At the same time, he said that private owners should do as much of the job of increasing the tree crop as possible, and suggested that to facilitate good forest management present federal aids to forest land owners should be strengthened and extended. He thought that government should be prepared to purchase badly deteriorated or low value forests but that the need for public acquisition in the South would be much less than in some other forested regions.

LYLE P. WATTS

Wartime chief of the U. S. Forest Service, Lyle P. Watts holds an important, many-sided job, the successful administration of which affects the lives of the American people in myriad ways.

Responsible for the administration of the 153 National Forests scattered from Alaska to Florida and from Maine to California, as well as of the 12 forest experiment stations and the famous Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis., "the Chief" is also general supervisory head of the various cooperative programs through which the Federal government works to help State and private owners of timberland raise standards of management, productivity and community service in all the forest regions.

Today, Mr. Watts is deeply concerned with three things: First, that the forest resource shall make the greatest possible contribution toward winning the war. Second, that in so far as possible, this contribution of timber and forest products shall be made without avoidable sacrifice of producing forests. Third, that at the earliest possible moment the United States shall adopt a broad Federal-State cooperative program calculated to control destructive cutting practices on private forest land and to put the forest resource on a continuous production basis that will bring a new stability and prosperity to forest workers, industries and communities.

Mr. Watts entered the Forest Service 31 years ago, following graduation with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Iowa State College. Save for two years when he left the service temporarily to organize the School of Forestry of Utah Agricultural College, his government service has been continuous.

Before he was named chief in January of 1943, his experience included all phases of Forest Service work, from fire guard to regional forester and the directorship of an experiment station. He worked in four of the ten Forest Service regions, was regional forester for the Lake and Central States and for the Pacific Northwest, and has traveled and studied in all the others.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, in 1890, but spent most of his early years in the Pacific Northwest, which from the standpoint of old-growth timber reserves is often called the most important forest region in the United States. Not long ago, he traveled extensively in the South, where he was impressed with the good forestry practices being employed by many firms and individuals, but deeply lamented the obvious fact that clear cutting, inadequate fire protection and other forest-destroying forces still prevail upon most southern forest land.

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FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, April 12, 1944(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Chief To Speak before Maryland Conservation Forum

"Federal Participation in Measures for Better Forest Practices" is the subject of a talk to be delivered by Mr. Watts before the Maryland Conservation Forum at Baltimore today, April 12.

Supplemental Estimates

Activities on the financial front at the present time include the submission of supplemental estimates to the Bureau of the Budget as follows:

For additional timber sale funds, including
\$70,000 for work arising from the sustained
yield act of March 29, 1944 (F.Y. 1945) \$ 596,950

For planning flood control installations on
the Los Angeles drainage. (Funds are available
in the Department now but Budget Bureau
approval is necessary before it can be
expended). (F.Y. 1944-1945) 484,520

For planning post war public works (F.Y. 1945)..... 5,593,630

Action in the Budget Bureau will have to be taken promptly on the first and third items above, if they are to be included in the 1945 Act. The Senate Appropriations Committee will start hearings on the Agricultural Appropriation Bill in a few days.

This information is strictly in-Service confidential until action has been taken by the Budget Bureau and resulting message, if any, has been forwarded to Congress.

North American Wildlife Conference

Mr. Watts will speak on "Some Federal Functions in Wildlife and Forest Management" at the opening session of the Ninth North American Wildlife Conference, which will be held at the La Salle Hotel in Chicago, April 24, 25 and 26.

Technical papers by Forest Service men to be presented at the big game management session will be "Some Results of a Study of Mule Deer in Central Utah" by Orange Olsen, R-4, and "The Murder's Creek Mule Deer Herd" by Glenn Mitchell of R-6. Lloyd Swift of the W. O. is general chairman of the technical sessions of the conference.

Society Meeting

Gifford Pinchot has invited members of the Washington Section of the Society of American Foresters (and detailers in Washington) to another annual baked apple party in his home, "The Governor," 1615 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., at 8 p. m. Friday, April 14. Mr. Watts will speak on "Regulation Is No Dilemma." The annual election of Section officers will be held.

(Over)

Latest on O&C Bills

There is a strong probability that when the House reconvenes today, April 12, one of the first items of business to which the House Committee on Public Lands will give attention will be the executive session in relation to the bills H. R. 1688 and S. 275. The open hearings on these bills were concluded on February 29, but the executive session was deferred until the printed record could be made available to the members of the committee, and before that was practicable the Easter recess intervened.

Reports on McCarran Subcommittee Hearings

There have just come from the Government Printing Office further reports of the hearings of the McCarran Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, i. e., Part 9, covering the hearings at Fredonia and Phoenix, Arizona, Part 10, the hearings at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Part 11, the hearings at Salt Lake City, Utah. The hearings at Denver, Colorado, have not yet been printed.

Contributions to Local Government

A new approach to the problem of contributions to costs of local government by conservation lands is afforded by H. R. 4515 introduced by Representative Whitten on March 29. It provides that where lands of the kind described in the bill are parts of local entities of government which have issued bonds that are liens against the real property within such entities and are to be paid off or liquidated from taxes levied against the real property, the United States shall within a prescribed period pay the local entity a sum which would bear the same proportionate relationship to the bonded debt as the value of the Federal land holdings bears to the total value of the real property within the entity. Such payment, however, apparently would not affect the annual contributions otherwise made by such lands.

W. O. Visitors

C. P. Winslow, Director of the Forest Products Laboratory, arrived Monday to spend a week or so in the W. O. He is located in Room 5211, Ext. 5653.

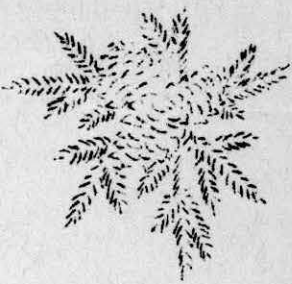
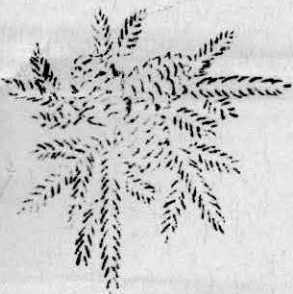
G. M. Hunt, Assistant Director of the Laboratory, is also in the W. O. consulting on program matters. He can be reached in Room 5208, Ext. 5653.

Extra Food for Loggers

The first step in a new program to provide extra food rations to men employed in heavy industry has been announced by the OPA.

An order announced on April 10 provides extra food only for loggers, primarily those who eat at logging camps and other on-the-job eating places -- but food needs of men in other heavy industries are now being computed, OPA said, and as soon as these are completed, supplementary rations will be provided for them. It becomes effective April 20, 1944, and the extra rations will be allowed for periods starting May 1, 1944. Provision is also made in the order for supplementary rations for individual loggers who live in isolated areas where they cannot get necessary amounts of fresh foods.

(OPA DAILY BULLETIN)



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE CHIEF



My heartiest Christmas greetings to you all.

This year it would seem that "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men" is a concept that has been all but blacked out. But has it? Never in the history of the world was there more hope for the attainment of that ideal. The rising tide of the worldwide interest in the Four Freedoms and in the rights of the common man point to a day when universal peace and good will may be a lasting reality. And in the achievement of that ideal the Forest Service can and will play its part.

Our Forest Service Family today is scattered to the four corners of the whole earth - working and fighting. The men and women who have left the home arc are especially in our thoughts at this Holiday season.

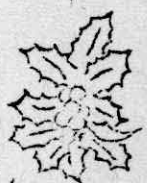

Thus far, I believe we at home have kept faith with those who have left to fight the bigger fight of the moment. For those of us at home there can only be this firm resolve - that we will, for our part, do all we can to help shorten this war and to bring to reality the ideals for which we are fighting. May that day, when most of us can be together again at a truly Merry Christmas Time, come soon!

Most sincerely,



Lyle F. Watts

LYLE F. WATTS, Chief
Forest Service



FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, February 8, 1943(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Chief Talks to the Family

A family meeting of Washington Office employees was addressed by our new Chief, Mr. Lyle Watts, on February 5. Some of the highlights of Mr. Watts' talk which we believe would be of special interest to the field follow:

It seems to me that the years just ahead are always critical years, yet I think that most would agree that in this instance the years ahead are especially critical for forest conservation.

First there is the obligation to use our forest resources and our personnel to make the greatest possible contribution to win the war. I am sure that in this we are making a real sacrifice. In many areas we were cutting our forests too fast before the war, and that over-cutting has been stepped up greatly. Frankly, that doesn't cause us much loss of sleep if it really helps. It does point to positive action to reduce the cut immediately the peace comes.

The other sacrifice in forest conservation which to me seems to senseless and unnecessary is the degree to which improper cutting of our forests is going on. I give full measure of credit to all those private operators who are following good forest practice, and there are many. Yet the fact still remains that too much of the private land is being cut over badly. I wish you would read the story of the railroad tie cutting at Morton, Washington, in the February issue of American Forests. To me that's what I call a horrible example. That young forest being cut is growing faster now than at any time during its 100 years of life. Waste is excessive. A fire hazard is being created which will be hard to cope with, and the future of a community is being jeopardized through improper handling of a forest resource. And that in a region where we have one-third of all the mature and over-mature forests in the United States. That's just one example of the problems the war creates. I could give many.

The second major problem has to do with post-war demands on the American forests. In my judgment the next great advance in modern civilization will be in the Orient, the so-called backward countries of Asia with their millions of under-privileged people. The American forests will have to help in that development.

Second only to the great development job in Asia and much more urgent in point of time will be the reconstruction of the towns and cities of Europe and North Africa. Prompt reconstruction will be one aid to avoid revolution. Again American forests will be drawn on for wood products.

Our own home building program was already way behind before the war, and now even major repairs are out for the duration. When the war is over there will be need for the greatest home building era we have ever seen in America.

(Over)

The discoveries and developments in the field of uses of wood as a result of the war will create great demands for wood products.

Along with all of these will be the need to provide full employment at fair wages to our own folks. Millions of our boys will be mustered out of the armed forces and they must not fail to find ready work. War industry workers must not be thrown on relief while our peace time industry rebuilds. Again our forest lands are just waiting to provide jobs for our people....

Can we bring those jobs and those people needing jobs together so that our natural resources will be a growing rather than a dwindling asset?

That's the two jobs ahead. Win the war and then win the peace. We have our big part to play and as a team we can do it.

Technical Advisory Board Abolished

The Technical Advisory Board, which was established by Memorandum to Chiefs of Bureaus and Offices dated June 8, 1933, and the functions of which were further defined by Memorandum No. 819, of May 12, 1939, is hereby abolished. The functions and responsibilities heretofore vested in the Board will be performed by the Office of Plant and Operations through such organization as the Chief of that Office may establish. (Secretary's Memorandum No. 819, Suppl. 2, Feb. 3)

Wildlife Conference

Members of the Forest Service who will participate in the Eighth North American Wildlife Conference, to be held at Denver, Colorado, February 15, 16, and 17 are: Regional Forester Peck, who will speak on the subject "Management of Wild Lands" in the general session on pioneering in post-war conservation; Mr. E. A. Schilling, R-8, Fred W. Johnson, R-3, and Barry C. Park, R-2, who will present papers during the technical sessions. A special evening session will be held for consideration of Forest Service and State matters under the guidance of Dr. H. L. Shantz, W. O.

Foresters in Demand for Tropical Work

The Forest Service was recently requested to suggest the name of a forester competent to size up the site and climatic conditions and recommend species for planting in a proposed reforestation project in Peru. This is only one of numerous requests that now come to the Service for foresters for tropical work. Many, but not all of these requests, concern work in the forestry field, the particular training which foresters get having made them useful on other lines of work. This is now being recognized by many of the war agencies, which is resulting in increasing interest in foresters for various lines of activity. The Washington Office would be glad to have the names and experience records of foresters in or out of the Forest Service who might be interested in duration jobs in Central or South America on war projects. Data should be sent to the W.O. Division of Personnel Management, marked for the attention of Forest Research.

Wanted: (Attention W. O.)

Information as to the whereabouts of a leather covered rotary executive chair, formerly used by Mr. Silcox. The chair is needed for Mr. Watts' office. Please communicate any information on its location to Mrs. Crocker, Ext. 5842, or Mr. Lund, Ext. 5493.

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, November 6, 1942(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Lyle F. Watts Named to Coordinate USDA Farm Labor Activities

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard announced yesterday the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, as an assistant to him with a special assignment to coordinate farm labor activities of the Department. Mr. Watts is taking over his new duties immediately. (USDA Press Release)

Mr. Horace J. Andrews has been designated by Acting Chief Clapp to serve as Acting Regional Forester of R-6.

Regular Hours of Duty Required on November 11 but not on November 26

Notice has been received that regular hours of duty will be required of employees of the Department of Agriculture both at Washington, D. C. and in the field service on Armistice Day, November 11, 1942, in view of the war. Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1942, is a legal public holiday, and regular hours of duty will not be required of employees of the Department on that day. (Secretary's Memorandum No. 1045, November 3)

Pontoon Lumber Given Higher Ceilings

Adjustment of the maximum prices for pontoon lumber has been made by OPA to take account of the rigid specifications to which this lumber is cut. This action, taken through an amendment to the regulation covering Douglas Fir and Other West Coast Lumber, establishes new and higher dollars-and-cents price ceilings for six of the 13 types of pontoon lumber covered in the regulation. (OPA-DAILY BULLETIN 10/31)

A Noteworthy Fire Law Enforcement Record

A general summary of the fire situation shows that up to October 5 in 1941 there were 180 forest fires where laws were violated on or near the Cumberland National Forest in Region 7. To the same date in 1942 one hundred sixteen similar fires which burned 2,744 acres. Law enforcement alone has not caused this substantial reduction, but it apparently has been a major factor. 79 cases (68%) were initiated criminally or civilly. Out of these 79 cases, 59 (or 75%) have been won. Most of the penalties were minimum fine and costs for misdemeanors (about \$20.00). Nearly \$500 in damages were collected. One man was sent to the penitentiary for a year. But the important things are the fires prevented, the money saved, and the laborers released for effective work in war or related industries.

"New Type of Pioneer Needed", says Louis Bromfield

At a recent meeting of Friends of the Land, Louis Bromfield made the following statement:

I am not a scientist. I am only a farmer and writer who loves this country very dearly and who does not want to see it betrayed by its own people and despoiled. Industry is only about 150 years old in this country. Agriculture is eternal. We need a new type of pioneer, not to ruin the country, to restore it. I call on all men and women of goodwill to join this movement. It is later than we think.

(Over)

New Spray for Bark Beetles

A new and highly effective chemical spray for control of bark beetles on certain species of western pine will, when available in quantity, eliminate the hazardous and expensive method of destroying the immature broods by fire. However, orthodichlorobenzene, a chemical used in the spray, is in demand for war purposes, according to Du Pont chemists, so that widespread use of the beetle spray may not take place for some time to come. The new penetrating beetle spray, consisting of one part by volume of orthodichlorobenzene and four parts of ordinary Diesel oil which, when used on infested trees of thin-barked species, kills the insects. The oil acts primarily as the vehicle and penetrant, and the orthodichlorobenzene as the lethal agency. Use of this spray reduces labor requirements and eliminates hazardous burning. (AGRICULTURAL NEWS LETTER, September-October)

Last Summer's Travel

A questionnaire on 1942 Summer travel sent by the National Association of Travel Officials to resorts throughout the country has resulted in some interesting figures assembled by the different districts. The average decrease in this Summer's travel, compared with 1941, was 44 percent, some areas reporting an 80 percent drop, others a drop of 20 to 50 percent. More than half the replies blamed tire and gasoline rationing for the travel reduction. One-third of the replies showed that 60 percent of the travel was by automobile, 40 percent by public carrier. In long-distance travel a summary of the questionnaire revealed the average drop to be 63 percent.

Following are regional summaries of the Summer business: New England off 25 to 75 percent; Atlantic Coast off 40 to 85 percent; Central States off 20 to 50 percent; Rocky Mountains off 10 to 60 percent; Pacific Northwest off 75 to 80 percent; Southwest off 31 to 55 percent.

The character of the Summer travel reflected wartime changes as follows: 44 percent reported numerous defense-worker vacationists; 9 percent a few defense workers; 26 percent an increase, and 13 percent no change.

(NEW YORK TIMES, October 18)

Letter of Instructions Sent FFFS Coordinators

Mr. David P. Godwin, National Coordinator of FFFS, has prepared and furnished to the State Area Coordinators so far appointed a letter of information and instructions. This letter, which is a kind of manual, covers such subjects as State organization framework, local coordinators, recruiting, registration, enrollment, certificates, arm bands and other insignia, training program, mobilization, reports, organization relationships, women's place in FFFS, gasoline rationing, etc. Copies of the letter have been furnished to the Regions and other agencies.

Douglas Fir

Sales and deliveries of Douglas-fir lumber, after October 29, by producers who come within the provisions of Limitation Order L-218, were removed by WPB from the restrictions of M-208, which regulates the softwood lumber industry, and may be made only to the Central Procuring Agency for the armed services and their agents, or through the lumber products branch at the direction of the director general for operations. (Victory, November 3).

Mr. Walls

Biographical Data

See the following letter in files:

C
SUPERVISION
Meetings

Mr. J. T. Ryan, Executive Vice President
Southern Furniture Manufacturers' Assn.
High Point, N. C.

May 23, 1947

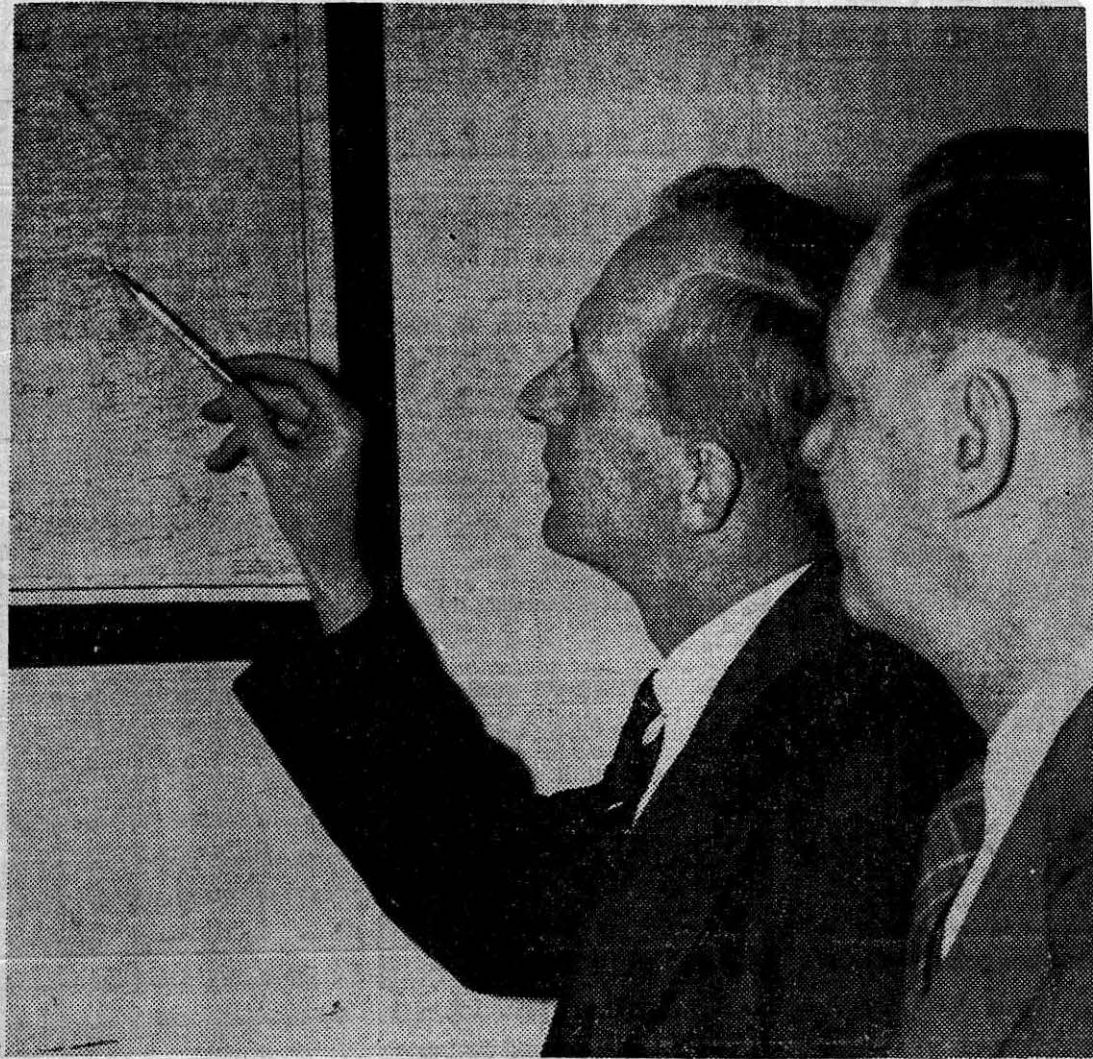
Name of paper Constitution

Where published Atlanta, Ga.

Date of issue Apr. 20, 1943

Sent by I. & E. R-8

Stationed at _____



Constitution Staff Photo—H. J. Slayton

STUDYING THE MAP—Lyle F. Watts (left), new U. S. chief forester, discusses with Joseph C. Kircher, regional forester for the southeast, the territory they have just covered on a 10-day tour. The chief is finding women in many forest offices.

THE CHIEF VISITS DENVER Chief Watts arrived in Denver on January 13 to attend the annual meeting of the American National Livestock Association. He talked to Forest permittees at a session of the convention last evening. Tonight he will speak at a meeting of the Central Rocky Mountain Section of the Society of American Foresters on a forest program for the United States. Saturday morning he will have a conference with Division Chiefs and Supervisors from Forests close to Denver - Messrs. Averill, Joy, Heaton, Keithley, French and Hutton. He will return to Washington Saturday evening.

TIMBER SALVAGE REPORT A copy of a report of the Forest Service programs resulting from the New England hurricane of September 21, 1938 has been received in the Regional Office. This 594-page mimeographed document, prepared by the New England Timber Salvage Administration, gives a historical and factual account of the hazard reduction and timber salvage work made necessary by the hurricane. The experiences and findings developed on this project will be of value to others who at some later date may have occasion to carry on a similar or related project. It is well illustrated. Members of the Region who were connected with the project will undoubtedly wish to borrow this report from the Library.

CHRISTMAS TREE AFTERMATH Reports from all over the country tell of an over supply of Christmas trees that resulted from the earlier report of high prices. An unusually large number of trees were cut from private land in the mountains tributary to Denver. The price on the Denver market was \$1.00 a foot in the early part of the season, but this price gradually dropped so that for several days before Christmas the buyer could name his own price. About 10,000 trees were cut on the Pike which is about half of the average number cut in the past. However, the cutting of Christmas trees on the Roosevelt increased from 5,000 to 17,000, most of which were marketed in the towns to the east of the Forest.

It is estimated that about 20,000 trees were left on dealers' hands on Christmas eve in Denver and surpluses were reported from coast to coast. An Associated Press dispatch from Boston stated that the Boston and Maine Railroad burned twenty-one carloads of trees that had not even reached a glutted market. This condition is a strong argument for federal regulation of private forest land cut much of which has been destructive for Christmas trees in contrast with National Forest Christmas tree cut which is on the basis of thinning for the improvement of the stand.

ANNUAL LIVESTOCK EDITIONS The Denver "Record Stockman" and "Western Farm Life" annual editions have been received. The Record Stockman contains 232 pages with many good articles and beautifully illustrated. There are sixteen full-page artistic pictures of ranch and range scenes and many other small pictures all on slick paper. Among the articles is one by Chief Forester Watts entitled "Denver Front Door to Ranges" as well as articles by Mrs. Avon Denham on "The Life of a Forest Ranger's Wife" and "Beef Production and Stock Rates" by Wallace M. Johnson of the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station.

The Western Farm Life annual edition is not quite so elaborate. It contains many interesting articles, including one by Wallace M. Johnson of the Experiment Station entitled "Range Studies Reveal Interesting Factors."

IMPORTANT

EQUIPMENT REPAIR RATES The new equipment repair rates shown in FC-D3-3 Region Two supplement of 1-1-44 will not become effective until July 1, but were sent out at this time in order to enable Supervisors to prepare allotment estimates for F.Y. 1945.

...

Promotion - from First Lieutenant to Captain - Walter L. Schipull, DAAF, Douglas, Arizona - Congratulations Walt.

...

Forest officers, please submit clippings from local newspapers with reference to "The Report of the Chief of the Forest Service, 1943."

...

Lt. (jg) Robert A. Lerchen, USNR, is in the Naval Training School at Harvard University for a four months' course in communications, after completing the basic indoctrination training at the University of Arizona. Bob had two weeks' leave at his home in Cody during the holidays. His present course includes ten one-hour classes daily.

RESIGNS Mrs. Evelyn Williams, retirement clerk in Personnel Management during the past two years, resigned effective January 31. She plans to return to home duties. Mrs. Williams first entered the Service in November 1933 in the Division of Operation.

APPOINTMENTS Dorothy J. Segal, Messenger, RO.
Harry Van Honings, Storekeeper, CP.

The Wyoming State Game and Fish Commission has announced the promotion of State Game Warden Lester Bagley to State Game and Fish Commissioner. This position (formerly Executive Secretary) has not been filled since the resignation of Dr. John W. Scott of the University of Wyoming. Since that time the authority has been divided between Bagley as State Game Warden and James C. Simpson as State Fish Warden.

...

Albert F. Potter, in charge of Grazing from the time of his entrance into the Forest Service, at the request of Gifford Pinchot in 1901, until his retirement in 1920, died recently in California. He will be recalled by many old-timers in the Forest Service. He was successful to a marked degree in fostering and maintaining harmonious relationship between the Federal Government and stockmen.

...

Forests were advised by note on Mr. Zimmerli's A-SUPERVISION, General circular letter of December 28 that old bill of lading forms should be used until June 30, 1944. If any Forest has more of these forms on hand than will be required before that date, please send them to the Regional Fiscal Agent.

...

For the Region, participation in payroll deductions was 95% for December and 11% of the total payroll. Ten of the twenty-one Forests have full participation, and only two Forests are less than 10% in purchases. Denver leads the nation in the number of agencies which have obtained 100% participation and 10% deduction or above as well as in 90% participation and 10% deduction.

Reaction of Central Rocky Mountain Section Meeting to Forest Program

Region 2 reports that the meeting of the Central Rocky Mountain Section of the Society of American Foresters which Mr. Watts addressed on the evening of January 14 was attended by seventy-five members and nonmembers, including leaders in education at Colorado State College, Colorado Forestry Association, members of Government and State agencies, and a prominent farm news editor. The Region says that Mr. Watts' discussion of a forest program for the United States was very well received and there was no adverse criticism of the program he outlined. A few questions were raised suggesting that there might be public reaction to the further extension of public regulation as evidenced by the antagonism to OPA and other regulations during war years. Opposition to the Volstead Act and National Prohibition was cited as legislation for which full public support was lacking. It was suggested the same condition might result with compulsory forest regulation. Mr. Watts pointed out that the Volstead Act involved personal liberties; whereas, the proposed regulation of forest lands was for the public good on the same basis as regulations of railroads, airplane and highway traffic, etc., which are generally accepted.

President Roy M. Green of Colorado State College stated that he was impressed with the need for action on the basis of conserving our land for the future. He pointed out that World Wars I and II were mainly caused by an effort to get more resources by Nations that had become highly industrialized and their resources largely used up, the "have not" nations endeavoring to get these resources back by hook or crook. He feels that if this Nation becomes too highly industrialized and does not take care of its soil and other resources, they may become dissipated and another generation in this country may find itself with resources exhausted and among the "have nots."

New State Forester in South Carolina

Effective February 1, Mr. W. C. Hammerle is resigning his present position as State Forester of South Carolina to become Forester for the Southern Pine Association, with headquarters in New Orleans. Mr. Charles H. Flory, formerly with the North Carolina Forest Service and with many years of southern forestry experience, will replace Mr. Hammerle as State Forester of South Carolina.

Girl Scouts Report Increased Interest in Forest Conservation

The Girl Scout Headquarters in New York report an excellent increase in conservation interest, attributed largely to the Ranger Aide project in their War Service Program. A recent letter states that "the sale of the Tree Finder Badge jumped from 3,735 in 1942 to 8,729 in 1943. Our membership increase, which would account for some of that, was 12.4 percent. It all means there has been a decided increase in interest in trees. It is the highest it has ever been. We are sure some of this increase is due to the fine cooperation we have had from the Forest Service, and we thank you."

Masonite Corporation Employs New Forester

The Masonite Corporation of Laurel, Mississippi, has recently employed Mr. Brooks Toler as forester and Assistant Personnel Relations officer. Toler was formerly Extension Forester of Mississippi and State Forester of Alabama. He resigned as forester for the Southern Pine Association to accept his new job with the Masonite Corporation.

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, January 22, 1944(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Budget Action on 1945 Appropriation Estimates

Several inquiries have been received in the W. O. from persons who have received copies of the 1945 Budget. The questions follow the pattern: "What are the substantial increases shown in the 1945 Budget for your Bureau going to be used for?"

As you know, only one increase was approved by the Budget Bureau -- that for timber sale administration.

The questions are asked because of the form in which the 1945 Budget has been presented. In the 1945 column of the budgetary statements overtime pay is included, while in the totals of the 1944 columns overtime pay is omitted because the supplemental appropriation for overtime pay has not yet been passed. It might be well for the field to keep this in mind if questions arise about the 1945 appropriations of the Forest Service. The table included in the Information Digest of January 14 shows the amounts included in the Budget and compares these totals with the 1944 appropriation plus estimated overtime requirements in 1944. In the printed Budget the only comparisons which can be readily made are between the 1944 appropriation (column 2 of the table in ID of January 14) and the Budget allowances for 1945 (column 5 of the same table). Obviously the conclusion reached by the casual reader is that we are receiving large increases in many of our appropriations.

New Director of Food Distribution

M. Lee Marshall, until recently Director of Materials and Facilities, has been appointed Director of Food Distribution, effective January 15. He succeeds Roy F. Hendrickson who is to become Deputy Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Mr. Hendrickson was previously Chief of the Office of Personnel in the Department.

TPWP Notes

At the request of the War Production Board, increased production of naval stores was included in the objectives of the Timber Production War Project to the extent such action could be taken without detriment to its objectives in the lumber and pulpwood production field.

The War Production Board has called for budget estimates on timber production and requirements, production and supplies not later than January 31. Budget hearings are expected to be held in early February.

Joseph Yencso, of the Region 8 TPWP force, has been detailed to OPA for approximately two months to conduct an industry-wide study of the cost of producing gum naval stores. By reason of his many years experience as Regional Supervisor of the Naval Stores Conservation Programs, Mr. Yencso is well qualified for this important assignment.

(Over)

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, January 9, 1943(CONFIDENTIAL-SERVICE)Lyle F. Watts Named New Chief

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Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, and in recent months an assistant to the Secretary, as Chief of the Forest Service.

His appointment fills the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox, who was Chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939. Earle H. Clapp has been in charge as Acting Chief since Mr. Silcox's death.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts has had broad training for the assignment as Chief of the Forest Service. His experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions; several years in the research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the School of Forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. Mr. Watts' work in the Forest Service has been in four of the nine National Forest regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region, with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region, which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the Northern Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon. 8881

For the past two years Mr. Watts has been Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

Because of his wide experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, he was brought to Washington last fall to assist the Secretary in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

Secretary Wickard said, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the nation in conserving and developing its forest lands." 8881

President Roosevelt's Message Includes Praise for the Workers

The following excerpts are from the President's message to the 78th Congress:

As spokesmen for the United States Government, you and I take off our hats to those responsible for our American production—to the owners, managers and supervisors, to the draftsmen and engineers, to the workers—men and women—in factories and arsenals and shipyards and mines and mills and forests and railroads and highways.

We take off our hats to the farmers who have faced an unprecedented task of feeding not only a great Nation but a great part of the world.

We take off our hats to all the loyal, anonymous, untiring men and women who have worked in private employment and in Government and who have endured rationing and other stringencies, with good humor and good will. We take off our hats to all Americans who have contributed magnificently to our common cause....

In this war of survival we must keep before our minds not only the evil things we fight against, but the good things we are fighting for. We fight to retain a great past—we fight to gain a greater future.... A tremendous, costly, long-enduring task in peace as well as in war is still ahead of us. But, as we face that continuing task, we may know that the state of this Nation is good—the heart of this Nation is sound—the spirit of this Nation is strong—the faith of this Nation is eternal.

Printed Material for 1943 Wartime Forest Fire Prevention Campaign to be Ready Soon

Orders for printing Wartime Forest Fire Prevention Campaign material have been placed and the Government Printing Office has informally promised that it will have the material off the presses and on its way to the various Regional Foresters by February 15 at the latest. The orders call for 12 million two-color 3"x5" envelope stuffers, 7½ million two-color 2½"x7" fire rules cards (on cardboard), 300 thousand 22"x28" 4-color posters (on paper), 14 thousand 11"x28" 4-color car cards (on cardboard), 5 thousand 4-color 24-sheet billboard posters, 100 thousand black and white fag bag stickers, and 100 thousand black and white fag bag tags. In addition the bids will provide for optional increases, in case additional funds become available, of 1,300,000 stuffers, 5,000,000 fire rules cards, 18,500 car cards, and 100,000 each of the fag bag stickers and tags.

The above order includes 101 change plates and 26 name strips, thus providing for names of many individual States on the signature strip for all of the above items.

Arrangements have also been made so that the National Park Service and the Office of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior may use our basic design with their own names rather than ours in the signature strip.

President Roosevelt Will Speak to American Farmers

The Department of Agriculture has announced that President Roosevelt has accepted an invitation to speak by radio to American farmers on an all network program on Tuesday January 12—the day the President designated as Farm Mobilization Day. The President's address will launch a nationwide drive by the Department of Agriculture and other federal and state agencies to enlist every farmer in the United States in the 1943 food production program.

In addition to the President, other internationally known leaders of the United Nations will speak from England, and Washington. An American farmer and a farm woman will be heard from Chicago. The program will emphasize the reliance of the United Nations on United States farmers for food and fiber to win the war.

(USDA Press Release)

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, March 16, 1944(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Staff Meeting Notes

At the large Staff meeting on Tuesday afternoon, March 14, Mr. Watts pointed out in connection with the pending program of work for 1944 that there are six responsibilities he believes merit most attention this year, i.e.:

- (1) We must drive forward in our program to inform the people of this country as to the true forest situation and the steps needed to correct that situation.
- (2) We must improve the administration of our National Forest range resource to bring that administration up to the standard set in timber management and fire control.
- (3) We must perfect plans for the full part that forest land in general and the National Forests in particular should play in helping to meet the post-war emergency and future needs.
- (4) We must work to extend and to improve the administration of cooperative relations with the States and other cooperating agencies and individuals.
- (5) We must continue to handle our many war-connected jobs in such a way as to assure the greatest possible contribution to an early victory.
- (6) We must strive to establish forest research on a scale consistent with the need for it in facilitating the above objectives.

Mr. Watts said he wished each one would take these responsibilities to heart insofar as any one of the six points apply to him personally, because they are by and large all-Service jobs which everyone ought to take very seriously. In the discussion that followed Mr. Loveridge said in a letter transmitting copies to the field Mr. Watts has pointed out that the work plans from each Division were based on a request for information as to just what are the major problems to be considered during the coming year; that these statements were prepared with the idea they would (1) provide a base for more detailed W. O. Division and Regional programs and plans (2) furnish a ready reference for each of us as to the other's special plans and (3) show the basis, in part, for field schedules this season.

Mr. Cochran, who has just returned from a six weeks' trip to Regions 1, 6, 5, and 3, told of some of the personnel problems discussed with people in Regional Offices, at National Forest Headquarters, and on Ranger Districts, and discussed briefly the reactions of the field to them. He said the promotion policy now in effect, as covered by circular letter PM. No. 42-59, has the support of the Regions as a whole, especially with regard to the recruiting of technical men in the ranger position. At the present time, he said, from 40 to 46 percent of the rangers in the Regions visited have had technical training, a considerably larger percentage of the Supervisors, and a widely varying percentage in Regional Offices. The percentage for rangers, however, is not entirely

(Over)

representative since it excludes many of the younger men, who are in the armed forces. He said the tests that are being used to qualify nontechnical men recommended for ranger positions have in many cases been misunderstood. As a means of determining merely a man's qualifications to fill the immediate job they have been considered superfluous. As a means of determining his capacity for advancement, however, (and this is their real intent) their value is more readily appreciated. With regard to inter-Regional transfers, the Regions were very cooperative but insistent that they be made with due consideration for normal lines of promotion within the Regions.

The Regions, Mr. Cochran said, expressed favorable attitude toward the retirement procedure as set up at present and in every case favored observing the procedure with a minimum of exceptions. The advantages of retirement under the present law are not fully understood in many instances and an effort is being made by Regional Divisions of PM to create a better understanding. The Regions generally are pleased with the Department's determination regarding the seven-day work week for lookouts and guards.

Mr. Cochran said that the field generally had very good success with 16- and 17-year-old boys during the last summer season. Especially was this true when they were used in crews under foremen skilled in handling boys, such as high school teachers and coaches from forest communities. Women were also used successfully as lookouts and in some cases as dispatchers. There were few cases where the women did not work out well; in many cases they were considered to have done as good work as men and in other cases they proved better, being more alert and more accurate in handling records. In some cases a man and wife were employed together, the wife as lookout and the man as fireman.

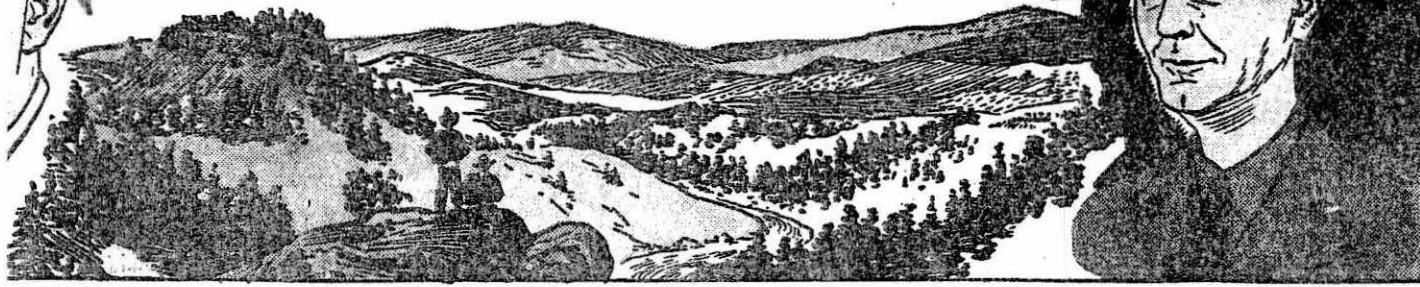
All Regions; Mr. Cochran said, are interested in seeing that everything possible is done to take care of returning veterans and to give them jobs. Some men discharged from the armed forces are already returning and making applications for jobs. Some of the Regions are in touch with local representatives of the Veterans' Administration and are considering with them the problems involved. In this connection, Mr. Cochran mentioned that the Society of American Foresters has two committees working on the problem -- a manpower committee and a post-war education committee. Regions are making analyses of line-of-retreat obligations and available positions with which they can be met. Results from one such analysis that has been completed and from another that is still in tentative form are encouraging.

Some interesting figures regarding the tremendous increase in Fiscal Control work were given by Mr. Loving. Ten major emergency projects which have made accounting procedures more complicated and voluminous are: the Texas Timber Salvage Program, financed by a corporation and the Forest Service handling it as officers of the corporation; NETSA, financed by the Disaster Loan Corporation and handled in the same manner; the Alaska Spruce Log Program, financed by the Commodity Credit Corporation; TPWP, financed by the War Production Board; Guayule project, financed out of a Congressional appropriation; War Mapping project, financed by the War Department; Aircraft Warning Service; Naval Stores Program; Access Road Projects; Conscientious Objector Camps. In addition to these ten major emergency programs there are 99 working funds growing out of the war which total, in the aggregate about eleven million dollars. Most of these are research projects, many of them handled at the Forest Products Laboratory. The requirements for handling these working funds are various and

Mr. Watts says this is not true, a BS

WHEN THE CHIEF OF THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

LYLE F. WATTS—blazed trails in the Yellowstone Nat'l Park as a youthful forest ranger he was assisted by a young cavalry officer **JONATHAN WAINWRIGHT.**



FILES - HEADLINE, MIN. 12/15/46

is Praised On Sustained Yield Plan

declared there was considerable "misunderstanding" of program. Andrews also urged greater road building, declaring would halt seasonal logging, year-round labor and be amortizing. Hery Foster, research director for the International Workers of America, supporting the CIO-sponsored program seeking immediate federal control of cutting and substitution, took exception to program of the American Forestry association and the American Forest Products Industries, Inc. as "highly insistent."

Resolutions Passed

its resolutions, the association called on the USDA and interior department to expedite cooperative sustained yield program; commended the AFA its forestry appraisal and program; approved the work on behalf of forestry of the Council of State Governments; the American and Canadian governments to increase effort of forest insect control; endorsed the work of the forestry boards, and urged press to give consideration western senators and representatives when making committee appointments in the congressional reorganiza-

its earlier sessions Friday, association heard Stuart Portland, forest engineer of the Western Pine association assert sustained yield should be regarded "in terms of profitable crops." "The prosperity of the west is bound irrevocably to the forest industry," he said, "I like to believe we're entering another phase—that of growing and forestry management." "The same vein were the words of W. H. Horning, director of the interior department's bureau of land management, who asserted "the key lies between whether the migratory or permanent industries, and the differ-

ence between high and low yields."

Master Unit Announced

Horning announced that the secretary of interior had approved an order establishing the Siuslaw master unit—first of 12 such master units.

Horning, who is also chief forester of the Oregon and California land administration, declared that about 60 per cent of O. and C. lands would be under the sustained yield and 40 per cent would be held out "indefinitely."

After eight years, O. and C. lands are now returning \$460,000 a year, after operating costs and payments in lieu of taxes, he added.

James W. Girard of Portland, pointing out that southern operators have taken the lead in inaugurating the program, asserted that nationally there are under sustained yield 57 per cent of public lands, 71 per cent of forest service timber, 39 per cent of large private holdings, 9 per cent of medium-sized private holdings and a "negligible" amount of small holdings. In the Pacific Northwest only approximately 200,000 acres are under the program, he said.

The department of agriculture is committed to applying management principles "to the 53,000,000 acres of national forests of the West as rapidly as possible," declared Ira J. Mason of Washington, D. C., chief of the division of timber management of the U. S. forest service.

Small Owners Held Key

Anderson said sustained yield may be applied to 5,300,000 acres of the 29,300,000 acres of private timber and to 15,300,000 of the 53,800,000 acres of national timber, including 20,600,000 acres—or 25 per cent—of the commercial timber in the west.

The small owners, possessing more than half the nation's timber, hold the key to the nation's timber future, declared Chapin Collins of Washington, D. C., managing director of the American Forest Products In-

dustries, Inc. and publisher of the Montezano, Wash., Vidette.

F. S. McKinnon of the British Columbia forest service outlined plans his province has for new legislation, particularly in sustained yield.

Frank S. Sever, speaking in behalf of his law partner, Senator Guy Cordop, declared state, county and city governments are looking to sustained yield to provide them with more stabilized tax income.

Urging more complete timber use, Earl W. Tinker, executive secretary of the American Paper and Pulp association, predicted his industry will use 30,000,000 cords of wood by 1960, in an address before the Columbia river section of the Society of American Foresters.

New Officers Named

Association trustees Thursday morning elected new officers headed as president by E. C. Rettig of the Clearwater Timber Protective association at Lewiston, Idaho. He succeeds Kenneth R. Walker of Westwood, Cal.

Other new officers included: First vice-president, R. J. Filberg of Comox Logging company, Vancouver, B. C.; vice-president for Idaho, Harry Shellworth, Boise; vice-president for Washington, P. D. Edgell, Seattle; vice-president for California, E. B. Birmingham, Samoa; vice-president for Oregon, E. B. Tanner, Portland; vice-president for Montana, W. C. Lubrecht, Bonner; secretary, Clude S. Martin, Tacoma; treasurer, C. S. Cowan, Seattle; assistant secretary and treasurer, Carl V. Hersey, Portland; forest counsel, E. F. T. Wohlenberg, Portland.

THE OREGONIAN
PORTLAND, ORE.
12/14/46

Forest Service Finds Food Costs Doubled in 5 Years

An increase of 106.5 per cent for 40 items of food staples purchased the last few months by region No. 1 of the U. S. forest service for use in the 1946-47 season over the same items purchased for the 1941-42 season has been revealed by a survey just completed, announced Lloyd E. Noel, regional supply officer, Thursday. The list covers subsistence items used by administrative, fire fighting, pre-suppression, blister rust and other personnel who carry on the forest service program, he said.

Rationing of sugar was declared responsible for that commodity rising only 34 per cent above the 1941-42 mark. He stated that it was one of the lowest price jumps. At the other extreme, Noel reported, is a leap of approximately 400 per cent in strawberry jam prices, however, none was purchased this year.

The procurement and supply expert noted increases for different types of commodities as follows: Canned fruits, 142 per cent; canned vegetables, 135; assorted jams, 108; smoked meats such as hams and bacons, 140; beef, 66; pork, 70; dairy products such as milk, butter and cheese, 120; beverages such as tea and coffee, 82; canned milk, 110; potatoes, 199; syrup, 112.

Only a fraction of the purchases have been delivered so far to forest service warehouses, much of it being scheduled to arrive in January and February, he said. Trading of warehouses with the Marshal-Wells company in Spokane is about completed, giving the forest service a more central location with about the same floor area in a fireproof structure at 157 South Howard street on the main line of the Northern Pacific railway, according to Noel. The old location at 131 East Main street was occupied partly in 1935 and wholly from 1937 to the present.

DAILY MISSOULIAN, MISSOULA, MONT. 12/6/46

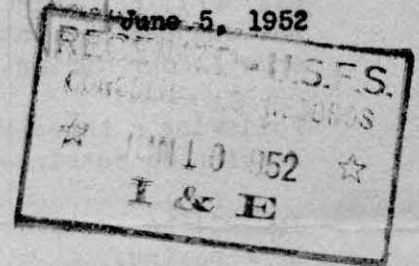


Denver, Colorado

SPECIAL EDITION

CHIEF LYLE WATTS TO RETIRE JUNE 30

NEW CHIEF -- RICHARD E. McARDLE



Appointment of Richard E. McArdle as Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, was announced today by Secretary Brannan. He will succeed Lyle F. Watts, Chief Forester for the past nine years, who has announced his decision to retire from active duty June 30.

McArdle came to Colorado in 1935 and organized the Rocky Mountain Forest & Range Experiment Station at Fort Collins, where he served as Director for three years before transferring to Asheville, North Carolina, as Director of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station.

Paying tribute to Mr. Watts, Secretary Brannan said: "He has been one of the most effective and courageous leaders of the Forest Service in the great tradition of its service to the American people. Under his guidance, forestry has taken a much greater part in the Agricultural Resources Conservation Program and has become an essential part of American agriculture. His other associates and I will miss Lyle Watts very much, but we are pleased at the prospects of having his advice and counsel readily available during his well-earned retirement."

Mr. Watts' retirement from active duty as Chief of the Forest Service will mark the completion of a public career service of nearly 40 years. He has headed the Federal Forestry Agency since 1943.

Starting as a Fire Guard in a western national forest, he worked up through the ranks to the Nation's top forestry position. In recognition of his outstanding public service, Mr. Watts in 1950 received the Department of Agriculture's Distinguished Service Award "For Distinguished and Effective Leadership in Advancing the Conservation of Forest Resources in the United States and Internationally." He was commended for his work in stimulating improved forestry practices in this country, for his stalwart defense of public interest in the use of forest resources and for his important role in the development of a world forestry organization.

A native of Lexington, Kentucky, McArdle was brought up in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he received the Bachelor

of Science Degree in Forestry in 1923, M.S. in 1925, and a PH.D. Degree in 1930. He served as part-time instructor in forestry at the University of Michigan from 1927 to 1930.

McArdle entered the Forest Service as a Junior Forester in 1924 and was assigned to the Pacific Northwest Forest & Range Experiment Station. One of his early research projects was a study of forest fires, and his research on the subject was interrupted several times by calls to help fight fires as a crew leader during emergency periods in the national forests.

Following a three-year leave of absence for graduate study he returned to the Service to continue his research work in 1930.

In 1934 he accepted appointment by the University of Idaho to head its School of Forestry.

He returned to the Forest Service in 1935 to become Director of the Rocky Mountain Forest & Range Experiment Station at Fort Collins, Colorado, and three years later he moved east to assume the Directorship of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station with headquarters at Asheville, North Carolina.

In 1944 he was brought to Washington, D. C. as Assistant Chief of the Forest Service, in charge of State and Private Forestry Cooperation. The position he has held to date.

Mr. McArdle served overseas with the U. S. Army during World War I. He is a member of Sigma XI, Scientific Honor Society, and a member of the Council of the Society of American Foresters.

Since 1944 he has served as Assistant Chief in charge of Cooperative Forestry Programs. Under his leadership the Federal programs carried on in cooperation with the states to encourage and facilitate the protection and sound management of the country's forests have been greatly accelerated. In the Federal-State cooperative fire control program the area of State and Private Forest Land under organized protection from fire now totals more than 360 million acres. The area that still lacks such protection has been reduced by some 60 million acres. Cooperative production and distribution of trees for woodland and shelterbelt planting, which dropped to a low rate during World War II, last year passed all previous records. The Federal-State program to provide on-the-ground technical advice and assistance to woodland owners was developed largely during the past eight years.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County Iowa in 1890. He received a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at Iowa State College in 1913 and earned the Master of Forestry Degree at the same institution in 1928. Following short-term employment as a student assistant on timber survey work, he entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as a Technical Assistant in the Wyoming National Forest. He advanced rapidly in national forest administration, serving successively as Assistant Supervisor of the Boise National Forest in Idaho, as Supervisor of the Weiser and the Idaho National Forests, and as Forest Inspector working out of the Ogden, Utah, Regional Office.

During a leave of absence from the Federal Service in 1928 and 1929, Mr. Watts organized the Forestry School at Utah State Agricultural College. He returned to the Forest Service to engage in research work at the Intermountain Forest & Range Experiment Station in Ogden. In 1931 he was named Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest & Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Montana. From 1936 to 1939 he served as Regional Forester of the North Central Region. He then became Regional Forester of the Pacific Northwest Region.

In 1942 Mr. Watts was called to Washington, D. C. to take charge of the War-time Farm Labor activities of the Department of Agriculture. The following year he was named to his present position as Chief of the Forest Service.

Mr. Watts is Chairman of the standing Advisory Committee on Forestry of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. He took an active part in the organization and development of the forestry branch of FAO and was Technical Advisor to the U. S. Delegate to general sessions of FAO in Quebec in 1945, Copenhagen in 1946, in Washington, D. C. in 1948 and 1949, and in Rome in 1951. He was also a U. S. delegate to the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver in 1948, and attended the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources at Lake Success in 1949..

Iowa State College has conferred an Honorary Doctors Degree on Mr. Watts, as well as its Alumni Merit Award. He was also presented the Croix Du Chevalier De La Merite Agricola by the French Government. He has served on the General Administration Board of the Department of Agriculture Graduate School. He is a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters.

11/11

FOREST SERVICEWashington Office Information Digest, February 8, 1943(CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE)Chief Talks to the Family

A family meeting of Washington Office employees was addressed by our new Chief, Mr. Lyle Watts, on February 5. Some of the highlights of Mr. Watts' talk which we believe would be of special interest to the field follow:

It seems to me that the years just ahead are always critical years, yet I think that most would agree that in this instance the years ahead are especially critical for forest conservation.

First there is the obligation to use our forest resources and our personnel to make the greatest possible contribution to win the war. I am sure that in this we are making a real sacrifice. In many areas we were cutting our forests too fast before the war, and that over-cutting has been stepped up greatly. Frankly, that doesn't cause us much loss of sleep if it really helps. It does point to positive action to reduce the cut immediately the peace comes.

The other sacrifice in forest conservation which to me seems to senseless and unnecessary is the degree to which improper cutting of our forests is going on. I give full measure of credit to all those private operators who are following good forest practice, and there are many. Yet the fact still remains that too much of the private land is being cut over badly. I wish you would read the story of the railroad tie cutting at Morton, Washington, in the February issue of American Forests. To me that's what I call a horrible example. That young forest being cut is growing faster now than at any time during its 100 years of life. Waste is excessive. A fire hazard is being created which will be hard to cope with, and the future of a community is being jeopardized through improper handling of a forest resource. And that in a region where we have one-third of all the mature and over-mature forests in the United States. That's just one example of the problems the war creates. I could give many.

The second major problem has to do with post-war demands on the American forests. In my judgment the next great advance in modern civilization will be in the Orient, the so-called backward countries of Asia with their millions of under-privileged people. The American forests will have to help in that development.

Second only to the great development job in Asia and much more urgent in point of time will be the reconstruction of the towns and cities of Europe and North Africa. Prompt reconstruction will be one aid to avoid revolution. Again American forests will be drawn on for wood products.

Our own home building program was already way behind before the war, and now even major repairs are out for the duration. When the war is over there will be need for the greatest home building era we have ever seen in America.

(Over)

5/25/43 no desk powder, friendly mild-mannered man *reticent*
retiring
quiet
friendly

The discoveries and developments in the field of new uses of wood as a result of the war will create great demands for wood products.

Along with all of those will be the need to provide full employment at fair wages to our own folks. Millions of our boys will be mustered out of the armed forces and they must not fail to find ready work. War industry workers must not be thrown on relief while our peace time industry rebuilds. Again our forest lands are just waiting to provide jobs for our people....

Can we bring those jobs and those people needing jobs together so that our natural resources will be a growing rather than a dwindling asset?

That's the two jobs ahead. Win the war and then win the peace. We have our big part to play and as a team we can do it.

Technical Advisory Board Abolished

The Technical Advisory Board, which was established by Memorandum to Chiefs of Bureaus and Offices dated June 8, 1938, and the functions of which were further defined by Memorandum No. 819, of May 12, 1939, is hereby abolished. The functions and responsibilities heretofore vested in the Board will be performed by the Office of Plant and Operations through such organization as the Chief of that Office may establish. (Secretary's Memorandum No. 819, Suppl. 2, Feb. 3)

Wildlife Conference

Members of the Forest Service who will participate in the Eighth North American Wildlife Conference, to be held at Denver, Colorado, February 15, 16, and 17 are: Regional Forester Peck, who will speak on the subject "Management of Wild Lands" in the general session on pioneering in post-war conservation; Mr. E. A. Schilling, R-8, Fred W. Johnson, R-3, and Barry C. Park, R-2, who will present papers during the technical sessions. A special evening session will be held for consideration of Forest Service and State matters under the guidance of Dr. H. L. Shantz, W. O.

Foresters in Demand for Tropical Work

The Forest Service was recently requested to suggest the name of a forester competent to size up the site and climatic conditions and recommend species for planting in a proposed reforestation project in Peru. This is only one of numerous requests that now come to the Service for foresters for tropical work. Many, but not all of these requests, concern work in the forestry field, the particular training which foresters get having made them useful on other lines of work. This is now being recognized by many of the war agencies, which is resulting in increasing interest in foresters for various lines of activity. The Washington Office would be glad to have the names and experience records of foresters in or out of the Forest Service who might be interested in duration jobs in Central or South America on war projects. Data should be sent to the W.O. Division of Personnel Management, marked for the attention of Forest Research.

Wanted: (Attention W. O.)

Information as to the whereabouts of a leather covered rotary executive chair, formerly used by Mr. Silcox. The chair is needed for Mr. Watts' office. Please communicate any information on its location to Mrs. Crocker, Ext. 5842, or Mr. Lund, Ext. 5493.



INFORMATION DIGEST



Washington Office - Confidential Service

No. 72

July 1, 1947

Foresters Honored by Award of French Medal

Four foresters, including three from the Washington area, were decorated by the French government yesterday (June 27) in ceremonies at the French Embassy in recognition of their services to world forestry.

The medal of honor of Chevalier du Merite Agricole was presented to Tom Gill, member of the Forestry Advisory Committee of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, and to Col. Henry Solon Graves of New Haven, Conn., former Chief of the United States Forest Service and dean emeritus of the Yale School of Forestry.

Citations for the medal were presented to Lyle Watts, present Chief of the Forest Service, and Edward I. Kotok, Assistant Chief of the Forest Service in charge of Forest Research. They are prevented by law from receiving the medals until they leave the Government service.

The awards were presented by Bernard Dufay, Chief of the French Department of Waters and Forests. -- WASHINGTON POST, June 28, 1947

Florida House Reverses Senate Resolution

The President pro tempore, on June 26, laid before the United States Senate a resolution passed by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida which reverses the recommendation of the Florida Senate that the Forest Service sell or exchange lands in the Apalachicola National Forest. (See Digest of June 27) The Florida House resolution is quoted, in part:

"House Resolution 45

"Resolution commending the United States Forest Service for the manner in which it has activated and maintained the Apalachicola National Forest in Liberty County, Florida.

"Whereas the United States Forest Service in 1933 activated the Apalachicola National Forest in Liberty County, Fla., and since said date has enlarged and maintained said forest and it is now one of the largest and outstanding national forests in the United States of America; and

"Whereas the soil contained within Apalachicola National Forest is especially suited to the production and growth of longleaf yellow pine trees; and

"Whereas the timber resources of the United States are becoming extinct except within the national forest, and it is of paramount interest and concern to the people of the United States that the production and growth of timber should be carried on; and

"Whereas it is the sense of the House of Representatives of the State of Florida that the continued growth and production of longleaf yellow pine timber should not be interfered with but should be encouraged in every way possible; Therefore be it

"RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA;

"Section 1. That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida commends the United States Forest Service for the manner in which it has activated and maintained the Apalachicola National Forest in Liberty County, Fla., and for its splendid record in the conduct of said forest and in the production of timber and the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of said timber to Liberty County, Fla.

"Sec. 2. That it is the desire of this House of Representatives that no action of any kind be taken by the United States Forest Service or any branch of the United States Government that would tend to reduce the size of said forest, the production of timber therein, or the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of said timber to Liberty County, Fla., and that said forest be maintained at its present size...."

To Leave Forest Service

Don Hamilton has just accepted an appointment in the regular Army as Lt. Col. in the Air Corps. Since the war he has filled a dual role in the Chief's Office as chief of the Equipment Section in Engineering and Aircraft Consultant for Fire Control.

Resolution Adopted by Washington Cattlemen

Resolutions adopted by the Washington Cattleman's Convention at Ellensburg, Wash., May 16-17 included the following:

"No. 12

"THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL FOREST ADVISORY BOARD AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING OF MAY 16, 1947. THE ADVISORY BOARD WISH TO PRESENT THE RESOLUTION TO THE STATE CATTLEMAN'S ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR APPROVAL:

"Be it recommended that the National Forest Advisory Board commend the United States Forest Service for their cooperation shown in working out the problems of stockmen using the National Forest ranges. They have been active in working toward stabilization of big game numbers on the basis of carrying capacities of winter and summer ranges, which we feel can only be accomplished by harvesting them on a yield basis.

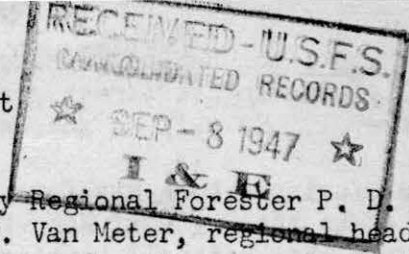
"Range reseeding, development of water, and other range improvements as carried on by the Forest Service, are considered of great benefit to the users of the range and will tend to prevent the necessity of reducing numbers of cattle permitted to graze on the National Forests.

"We feel that progress has been made during the past year in working out our forest problems and we recommend the continuation of cooperative efforts that will help to stabilize operations of stockmen using the forests."

Acting Chief

C. M. Granger will serve as Acting Chief during the month of July, as indicated in the field schedule.

Keep



Chief Watts Inspects Eastern Forests. Accompanied by Regional Forester P. D. Hanson, Experiment Station Director Chas. E. Tebbe, and T. H. Van Meter, regional head of I&E, Chief Lyle F. Watts visited several eastern Montana forests en route to Billings last week where he attended the public lands hearing August 30.

The Chief's itinerary included the Bitterroot, Deerlodge, Beaverhead, Gallatin, and Custer Forests, inspecting range conditions, timber sales, pole treating plants, buildings, recreation improvements, and related activities or developments associated with the work of the Forest Service. He is reported to have had a few hours off on Sunday for a fishing demonstration in the Madison River. At least members of the party credit him with catching the first, biggest, and longest fish. Otherwise, it was a crowded schedule that, in addition to visits with supervisors and rangers, included interviews with forest users, the press and radio. In an interview appearing in the Montana Standard, Chief Watts stated the new uses of forest products represent a tremendous field of major interest and importance to Montana and the other interior states. Explaining that the rail freight differential has made it difficult for R-1 producers to compete with those in the eastern and middle west states, he pointed out the importance of finding outlets for forest products like lodgepole pine and said that has been done in some measure.

After discussing present experiments in conversion of wood sugars and the possibilities of developing a supplemental livestock feed, together with some of the other newer developments, and the need for a Nation-wide forest program, Mr. Watts called attention to one thing of immediate importance, namely range improvement. "I don't think the importance of that can be overemphasized," he said. "It's a vital matter to the West."

Foresters Climb Granite Peak in Record Time. On August 19 Ranger Carl W. Simpson and Alternate Fred B. Haller of the Custer, together with Professor Melvin S. Morris of the State University Forestry School and Walter A. Elliott of Bison Motors, Great Falls, succeeded in climbing Granite Peak in what they believe to be a record time. Leaving from the end of the car road at the Mystic Lake Power Plant on the West Rosebud River at 5 a.m., they traveled to the top of Granite Peak and returned to their starting point in an elapsed time of 17½ hours, arriving at the power plant at 10 p.m.

Granite Peak, highest in Montana with an elevation of 12,850 feet, lies in the Beartooth Mountains in south central Montana, approximately 15 miles northeast of Cooke City. It was first ascended on August 29, 1923, by a party of Forest Service men, all of whom are now retired. This party consisted of R. T. Ferguson, Elers Koch, and J. C. Whitham. As near as Ranger Simpson and his companions could determine, there had been only 12 people on Granite Peak prior to their ascent, 5 having made the climb on August 10, 1947; 2 in July 1939; 2 on August 16, 1933; and the first party of 3 on August 29, 1923.

This peak bears less evidence of man's untidy distribution of refuse than most peaks in the United States. The only articles found on it were a rake handle taken up by the first party for a flag pole, a chisel they used to carve their initials on a rock, and an old rusty can containing a piece of paper on which names, dates and addresses of climbers were listed.

Brothers Attends FHA Meeting. Charles S. Brothers, Office of the Solicitor, left Missoula on September 2 for Bismarck, North Dakota, where he is attending a 4-day meeting of Farmers Home Administration officials.

Ranger Dickinson Retires. Ranger Ralph E. Dickinson, Whitehall District, Deerlodge, formally hung up his forest green uniform and retired after 28 years of service on September 1. He will be succeeded by Ranger George Roskie of the Lewis and Clark.

Ranger Dickinson took his forestry oath of office on December 19, 1919, and was assigned to the Dry Wolf Ranger District on the old Jefferson Forest. He was transferred to the Whitehall District of the Deerlodge in June 1931 and remained at that station until his retirement.

In speaking of Mr. Dickinson's retirement, Supervisor Fry said, "He has the best record of any of our men for time spent in the saddle and in the field. Through the years he has been fully dependable and industrious. He has eliminated forest trespassing on his district. With the cooperation of the stockmen in the area he has built up the range to a very high standard and grazing there now is exceptional in quality and quantity in a fertile country. He built miles and miles of fences, took a prominent part in stock water development programs, and built up two campgrounds, one of which - Toll Mountain - is widely used."

The Deerlodge Forest staff and friends of Ranger Dickinson honored him at a dinner party held at Lloyd's Cafe in Butte on September 6.

Fire Summary. As of August 30 our fire total was 1,435. The Labor Day week end added 155 to this number. The Kootenai Forest leads the list with 208 fires as of August 30. Of the 1,435 regional total, 24 were class C; 5 class D of which 2 were on the Beaverhead and 1 each on the Bitterroot, Gallatin and Nezperce; and the 1 class E fire the region has had this year is credited to the Kaniksu.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Richard McElroy, parents of a baby girl born September 3. Richard is a bookkeeping machine operator in Fiscal Control.

Personnel Notes.

EDWIN R. SIEVERS from R-3, Albuquerque, New Mexico, has reported as chief of Surveys and Maps, Engineering, vice Jim Yule.

ELDON MEIK has returned to work in the Range Research Division of the Experiment Station after a leave of absence to attend the State College at Logan, Utah.

PHILIP MURPHY, Engineering, returned to duty after an extended leave in California where he went for medical attention.

BETTY J. GREEN, new appointment, typist, Cabinet.

BRUCE GRAY, new appointment, clerk-typist, Nezperce.

THEODORE R. HAY, forester, St. Joe, resigned.

DOROTHY ANN L. RITTER, clerk-stenographer, Engineering, resigned.

ELIZABETH S. DONEY, bookkeeping machine operator, Fiscal Control, resigned.

GEORGE H. HANKINSON, forester, Lolo, retired September 1, after 30 years of service.

Acting Regional Forester. C. S. Crocker to September 13.

Dilemma. Sure, the daily grind of the old job gets monotonous. But what if you had to be on vacation all the time. (Clipped)



FOREST SERVICE



WASHINGTON OFFICE INFORMATION DIGEST

CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE

No. 72

July 2, 1946

Fishing

Chief Returns

Mr. Watts has returned to the W. O. from a four weeks' trip to Region 6 and southern Idaho. He made the trip both ways via airplane.

The Digest has received the following sidelight on his trip:

Last week end Mr. Watts took time off from a strenuous month of inspection in Region 6 to relax momentarily at Pringle Falls Experimental Forest in central Oregon. Here beneath towering ponderosa pines that border the Deschutes River the Chief rested and fished. Furthermore, he caught fish, in fact he caught more and larger fish than any of the others in his party, which included such self-admitted experienced anglers as Director Hall and Regional Forester Andrews. There was some mumbling among dry-fly simon pures about the strange and unfamiliar wabblers and spinners employed by Watts to outsmart the local trout, but there was no denying their effectiveness. Warning comes from the Northwest to ordinary fishermen in the W. O. that they may find the Chief hard to live with when he returns to the Capital.

P. S. - R-6 wishes to emphasize the fact that (1) there were no specially tamed fish confined for Mr. Watts' benefit; (2) no SP swam under water to affix trout to his hook.

(Comment by Mr. Watts: "I simply O. K. the above with considerable reluctance. I could boast a bit about the size of the one I lost in the logs but I would have to claim at least 5 pounds by now and he might have been larger than that.")

Radio Series on Atomic Energy

Niles Trammel, President, National Broadcasting Company, has wired the Chief as follows:

'The Fifth Horseman' a dramatic series dealing with destructive power of atom bomb and social and political implications of atomic energy will start July 4 9:30-10:00 p. m. EST. You are respectfully invited to listen to this public service broadcast on WRC, NBC in Washington.

Airplanes Purchased

The Forest Service has finally purchased four "Stinson Voyager 150" airplanes to be assigned to Regions 1, 4, 5, and 6. The machines are now ready for delivery. Donald M. Hamilton of the W. O. picked up one of the machines on Thursday of last week and flew it to Washington. On Sunday he left with the plane for Region 3 and from there will deliver it to Region 5. Each of the other three Regions mentioned are sending their own pilots to Wayne, Michigan, to pick up their respective airplanes within the next week.

Annuities of Certain Employees Retired Prior to Jan. 24, 1942, To Be Recomputed
The President on June 29 signed S. 896, which provides for recomputing the annuity of employees who retired prior to January 24, 1942, in accordance with the formula prescribed in the act of that date. Employees whose average salary for any consecutive five-year period exceeded \$2400 will be benefited by this act, although it does not permit retroactive payments to be made. Retired Forest Service employees initiated the introduction of this bill and doubtless were very helpful in bringing about its enactment. This bill is now Public Law 470.

Acting Chief

C. M. Granger will serve as Acting Chief during the month of July.

"Eye" That Sees 15 Miles in Dark Developed at Johns Hopkins

"Do you remember that cute little lady-lookout on Mt. Baldy in '42? Boy - there was a cute little trick! She -----."

The intriguing lady lookouts are on the way "out" (as "lookouts" only, of course) along with the pack mules, the dutch ovens and a lot of other familiar old-fashioned signs of a rapidly passing era. Buck Rogers gadgets are taking their places.

Never a day goes by - at least not many days - but Fire Control is told about some new wonder gadget or chemical or machine which will revolutionize fire control. The latest one to come to our attention is a "super-conducting bolometer." This gadget with the long Hollywoodish sounding name is said to be a mechanical eye which automatically picks up not smoke, but HEAT, and with a needle "outlines on a chart the shape of the heated object or area." No less than a Johns Hopkins medico of repute says "one can 'look' at a human body in complete darkness from any distance and see the outlines of the body, with head, arms and legs visible." They say also temperature changes of one millionth of a degree can be measured.

So one of these fine days we'll probably do away with our lookout houses, and our telephones and radios and substitute instead a tall tower on which is mounted one of these super-conducting bolometers, complete with transmitting mechanism capable of recording the location and shape of any hot spot on the landscape.

Impagine what might happen if a Hedy Lamarr or a Lana Turner wandered into range -----!!! (P.A.T.)

Returns from Military Service

John Holden has returned from military service and taken up his former duties as chief of the W. O. Equipment and Supply Section. His military service included about two years with the Navy Material Redistribution and Disposal Administration, headquartered in New York City.

W. C. Ellis, who served as chief of the Equipment and Supply Section during Mr. Holden's absence, will return to Region 3 after making a field trip in connection with road fund contracts.

State Forester Returns from Military Service

Anton J. Tomasek has been released from military service and has taken over his former duties as State Forester of Illinois. His office has been moved. The new address is 301½ E. Monroe Street, Springfield, Ill.



FOREST SERVICE



WASHINGTON OFFICE INFORMATION DIGEST

CONFIDENTIAL - SERVICE

No. 111

October 29, 1946

Some Impressions of European Forests

At two recent meetings — the "Family Meeting" on October 22 and the "Big Staff Meeting" on October 23 — Chief Watts and Assistant Chief Kotok told members of the Washington Office about their experiences on their recent trip to Europe and some of the impressions they gained of forestry conditions in parts of Norway, Denmark, France, and Germany. Some of these, by countries, are:

Norway (southern part): Over-all view of the country from a low-flying plane gave the impression of a rough country topographically — mountains, craggy rocks, studded with lakes, living streams, farms crowding from the level lands clear to the foot of the mountains, and then vast stretches of solid timberland and close by every farm, some woodlots. They have only a few tree species to deal with — not the complexity of species that confronts an American forester. Conifers are two or three at the most: spruce, fir, and Scotch pine. Hardwoods are beech and oak.

The Norwegian foresters, in the main, have leaned heavily towards natural regeneration, continuous cutting to improve stand conditions, and a strong tendency towards building up their capital in the growing forest. Their knowledge of soils is far ahead of what we have conceived. Where we think of soils in broad terms, they determine the growing capacity of the land by the soil capacity.

In the main, they base their silvicultural practices on three or four techniques: (1) in hardwoods, trying to get considerable beech into a stand in order to improve site; (2) in conifers, depending largely on natural regeneration, but will resort to artificial regeneration if the soil has deteriorated; and (3) basing degree of cutting on stand per acre, which varies according to the class of stand — no different from in the United States.

Cultural operations were disappointing. There is very little pruning. There are frequent light thinnings, ending up almost invariably in clear-cutting.

The Norwegian foresters are an industrious lot, showing alertness to the possibilities of new developments both in growing timber, in harvesting, and in utilization potentialities. The people, too, have learned to appreciate the full import of their forests.

Denmark: An expansive stretch of lowlands, every tillable acre being most intensively cultivated, leaving only small areas of the country to forests. Most of these areas are remnants of the original oak and beech forests that have been retained continuously in forests since the rulers of Denmark in 1805 decreed that no further conversion of forest lands into farms could be undertaken. Some few plantations of Scotch pine and spruce have been

(over)

introduced since that time. Originally, Denmark was covered with dense forests of oak and beech.

No time is wasted by the Danes waiting for natural regeneration. They aim to get fully stocked stands by the most careful methods of ground preparation and artificial seeding or planting. They handle their forest properties almost to the same degree of intensiveness that they apply to croplands. Their forest areas have more stems per acre than any other country and they wind up with better lumber than most.

Danish foresters base their figures on stand per acre entirely on normal yield tables. They reinventory the stand every ten years. The yield table is their gospel. They would not think of trying to guess yield of timber in a stand.

They are very much interested in genetics and are doing some splendid work. It is mostly in an experimental stage, although some work on poplar has commercial value right now.

Germany (American Occupation Zone - through Hessen, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria): Public forests and larger private holdings in the main give the impression of being managed on a meticulous plan-wise basis. The smaller holdings have been less carefully handled and showed poorer condition. Lack of labor during the war resulted in considerable material left in the woods that should have been removed. This has contributed to a few severe insect epidemics, which are now being most intensively combatted. Thinnings and other cultural operations have been deferred and need early attention.

Coniferous species are spruce, fir, Scotch pine, and a little red pine. Hardwoods are oak and beech.

From the ground and from the air, one gets the impression that there is too high a percentage of 1 to 20-age classes, which may reflect overcutting of the forests.

German foresters do not have any over-all marking rules for a forest property. They are trained and then made responsible for a piece of property. They develop their own management plan. This usually provides for a cutting budget, timber limits at which they seek to harvest crop, and that is all. Their marking, however, does not vary much from ours where there is not clear-cutting.

Both Mr. Watts and Mr. Kotok stated that Joe Kircher and Les Bean are doing a splendid job there under very difficult conditions.

France: One of the important jobs of the french forest service, called the Department of Water and Forests, has been the job we call here, flood control. Three characteristics of this work are:

(1) Control of slides, slips, and action of old glaciers by stabilization of soils. They start by making a very careful study of the geology of the region along with a study of the land practices. They put in drainage system for water diversion and then go in and plant to forests.

(2) Control of streams by barriers - small and large; maximum are 40 feet high and 10 to 15 feet wide.

(3) Recapture of swamp lands by drainage and planting of poplars.

The Vosges Mountains in northeast France show marks of the heavy fighting which took place there during World War I and the Germans' retreat before the American push to the Rhine in the spring of 1945. Much more burning and destruction of the forests took place than was necessary for military reasons. The Germans evidently did it purely for meanness.

Mr. Watts said that he had discussed forest regulation with foresters and timberland owners in all three countries - Norway, Denmark, and France. Norway has regulatory legislation very similar to what we are proposing in this country. The law provides for advisory committees, broken down into rather small units. Each committee is responsible to the local forest officer.

Mr. Kotok said that the certified seed movement is very strong throughout Europe and it is hoped that FAO will give leadership to this movement.

Both Mr. Watts and Mr. Kotok spoke of the destructive forces of war on some of the cities. The almost complete destruction of Stuttgart was a great shock to Mr. Watts. He said he looked out of his hotel window one evening and for as far as he could see the town had been almost completely destroyed. It was hard to believe, he said, that some 500,000 people are still living there among the ruins. The hotel where Mr. Watts stayed had been rehabilitated for the American Army.

"You are reminded," Mr. Kotok said, "of pictures you have seen of excavated ancient cities in Egypt, Rome, or Greece. You know a civilization once existed and you begin to wonder whether one is still there. Miles of rubble, stone and mortar, and twisted girders are sad reminders of what warfare can be. You wonder whether this blood-letting and destruction can be endlessly repeated. As shocking as the destruction of a whole city is to one's sensibilities, one wondered as we passed through Dachau what the reaction was of 300,000 agonizing souls subjected to torture and disgrace. It was good, therefore, to get out into the forests where nature, itself, has a way of rapidly healing scars and leaving a pleasant landscape as a reminder that there is beauty in this world if we would only capture it."

Resolutions

The Montana State Federation of Labor at its annual meeting recently adopted resolutions stating that:

We favor immediate action in the development of a state and national program for all forest lands that will protect the forests from fire, insects, and disease damage; promote forestry practices that will result in full use of the productive capacity of these lands but not overuse which would bring exhaustion of usable timber at a later date; promote greater utilization of the wood products thereby eliminating waste and conserving timber supplies now available; and provide for an aggressive start on reforestation of lands now not producing anything of commercial value.

We specifically favor immediate action through the passage by Congress of a cooperative insect control law comparable to the cooperative fire control law which will provide for the protection of privately owned lands now threatened by outbreaks of destructive insect pests which each year destroy much valuable timber in northern Idaho and western Montana.

We demand immediate action on an expanded federal forest road development program to open up inaccessible timber stands in the mountainous country most of which are within the boundaries of the National Forests and which roads are needed if overmature or diseased timber is to be salvaged and these back country timber stands put on a better managed basis.

The Montana State Federation of Labor assist the State Forestry Department wherever possible in promoting timber conservation and sustained yield programs.

Pressure be brought upon the next session of the Montana State Legislature to provide funds for the reforestation of public-owned lands and the purchase of cut-over private-owned lands for the development of a reforestation program which will provide a maximum lumber production for the future and security for the workers employed in the Lumber Industry.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs at its biennial convention in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 11 passed a resolution proposing "That the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs include the study of the entire natural resource situation, including the phases of timber and timber products, range, forage, soils, wildlife and watersheds in the next annual program made up following the presentation of this resolution."

At its meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, September 9-11, the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners passed the following resolutions of interest to the Forest Service:

Retention of Public Lands

The public lands of the United States have been retained, or purchased, by the people of the nation and so administered that the greatest public benefits have been derived therefrom.

Certain interests are constantly striving to have these lands transferred to private ownership.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Association oppose all proposals, including such measures as Senate Bill S-1945, intended to open the way to transfer public lands to private ownership.

Withdrawals of Public Lands

There are continual withdrawals and dedications of public lands, by executive branches of the federal government, without advance specific approval by Congress in each instance.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Association recommend that Congress pass Senate Bill 2394, which will amend the law to provide that such withdrawals shall be made only with prior congressional approval and consent in each case.

Acting Chief

Mr. Kotok will serve as Acting Chief beginning November 11 until further notice. Mr. Loveridge will continue as Acting Chief until that time.

Work Improvement Suggestion Published in Fire Control Notes

Repairing damaged fire canteens: for illustration and explanation, see page 19 of the October 1 issue of Fire Control Notes. The idea was submitted to the Work Improvement Committee by Ranger Dean Earl of Region 3.



INFORMATION DIGEST



Washington Office - Confidential Service

No. 55

May 23, 1947

Fishing

W. O. Big Staff Meeting

Some of the highlights of his recent trip to the South were told by Mr. Watts at the W. O. Big Staff Meeting on Tuesday afternoon, May 13. This was not an inspection trip, Mr. Watts pointed out, but just a short trip to again get some idea of what is going on in conservation in the South.

He spent several days on the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in Region 7. He was impressed particularly with the way that Region is taking hold of the wildlife problem in Virginia. By cooperative arrangement with the State, every Ranger District on these two Forests has one and sometimes two or three full-time wildlife men - game wardens - reporting directly to the Forest Ranger. These men are a real help to the Ranger in many ways besides wildlife matters.

Mr. Watts said he had requested Regional Forester Evans to show him some of the timber stand improvement work that had been done during CCC days in order to find out if it showed worth while results. He said he believed he was shown a fair sample and while he hadn't gone into the economics of it, from a silvicultural standpoint it had certainly paid dividends.

Recreational areas in the South are getting much heavier use than he had expected. These sites are particularly popular for picnics. Almost every camp and picnic area showed evidence of rather heavy use this year even though the season has not yet opened. The need for more "service" on most areas was obvious.

He spent two or three days on the Cherokee National Forest, Tennessee, mostly in connection with forest management matters, although he also visited some recreational properties. He said he saw some cutting on private lands in the immediate vicinity of the Cherokee Forest which strengthened his belief that demonstration and education alone will not do the job of bringing about good management.

Mr. Watts visited an area on the Conecuh Forest in southern Alabama, where he had spent a day four years ago. A large part of this forest is ridge land with scrub oak which has come in after the pine had been cut. Plantings that go back six or seven years are showing up most effectively and the bulk of this area now looks very good, Mr. Watts said. Some of the young trees are now 10 to 12 feet tall. He said if we want to spend money to do it we can recapture areas that have been scrub oak by planting and keeping hogs out.

When one sees the tremendous acreage burned in the South, one may get the impression that we are not making much progress there, but when looking at the record on the ground and comparing conditions now with what they were four years

Mr. Watts' trip

ago, Mr. Watts is convinced that we are making splendid progress in fire control in the South, with some exceptions. It is perfectly clear, he said, that our fire control program in the South is definitely paying dividends.

Mr. Watts spoke of attending part of the joint meeting of the Gulf and South-eastern Sections of the Society of American Foresters at Biloxi, Miss. One session of the meeting was a field day in which all kinds of woods equipment were demonstrated. Forest Service participation consisted of a demonstration of fire plows and fire equipment. On the whole, he said, this was a well organized show. About 500 people, more than half of them from industry, attended.

At the Society's banquet that night, J. B. Snyder, who is a former Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi, a newspaperman, and a member of the Conservation Commission, was the principal speaker. Having in mind the difficulties we have been having in Mississippi, Mr. Watts was a little bit dubious beforehand as to what the speaker might say about the Forest Service. Much to his surprise, Mr. Snyder spoke in glowing terms of the Service and the work it is doing in Mississippi.

Mr. Watts said his report would not be complete if he didn't tell about his deep sea fishing trip in Region 8. Seven went along to tell him how to catch fish. Strange to say, he was the only one of them that caught a fish during the trip. Perhaps the length of the fish has increased somewhat in the telling, but his best recollection is that it was more than 40" long. Mr. Watts closed by saying that he didn't know when he had gotten more good out of a trip. He said they had with them two Forest Rangers who had been through one of the hottest fire seasons and he learned from them more about the fire problems in Mississippi than he could ever learn by sitting in an office. He said with that kind of young folks in the Service, old-timers needn't worry but that the Forest Service will continue to be in good hands, whether in Mississippi or elsewhere.

Additional Funds for Access Roads

The bill (S.800) which would make an additional \$10,000,000 available for access roads out of the appropriation for the Veterans' Emergency Housing Act of 1946 has been passed by the Senate and referred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency. (In Information Digest, March 20, 1947).

Proposed Transfer of Military Land to Wasatch Forest

The Secretary of Agriculture in his report on S. 1112 to the Senate Committee on Armed Services has strongly urged the transfer of two tracts, totalling 6636 acres, within the Fort Douglas Military Reservation to the Forest Service for administration as a part of the Wasatch National Forest. House hearings on this bill were held on May 19.

Fire Prevention Campaign Is Evidently "Taking" in the Schools

Charles W. Mattison of the W. O. Division of Information and Education reports that Frank Connolly of Region 7 and he were driving through Philadelphia in an official Forest Service car on the start of a field trip when they stopped for a traffic light on a very busy street. A newsboy saw the car and in spite of a pouring rain, dashed through traffic to ask, "Say do you fellers have more of those forest fire posters and stamps?" Mr. Connolly replied, "Sure, son, just send us a card - we have lots of them." As they started on, the boy yelled, "O. K., mister, I've got your address. The teacher gave it to us in class."

He catches a fish

Deep sea fishing

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICEName of paper Forest Product
NewsWhere published Portland, OreDate of issue August 13, 1945Sent by Regional ForesterStationed at Denver, Colo.**Legislation Coming**

BOISE, Idaho (FPN)—Lyle F. Watts, chief of the U. S. Forest Service, last week on a tour of forest areas in Idaho re-emphasized that legislation to prevent what he termed the cutting of timber twice as fast as it grows will be pressed by the U. S. Forest Service.

"We who have made a study of forestry know that it is not a healthy national condition when we cut our timber twice as fast as it grows, and we have been doing just that," Watts is reported as saying, adding that "99 per cent of the cutting is on privately owned lands."

Leaders in private forestry for several months have been preparing, if necessary, to battle any attempt by the U. S. Forest Service to encroach on what they believe to be their private interests. How great the fight will be against any proposed legislation to control cutting will, naturally, depend upon the objectives of the legislation itself. Chief Forester Watts each year in his annual reports has expressed the need for public regulation.

In his 1944 report Watts said: "One important lesson that should be learned from the war is that individual security is largely without foundation in the absence of national security. Since this is so, it follows that security, whether individual or collective, demands that the public interest take precedence over individual interests. This is especially important with respect to forest practices so as to keep the land reasonably productive. Forest capital or growing stock must be conserved, or replaced if dissipated, whether or not the individual landowners has any interest in the continuity of his forest enterprise."

A "fight to the finish" on the control issue may well get started just as soon as war urgency leave lumber production and before increased manpower and equipment has an opportunity to step up production to meet domestic demands.

Mr. Watts as Chief Forester

Announcement that Lyle F. Watts, former regional forester stationed in Portland, has been appointed chief of the forest service, will occasion much congratulatory comment in the Pacific northwest, where the new chief of timberlands is widely known and as widely liked. Mr. Watts served in Portland from the spring of 1939 to the autumn of last year, when he was summoned to the national capital to become an assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard.

Meantime the office of chief forester had been vacant, by the death of F. A. Silcox in 1938. What more natural than that Mr. Watts' employment in Washington, in the department of agriculture, should result in his later appointment as chief forester? No representative of the forest service assigned to this region ever attained greater popularity, and commonly it will not be remarked that his promotion to the post of chief is in every way admirable. "A fine chap," said Stanley G. Jewett of the federal fish and wild life survey, "and an excellent forester, both practical and scientific. A better choice could not have been made."

Oregonian

1-10-42

The New Chief Forester.

Lyle Watts is considered well qualified in his profession through practical, technical and administrative experience for his new position as chief forester of the United States.

Mr. Watts enjoys the wholehearted confidence of the Forest Service itself, insuring cooperation to the fullest extent from the various regions with which he was associated before his advancement.

Forestry has been his life career. He has pursued it with keen intelligence, enthusiasm and perseverance. He has seen its varying phases from every angle, as a teacher, as a research director, from the field, and from the regional headquarters of the Middle West, the mountain country and the Pacific Coast. He has met the lumberman, the stockman, the farmer, the miner, the scientist, becoming acquainted with their problems, finding sympathy with their efforts.

His Missoula acquaintances and associates of the five years that he spent here thoroughly approve of the administration's choice of Lyle Watts as the chief forester of the United States as the most appropriate selection that could be made.

The Forest Program

Seattle P.I. Jan 15-43

ONE of the most constructive parts of Governor Langlie's message to the legislature was that dealing with Washington's forestry problems.

As the governor well says:

"The state can ill afford to sit back and ignore the signs of a declining resource, for not only is the prosperity of the state involved, but the very life of many communities is jeopardized."

Two other matters are worthy of special attention at this time.

One is the indorsement of the proposed state forestry program by the Washington State Federation of Labor. This is a welcome sign that organized labor is alive to the danger involved to state prosperity and to the welfare of all workers, if the state's No. 1 industry is permitted to decline. It indicates, too, that organized labor is aware of its responsibilities in promoting the general welfare of the state.

The other development in

this connection is the appointment of Lyle F. Watts to the long vacant post chief of the national forest service.

As we have often pointed out, national and state governments must work together in solution of forestry problems. Federal action as well as state action has lagged.

Mr. Watts' appointment means, not merely that the forest service will have a leader who can head up national efforts, but one who will be in a remarkably good position to coordinate national and state programs.

As regional forester with offices at Portland for many years, the new chief forest officer is intimately acquainted with the Pacific Northwest problem. But his efforts alone will be unavailing unless there is a similar action in the states most deeply concerned.

This legislature should not adjourn without doing its part toward safeguarding our forests.

Form 265—(Rev. Sept. 1925)
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

The Bend Bulletin
Name of paper -----
Bend, Oregon
Where published -----
January 12, 1943
Date of issue -----
Deschutes N. F.
Sent by -----
Bend, Oregon
Stationed at -----

NEW CHIEF FORESTER

President Roosevelt has at last appointed a chief forester to fill the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox. The man he has named is Lyle F. Watts, recently regional forester in Portland. In the latter position Mr. Watts, of course, was the superior officer over the Deschutes forest and he was a not infrequent visitor here. He was concerned by and made intensive studies of the local forest situation and problems. We may be assured of his sympathetic attitude toward this region.

These are selfish reasons for our pleasure over the Watts appointment. There are others not selfish at all and including satisfaction that Lyle Watts's competence is thus recognized and that at the head of this important bureau is being placed a man who is friendly, of simple habit, well trained and certain to succeed.

Glen. Incidentally this inn and the postmaster's home in Glen Brittle are the two best centers for exploration of the peculiar wild beauties of Skye.

A few general remarks should be added. Nowhere in Great Britain are the mountains high by American standards. Ben Nevis, the highest, is under 5,000 feet. Sgurr Alasdair in Skye is only 3,309 feet. Scafell Pike (English Lakes) is 3,210 feet. Snowdon (North Wales) is 3,560 feet. Yet almost without exception these mountains rise virtually from sea level. This fact, together with their sharpness of outline and sheer ruggedness, give at least the illusion of their being comparable to some of our Rockies—for example, those in Glacier Park, where the scenery is not dissimilar. The British country is glaciated, and hence lakes are abundant. Rain may be expected during July and August. May, June, September and October are the favored months for hiking. "Camping out" is infrequent, because simple accommodations, reasonably priced, are usually near enough even the wildest areas for the packless, rapid hiker

to reach them by night fall. Parts of Scotland are an exception, and the usual tenting or pack equipment is serviceable. Apart from the Scottish glens, very little of the wild area is forested. Consequently views along the trails are unobstructed, and the trails themselves are often either rocks or bog. Many of the best routes are trailless, but are so out in the open that there is no danger of losing the way. The chief hazards are on the rocky trailless peaks when clouds and fog come. These peaks are really dangerous and there are not infrequent casualties.

Naturally, few if any of us will have the opportunity to visit the British Isles until the war is over. When that day comes, I hope that any member of the Wilderness Society who does visit Britain will carry the courage of his convictions with him and search out those places in the Isles which do not yield their joys easily, and which do not yield them at all except to those who are ready to "pit the strength of lung and limb against the rocks until the heights are gained."

Lyle W. Watts New Chief of the Forest Service



GREETINGS to the new Chief of the Forest Service, Lyle W. Watts, who was appointed January 8 to fill the vacancy caused, on November 12, 1939, by the death of Major Ferdinand Augustus Silcox. Mr. Watts had been serving in Secretary Wickard's office for a couple of years on post-war plans for the Pacific Northwest, later in Department activities related to farm labor.

He came from the Northwest, where his experience included all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, and two years in the field of forestry education during which he organized the School of Forestry at Utah Agricultural College.

Mr. Watts has served in four of the nine national forest regions: in the Intermountain Region at Ogden, Utah, and in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region (including national forests in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin). In 1939 he was made Regional Forester in the Northern Pacific Region with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

He had extensive experience in meeting problems involved in creation of wilderness areas in the Forest Service during periods of controversy between conservationists and business men, principally miners, who wanted to exploit areas of all kinds. In those in which the Wilderness Society was involved, we found Mr. Watts sound and reasonable. He was born in Iowa in 1890. He knew Bob Marshall well.

THE SOUTHSIDE
Work f

Chief Forester Tells The News Forest Fires Are "Very Serious Matter"



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OLD MAN
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SCARE YOU!**

**You Can
Beat Him!**

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Rock Wool insulation.

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cold and draughty all winter long, if not
insulated against the onslaughts of "Old
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warmer. It helps fire-
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Company, Inc.**

12 Union Trust Building

Phone Petersburg 585

U. S. War Bonds

Watts Lists Steps To Insure Needed Wood

Mr. W. P. McGuire,
"The Southside Virginia News,"
Petersburg, Virginia.

Dear Mr. McGuire:

In the three decades prior to the war, our estimated total reserve of standing saw timber was reduced almost 40 per cent.

Lumber and pulpwood are now among the most critically needed war supplies, and the drain on our forests continues in excess of the annual rate of timber growth.

Such a downward trend can result only in increased scarcity of timber and increased cost of lumber products that are essential both in war and peace.

To meet estimated future requirements for timber, we shall have to take positive steps to keep all our forest land green and growing. Among them are these steps:

1. To stop further depletion of our remaining forest lands.
2. To do a big job of restoring forests on the millions of acres that already have been reduced to non-productivity.
3. To cut down the 120,000 to 200,000 forest and woods fires which each year are carelessly or intentionally set by man and which burn over more acres than there are in New York State, which kill enough timber to build 215,000 five-room homes, and which require nearly 1,000,000 man-days of fire fighting labor—time and labor which should be spent in factories and on farms. . . . Forest and woodsfires, it is plain, are a very serious matter.

I am therefore delighted that you and The Southside Virginia News are stressing the value and importance of WOOD; the need for cutting it wisely and for replenishing its sources; the importance of protecting forests and farm woodlands from fire.

And I want you to know that in doing this, you and your paper are, in my opinion, making a very definite contribution to the war effort and the peace.

**LYLE F. WATTS,
Director**

United States Forest Service,
Washington, D. C., Oct. 30.



**LYLE F. WATTS, Chief
U. S. FOREST SERVICE**

Forest Chief's Big Job

Wartime chief of the U. S. Forest Service, Lyle F. Watts holds an important, many-sided job, the successful administration of which affects the lives of the American people in many ways.

Responsible for the administration of the 158 National Forests scattered from Alaska to Florida and from Maine to California, as well as of the 12 forest experiment stations and famous Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis., Chief Watts is also general supervisory head of the various cooperative programs through which the Federal government works to help State and private owners of timberland raise standards of management, productivity and community service in all the forest regions.

His Summary

Today, Mr. Watts is deeply concerned with three things:

First, that the forest resource shall make the greatest possible contribution toward winning the war.

Second, that in so far as possible this contribution of timber and forest products shall be made without avoidable sacrifice of producing forests.

Third, that at the earliest possible moment the United States

OUTDOORS

with

J. HAMMOND BROWN

Among the matters that will be thoroughly discussed at the forthcoming Conservation Forum, to be held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel the morning and afternoon of Wednesday, April 12, will be the present and future problems of forestry control.

The question will be covered not only by our own State forester, Joseph F. Kaylor, but will also be approached from the Federal viewpoint by Lyle F. Watts, chief of the United States Forestry Service.

IMPORTANT SUBJECT

Among the eighteen resolutions adopted by the Outdoor Writers' Association of America at its annual conference held in Columbus, Ohio, last February was one dealing with this same question of forestry regulation for the post-war period and the reception that this resolution has received all over the country illustrates perfectly how important this subject has become.

The resolution in question, after reciting present forestry conditions, especially the differences of opinion as between Federal agencies, between the States and the Government and divergent viewpoints of the private lumbering agencies, called upon the President of the United States to hold a conference of all these divergent agencies that they might compose their various viewpoints so that the impact upon our forestry resources by industry might be within the bounds of wise practices.

NEED U. S. CONTROL

The answers to this resolution show clearly the need for such a conference. The Federal agencies all stress the need of Federal control, the State forestry departments almost unanimously declare for less Federal interference, while the private lumbering interests stand out for self-regulation, with a minimum interference from either State or Federal Governmental agencies.

The question of forestry regulations is further complicated by the acknowledged fact that we have had no adequate survey of our national forestry resources.

SITUATION IN MUDDLE

When Secretary Wickard of the Department of Agriculture states that we are over-cutting our forestry crops the private and some State agencies counter with the statement that this is not true, and that the forestry resource of the country can well withstand the current crop-taking. It is unfortunate that neither side can prove its statements. That is why the present forestry situation is in somewhat of a muddle.

It is to be hoped that the projected national survey by the American Forestry Association may be successfully carried out. Such a survey will iron out many present-day difficulties and form a basis for proper procedure in the future.

(OVER)

Chief Forester Expresses Amazement At Progress Here

At a dinner given last night at Ocean Pond in honor of Lyle F. Watts, Chief Forester of the United States at which the American Turpentine Farmers Association and the Forest Farmers Association were joint hosts,

Mr. Watts expressed amazement at the progress that has been made in this section in reforestation and conservation. Mr. Watts based his remarks on observations made in a tour of much of South Georgia and North Florida.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Watts said that conservation of the nation's forests was a matter that should be the concern not only of timber owners, but of every individual and of all government agencies, state and national.

He expressed the hope that it would be possible for owners and all government agencies to join in a cooperative program that would lead to preservation of the forests and to the rebuilding of this great natural resource. Mr. Watts intimated that it was his belief that this could be best served by government regulations of forests.

Mr. Watts said that he had never seen a section that could take the abuse that had been handed to it in the matter of improper forest practices and come back for more as had been true of South Georgia and North Florida.

Mr. Watts was introduced by Harley Langdale, president of the American Turpentine Farmers Association. In a short talk, Mr. Langdale expressed the pleasure of timber owners in this section in having Mr. Watts come to see for himself what is being done in this section in the development and preservation of forest resources. Mr. Langdale pointed out that this was the first time a Chief Forester had ever visited this area and he expressed the hope that Mr. Watts' visit would lead to a better understanding on the part of the federal government of the problems confronting Southern forestry.

Among the out of town officials at the dinner last night were: E. L. Demmon, superintendent of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans; Joseph C. Kircher, regional forester United States Forest Service, Atlanta; L. L. Bishop, assistant regional forester H. J. Malsbarger, Florida state forester and C. P. Kelly, Madison, Fla., directing head of the Forest Farmers Association.

MR. PARKINSON	15	15
MR. LOWRIDGE		
MR. WATTS		
MR. CLAPP	20	20
MR. GRANGER		
MR. FORSLING	21	22
MR. MARSY	22	24
MR. KNEIPP	24	24
MR. KOTOK		
MR. BEWRE	5/24	24
MR. RANDALL		
MR. MACDONALD	5/25	5/25
MR. BERGOFFEN	25	25
MR. HESSEL	26	26

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I&E
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of SHPA

Just Biographical material

I
INFORMATION
General

February 26, 1948

Mr. Hal Burton
King Features Syndicate
235 East 45th Street
Room 1207
New York, N. Y.

Dear Hal:

Here is about all we have here about Mr. Watts. In it, you will glean the salient facts about his life. He is a reticent and retiring man, and so anecdotes about him are hard to find. However, if this arouses your interest, and makes you think you would like a couple of additional anecdotes, I'll find some stories to fill the bill. I wanted to get this material off to you tonight, as I promised. Drop me a line if there is something specific that I can dig up for you.

Sincerely,

G. A. MACDONALD
In the Division of Information and Education

Enclosures included:

Southside Virginia News article
PARADE article, and Parade manuscript
Story in clip sheet 8-11-45
Items from Inf. Digest 55 (5/23/47) and 72 (Inf. Digest 7/2/46)

Photos 432088, Lewis B. Holt with Mr. Watts, Release 1/13/47
GAMacDonald:ABS with photo; and Dec. 24, 1946 story on
Watts Signs Pact (with photograph)

(Printed in the Southside
Virginia News, Petersburg, Va.,
November 9, 1944)

LYLE F. WATTS

Wartime chief of the U. S. Forest Service, Lyle F. Watts holds an important, many-sided job, the successful administration of which affects the lives of the American people in myriad ways.

Responsible for the administration of the 158 National Forests scattered from Alaska to Florida and from Maine to California, as well as of the 12 forest experiment stations and the famous Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wis., "the Chief" is also general supervisory head of the various cooperative programs through which the Federal government works to help State and private owners of timberland raise standards of management, productivity and community service in all the forest regions.

Today, Mr. Watts is deeply concerned with three things: First, that the forest resource shall make the greatest possible contribution toward winning the war. Second, that in so far as possible, this contribution of timber and forest products shall be made without avoidable sacrifice of producing forests. Third, that at the earliest possible moment the United States shall adopt a broad Federal-State cooperative program calculated to control destructive cutting practices on private forest land and to put the forest resource on a continuous production basis that will bring a new stability and prosperity to forest workers, industries and communities.

Mr. Watts entered the Forest Service 31 years ago, following graduation with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Iowa State College. Save for two years when he left the service temporarily to organize the School of Forestry of Utah Agricultural College, his government service has been continuous.

Before he was named chief in January of 1943, his experience included all phases of Forest Service work, from fire guard to regional forester and the directorship of an experiment station. He worked in four of the ten Forest Service regions, was regional forester for the Lake and Central States and for the Pacific Northwest, and has traveled and studied in all the others.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, in 1890, but spent most of his early years in the Pacific Northwest, which from the standpoint of old-growth timber reserves is often called the most important forest region in the United States. Not long ago, he traveled extensively in the South, where he was impressed with the good forestry practices being employed by many firms and individuals, but deeply lamented the obvious fact that clear cutting, inadequate fire protection and other forest-destroying forces still prevail upon most southern forest land.

- - - - -

Lyle Watts Approves Auburn Work Circle Timber - Lumber Job

Lyle Watts, chief forester, United States Forest Service, Washington, D.C., was greatly impressed with the fine stand of virgin timber in the Auburn working circle and expressed satisfaction for the development of plans of the local forest officers in bringing a sustained yield lumber industry to Placer County from the timber on the Forest Hill Divide. The virgin timber stand to be developed by the United States Forest Service includes 2,000,000,000 board feet of timber.

The plan calls for location of a finishing mill in the Auburn area with access to the timber stand provided by a \$1,000,000 road which is to be constructed by the federal government. Survey for the road has been completed and the first work on the road is expected to start soon.

S. B. Show, regional forester, USFS, with headquarters in San Francisco, was a member of the party which visited Auburn last Friday. He restated forest service plans for development of the Auburn working circle along lines he outlined when approval of the county board of supervisors was given to the transfer of 55,000 acres of Southern Pacific timber holdings to the United States Forest Service. These plans call for sale of the timber on a sustaining basis and to a concern which would operate a finishing mill in the Auburn area.

Others in the party which visited Auburn last Friday were: Stephen Wyckoff, director California Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley; DeWitt Nelson, state forester of California; Edwin F. Smith, supervisor Eldorado National Forest, Placerville; Wallace Hutchinson, assistant regional forester, San Francisco; Melvin E. Barron, supervisor, Modoc National Forest, Alturas; Paul Stathem, supervisor Mendocino National Forest, Willows; Guerdon Ellis, supervisor Tahoe National Forest, Nevada City; Harry Camp, resource manager Tahoe National Forest, Nevada City.

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER
8-19-45

SNAG SEEN FOR BUILDING BOOM

The United States' post war building boom will be hampered by lack of lumber, it was predicted here yesterday by Lyle F. Watts, chief of the United States Forest Service.

Many west coast mills seem slated to "go out of business" because the "supply of logs is very restricted" at present, declared Watts, currently making a tour of the national forests in the California region.

NO STOCKPILES.
And as for lumber stockpiles, he added, "substantially, there just aren't any."

Lumberjacks who in the last century started west after cutting down the Maine forests have reached the end of their trail in the Pacific Northwest with "no place to go any more," emphasized the forest service chief. Lumbermen can turn to Alaska for pulp wood but not construction timber, he said.

MUST CONSERVE.
The administrator of 158 national forests in forty-two States, declared it was his belief that the 341 millions of acres of land which remain in private ownership eventually will have to observe "certain minimum conservation standards" to "provide security for the community and the Nation."

National Forest Service And Other Prominent Men Entertained At Dinner

Lyle F. Watts, chief of the United States Forest Service, who came here yesterday for a brief inspection tour of the Sequoia National Forest, was the guest of honor last night at a dinner arranged by J. Howard Williams, executive secretary of the Porterville Chamber of Commerce, at the Palm Cafe.

Other distinguished guests present were S. B. Show, regional forester from San Francisco; W. T. Hutchinson, assistant regional forester; S. N. Wyckoff, director of experimental research in California; Floyd Iverson, supervisor of the Inyo National Forest; E. J. Elliott, supervisor of the Sequoia National Forest and Paul Struble, assistant forest supervisor.

Mayor Charles J. Cummings presided, and welcomed the out of town guests to Porterville. Others present were: City Clerk Jap Elledge, City Manager Elmer L. Long, District Manager R. R. Sparks of the Southern California Edison Co.; Donald L. Jones, former president of the Chamber of Commerce; Vincent McHenry and Homer W. Wood, local publisher.

A splendid steak dinner was served with all of the trimmings. A large banquet of asters was on the head table, and ornamental figurines were used in the table decorations. The service was excellent, and Secretary Williams is to be congratulated on the arrangements.

Chief Forester Speaks

Chief Watts spoke briefly of his trip into the Sequoia National Forest with Forest Supervisor Elliott and others of the forest service men, the trip being made yesterday afternoon. The party was taken to the Mountain Home country, which is soon to become the property of the state.

The chief forester, who has his headquarters at Washington, D. C., was emphatic in his criticism of the timber waste at Mountain Home. He said that he had never seen such destructiveness to forests in his travels from Alaska to California, and said that this indiscriminate cutting of timber had left him depressed. The

Mountain Home could be one of the great trees, which growing for many years, was deplored he said, never show out of public contemplation to come, will over the world, to beauties of the State.

Other speakers, the cutting of timber in Home, said a small number of have been cut, with far largely used corn that the state is timber area, the great timber served for posterity.

Praise Community

Regional Forester that we had a wonderful back country, and he praised this community support of the Forest. Director Wyckoff said native son of California intensely interested in development. He said the forest service fact. We have a "the bow," he said he was for a perfect timber and water conservation, he not only be a success for our own market for export.

Supervisor Elliott the forest person of praise for the doing. In the counting, Mr. Elliott words of praise, not superiors; but for townsmen. It was that Supervisor Elliott largely instrument the Forest Service to Porterville, and president of the Chamber of Commerce with district.

Mayor Cummins

Mayor Cummings, people of Porterville, what the Forest Service for Porterville, as citizens of this county always stand ready Forest Service in it could. Supervisor that the completion Divide highway wonderful country. A section of pass through the

Ref

September 5, 1945

No. 36

THE CHIEF CAN TAKE IT

Chief Lyle F. Watts completed his inspection tour of the California Region at Los Angeles on August 31 and left for Tucson, Arizona on September 2. During his 23 days' stay in the State he traveled 3125 miles by automobile and met more than 450 officers of R-5, California Forest & Range Experiment Station, and Emergency Rubber Project, plus some 20 officers of Region 6 and 85 Federal and State officials, lumbermen and conservationists.

The second leg of the trip started with a two-day inspection of the Emergency Rubber Project at Salinas where thousands of acres of growing guayule and the extraction plant were inspected, followed by a breather-trip to Monterey, Carmel and the 17-Mile Scenic Drive - all under the direction of Director Paul Roberts and his staff. One-half day and night stop was made at the San Joaquin Experimental Range to see and discuss with the scientists from the CF&RES, University of California, and Agricultural College at Davis the many problems confronting the livestock owner. The visit to the Sierra Forest included an inspection of the Northfork "compound," a visit to the nearby sawmill and a trip to the recreation areas around Huntington Lake. The high spot of this day was the sumptuous lunch-on-the-lawn given by the ladies of the Sierra, in which 53 people took part.

From Fresno the party went to the Sequoia Forest and enjoyed a steak-barbeque under the Bigtree of Balch Park; viewed the devastation of Bigtrees being cut from nearby private lands for fence posts and grape stakes, in an area which the State will soon buy for a State Park. Saturday took the party through the guayule fields and rubber plant at Bakersfield, then on to Mt. Pinos in Los Padres Forest; through the Antelope Valley to Palmdale, and Big Pines Park, with the night spent in the mountains at Wrightwood on the Angeles. Sunday the Chief had a look at the Cajon Pass fire which rambled 8 miles in two hours, and then spent the remainder of the day viewing the endless streams of cars and hordes of people who come on a week-end to the Crestline-Lake Arrowhead section of the San Bernardino Forest, together with the congested public camp grounds and "villages" of summer homes.

The final days of the trip were spent on the Angeles Forest with a tour of flood control projects, a visit to Mt. Wilson, Charlton Flats and Buckhorn; an auto trip through the industrial areas and orange groves of Los Angeles County; and a day's stay at Tanbark Flats in San Dimas Experimental Forest learning of the many phases of research there conducted. A barbeque dinner in Los Angeles was tendered the party and State and county forestry officials by W. S. Rosocrans, Chairman of the California State Board of Forestry.

The Chief stood the strenuous trip in good shape and left the Region with a healthy tan and a stimulated appetite for beefsteaks.

GIANT TREES AS MONUMENTS TO WAR HEROES

A proposal by Forest Supervisor Joe Elliott to dedicate a Sequoia gigantea Bigtree Grove honoring the men of Tulare County who gave their lives in World War II, has the unanimous backing of the Porterville Chamber of Commerce, which in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service has started a movement to bring this worthy project into reality.

A plaque, with names of the Tulare County men who died, will be erected and placed among the living monuments as a reminder to visitors to remember and honor forever the heroes who so gallantly gave their lives in World War II.

The proposed Western Divide Highway will traverse the grove to be selected and will afford possible year-round travel to this, as well as many other Bigtree groves and places of scenic beauty in the Sequoia National Forest. - Sequoia

LOST CHILD IS FOUND ON TRINITY

The Trinity recently had the most intensive "lost person" hunt in years. On the afternoon of August 10 Kenneth Bowen, 33-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bowen of Hayward, wandered from a fisherman's camp on the East Fork into an area of dense undergrowth and heavy timber near the Trinity Alps country.

The Sheriff's Office in Weaverville and two nearby sawmills were notified. The mills closed down and the search began and continued day and night until the afternoon of August 13, when the child was found in fair condition.

District Ranger Rupert Asplund, Fire Prevention Officer John C. Hunt and CPS Superintendent Bliss Haynes helped Sheriff's deputies organize and direct the search.

Field headquarters was set up and operated in the manner of a fire camp. Lumberjacks, ranchers, miners, the mounted posse from Shasta County, Trinity County officials, fishermen and 30 members of the Minersville CPS Camp were organized into crews under experienced leaders and systematically combed the area. Fire Prevention Officer Burns from the Mendocino used the Region's bloodhound, "January" in the search. State Lion Hunter Francis Keeler covered the East Fork and other drainages with his dog to dispel fears that a mountain lion might have attacked the child.

Kenneth had wandered several miles but when finally found was only $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from camp. Medical examination disclosed that he had survived the whole period without water but, pressed by hunger, he had eaten a quantity of green leaves. His weight had decreased from 35 to 20 pounds. -John C. Hunt, Trinity.

- - - -

In a letter to the Regional Forester, Kenneth's father, after singling out Forest officers for special praise, added, "We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the U. S. Forest Service for the efficient manner in which they conducted the search for our three-year-old son while he was lost in the Trinity National Forest for three days. We feel that if it had not been for the services which your organization rendered, our son would not have been found. ...We feel that the Forest Service is an organization which very few of us completely appreciate until a catastrophe such as ours strikes, and we owe it constant gratitude in the fact that we have our boy back with us."

CITY FATHER ON THE FIRE LINE

Eneoc Kane, Mayor Lapham's "Public Service Assistant", was enjoying a vacation at San Francisco's Camp Mather in the Stanislaus National Forest on August 25, when Ranger Petersen called for volunteers to help on the Tuolumne District's Jackass Fire. Mr. Kane, long accustomed to directing knotty municipal affairs, took orders as a camp flunky with a spirit that the Stanislaus is still talking about. After the fire Mr. Kane remarked, "The way everyone pitched in on that fire and snuffed it out before we had another Bull Creek Fire on our hands was a good example of the team play by which we won the war. That's the same spirit that made America what we have today."

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

In its 39th annual report, the Government Employees' Mutual Relief Assn. shows receipts of \$13,701.85 for the year ending December 31, 1944. Disbursements for death and medical care amounted to \$9,361.45; administrative expenses totalled \$1,204.45. There was a balance of \$12,458.24 cash in the treasury and the Assn. has \$6,000 in interest bearing securities. This is a good record. Forest officers who do not belong to the Association should investigate the protection given in case of sickness, operation, or accident at a cost of \$12.00 yearly.

The Association is conducted at cost by a limited group of government employees and membership is limited to male employees. The principal features of the insurance are disability with resultant loss of time and medical expense benefits, death benefits being limited to \$200, with an additional \$100 if death occurs away from locality designated as burial place.

FAMOUS CALIFORNIA RANCHO SOLD

Rancho San Fernando Rey, owned by Dwight Murphy, one-time Forest officer on the old Santa Barbara and current member of the State Horse Racing Commission, has been sold to Lewis W. Welch of Detroit, President of the Novi Equipment Co., who owns the land adjoining San Fernando Rey in Los Padres National Forest.

The 7,000 acre rancho located in Santa Ynez Valley, which includes a palatial home and model farm buildings, was formerly a part of the great San Marcos Rancho. The Welch Red Gate Ranch includes 30,000 acres and is also a part of the historic San Marcos Rancho. Reports were circulated that San Fernando Rey was being acquired as a California home for a grandson of Henry Ford but Murphy said he had no knowledge of Ford's interest.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

As we come in contact with post-war plans in the West, most of us are impressed with the stress being placed on development and utilization of water. Every crossroads village seems to have a plan for some project of water development. Cities, counties, States, and regions all have ambitious plans involving use of water, with the zenith approached by the Federal Government in a recently announced three-billion dollar reclamation plan.

Such a strong accent on water seems to indicate that, in the post-war period, water utilization in the semiarid West will become more closely associated with the general welfare than ever before. Moreover, it indicates that everyone responsible for any phase of water-yield or regulation will have new and added responsibilities and obligations.

To the foresters of the West this situation offers a particularly outstanding and clear-cut duty, namely that of developing and implementing practices of management which will insure optimum yields of usable water from forest lands. In the aggregate, about 225 million acres of the most productive water-yielding land in the West are under forest administration. About 65 per cent of this land has a major watershed-influence and another 25 per cent has a moderate influence. As a consequence the forester is faced by serious obligations if his plans and actions are to fulfill the responsibilities involved. - American Geophysical Union & R-3 Information.

AS OTHERS SEE US

"Don't Kill the Goose" - Easy reading and somewhat glib. Presents familiar arguments for a forest conservation program which the Forest Service believes is necessary for getting sound forest practices applied to all forest lands. Draws the spotlight away from the accepted need of stopping forest fires and directs it toward the danger of premature cutting of young trees.

"Let's Talk About Lumber Supplies" - This literary effort by the Forest Service would lead anyone to believe that Federal regulation was the only answer to the forestry problem. Educational methods are discarded as too slow and the Tree Farm program as too tiny to be of importance. Fire prevention and control are given no consideration. By organizing discussion groups through the many agencies of the Department of Agriculture and controlling the trend of thought by offering leading questions to which they suggest all the answers, it is the apparent intent of the U. S. Forest Service to create a nation-wide demand for the Federal regulation of private timberlands. - CONSERVATION NEWS DIGEST, Nat'l. Lumber Mfg. Assn.

AT LONG LAST

The Wilson Creek (Tillamook) State fire in Oregon has finally been conquered - by 2.25 inches of rain, after burning over more than 160,000 snag-infested acres of the old burn. State Forester N. S. Rogers says "There will be no more trouble - it may dry out later, but it is so late in the season that the menace is over."

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Sally Carrighar, San Francisco author of "One Day on Beetle Rock" will receive the Commonwealth Club's annual gold medal for the best work of general literature by a California author published in 1944.

* * *

Eunice Devine (R&L), Margaret Hull (FA), Giles McHenry (E), and Howard Ager (FA) hit the jack-pot when on August 8 they chose September 2 as VJ Day, and will split the RO pool of \$28.50.

* * *

RO VISITORS

Flavio Bazan and Ruben Caceres, Peruvian foresters, in the U.S. under special international fellowship arrangements. Mr. Bazan and Mr. Caceres have been doing graduate work in forestry at the Universities of Michigan and California, respectively. They are returning to Peru shortly to resume their work in the development of a strong forestry department for their homeland.

* * *

Merrill Robocker (Lt. Col.), R-1, en route Pacific.

* * *

STRAYED OR DRIFTED:

One Bernard Frank, who claims to be an expert in forest economics and influences in the Washington Office of the Forest Service. When last seen was dancing the polka one evening with Sally Rand (with her shoes off) at a Victory party near Glendale, California. Medium height, dark hair, lithe and limber, pirouette scars on both shins. Often caught doing the entrechat (leaping and crossing feet in midair) in his pajamas in the gray dawn. If located please put this Jack-in-a-box and notify his boss, Ed. Munns in the W6.

NEW SPECIES OF PINE

Pinus washoensis is the name given to a pine associated with Jeffrey pine in the upper reaches of Galena Creek in Washoe County, Nevada. While similar to Jeffreyi in many respects, its most obvious difference is the diminutive cones. Along with the description in the April issue of "Madrono" by Herbert L. Mason of the University of California, and W. Palmer Stockwell of the Station, it is stated that its final acceptance as a new species depends on further study, chemical analyses, and breeding experiments. FPC - WL&RM.

LIKE YOUR WORK

I have noticed that those who have a love for the work they do are always the best and most efficient workers. Robert Henri, famous American painter, once said to his class: "Like to do your work as a dog likes to gnaw a bone and go at it with equal interest and exclusion of everything else." I have never known anyone who liked his work, and gave his all to it, who wasn't happy. When our interest is high, and our hearts warm in what we do, we do well. We have no time in which to worry or to complain. The enthusiastic worker inspires everyone about him. He lights up the morale of everyone within his area. We can never hope to reach perfection - but we can always be on our way! - George Matthew Adams.

* * *

The following note was left at Tahquitz Peak LO, San Bernardino, last winter: "Rangers - Sorry we had to break in but we were hungry and cold and wet and the window was cracked anyway so we figured it would be all right." Commented the Ranger, "It is all right - just have to pack a 4-foot piece of plate glass 6 miles!!!"

* * *

Even three of a kind can fail to win - ask Italy, Germany and Japan.

FLORIDA TIMES UNION 1-25-44
**Forest Farming Offers New
Opportunity for Southland**

Developments in the Southland during the last three decades have impressed thoughtful citizens with the increasing importance of the region's forests and the increasing danger that this most vital resource might be seriously depleted. The fact that a large share of the South's revenues have for a long time been derived from the forests is well known.

The increasing drain upon stocks of standing timber occasioned by war and earlier by growing industrial demands are not so generally known and understood. Where the situation has been comprehended, however, there has been a considerable tendency to "view with alarm" and to give strong backing to efforts at conservation, and careful handling of forests and lands whereupon forests might be developed.

Within the last few years the business of reforestation has been brought into the limelight in many parts of the South. Thousands of acres have been planted to young trees, and in many sections of Florida, and the other States, the vistas of neatly kept trees present an attractive and promising picture.

Lyle F. Watts, chief of the United States Forest Service, attending the Southern Forestry Conference in Atlanta last week, brought emphasis to bear upon tree-management, and the most recently developed possibilities which "forest farming" holds for the Southern landowner.

In fact, said Mr. Watts: "Forest farming may be the economic solution for millions of Southern acres which are now more of a liability than an asset. . . . We are all convinced that forestry can play a vital part in the diversified agriculture to which the South is turning, and I hope that you believe as firmly as I do that the welfare of the people of the South and the conservation of forests are interdependent. . . . The Nation is counting on the South for a farsighted forestry program. It is depending on the united effort of landowners, timber operators, manufacturers, conservation agencies and the public."

The growing possibilities for farmers—that is the average farmers whose principal activities center upon production of food crops and livestock—to supplement their income through a regular "forest harvest", have been too well demonstrated to be considered any longer as doubtful.

The desirability of maintaining a certain portion of woodlands in connection with the farm has long been recognized. Modern transportation facilities and modern manufacturing facilities, however, now make it more practicable than ever before for the owner of such relatively small forest acreages to deserve "year by year" revenue through the sale of "selectively cut" trees or through the mar-

keting of wood and naval stores product. Properly arranged, such forest acreage will provide both work and revenue for relative "slack" seasons on the farm.

What Mr. Watts says relative to the possibility for utilization of otherwise unused lands is also important. There can be no doubt that continued roads upon the Nation's timber resources must be replaced by conservation and by replanting. The fact that the South has large areas available for planting should spur the efforts of landowners and the general public to insure the continued and increasing utilization of acreage for development of new forest growth.

COPY

Baring, Mo.

July 14, 1946

Mr. Lyle Watts or W. W. Chapel
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Today I heard your broadcast about cutting timber for lumber and in some places I thought you had people that help select trees and sell the lumber. Is there any charges for this help. If so how much and is there anyone around here that does that?

I have about 100 acres of timber which has some large maple, cottonwood, oak, elm, walnut and some hickory which are not so large. About what price would this lumber or trees bring? I heard that cottonwood was selling at \$9.00 per hundred.

A man from Edina who has more than one sawmill offered me \$1.00 per hundred for trees. As high and scarce as lumber is I thought if it would not bring more than that it could just stay in the timber. Some of his men cut one of my walnut trees which I had not sold to anyone and he only offered me \$7.50 for tree. The tree was large enough that it had been cut in three lengths. I did not sell it to him. Thank you for any information you can give me. I live 6 miles northwest of Baring, and Baring is on the Santa Fe.

Yours truly,

/s/ Edna Lare

COPY

LE MONYE FARMS, DINGLE HILL, ARENA, N. Y. JULY 17, 1946

Forest Service
U. S. Agriculture Dept.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Last Sunday the writer listened to a very interesting program over NBC regarding the lumber situation and the plea by your representatives for additional sources of supply and their several offers.

We have quite a lot of standing timber on our farm and on the side of a mountain which we own, also down in two creek ravines that are very deep. There is a number of species of wood in these trees but I believe that hemlock predominates. We have tried to dispose of this timber but only one local miller has so far made us an offer of \$15.00 per thousand feet, all around, trees from 14" at the base up but he wants two years to cut and take out. In view of the fact that rough lumber at the mill is so high we do not think we are getting offers that are at the right price and we would like to have your advice in the matter.

Thanking you for a prompt reply and if possible we would like to have one of your representatives call on us as there is quite a lot of timber for sale in these parts if farmers are given the right price. Thanks.

Cordially yours,

/s/ Hyatt Lenione
Manager

COPY

2 Bay Boulevard
East Pensacola Heights
Pensacola, Fla.

July 15, 1946

Supt. of Gov. Forests:

I heard a broadcast over NBC yesterday (Sunday) about one o'clock P.M. that was wonderful! It was about how to cut and save timber, and have "timber crops."

I have an interest (childs part) in a small body (209 acres). Very fine timber, and will appreciate it very much if you will write me or send information as to how large the trees should be, before cutting them and how to protect all the young timber until it is large enough to bring the best price (largest amount of timber, and how is the best way to cut wagon roads so as not to destroy so much timber and make bad places in the land?

I am very much interested in the Forest of "my Country" and very much interested in this old family homestead and will appreciate any information that you may send in regard to the forest.

Several people have been wanting to buy the timber, and I don't want to sell until I find out the right way to save all young trees.

Many thanks in advance for the information.

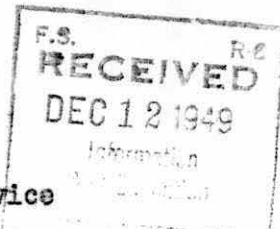
Very Respt.

/s/ Mrs. H. Russell

(Lyle Watts)

To: Chief, Forest Service

From: J. A. Hall, Director PNW Station



December 8, 1949

R-NW, PUBLICATIONS, General, Yearbook of Agriculture, 1949

Reference is made to Mr. Watts' letter to Senator Thye regarding letter of Frederick Weyerhaeuser.

The nature of the statement by Mr. Weyerhaeuser leads one to speculate as to its underlying real purpose in view of the fact that the attackers (Weyerhaeuser and others) are themselves attempting to practice good forestry on their own lands, better than their neighbors and better than would be demanded by proposals for forest regulation. There seems to be only one logical answer; as virgin timber becomes more scarce and annual production from young growth fails to meet the demand, they can reap a more handsome profit on what virgin timber they have left and on the young timber they are growing. To the extent that other forest lands can be left unproductive, can those practicing good forestry demand a premium price for their product when the condition of scarcity becomes acute. The tax payer and timber buyer will pay the excessive cost, and the timber producer will reap the excessive profit. Right now the consumer is paying an excessively high price for very poor quality lumber when compared with the price of other goods.

The liquidating operator will go along with those who claim that all is well because it permits him to continue his destructive practice and realize all possible gain right now.

There was a previous attempt, different in nature but similar in effect, to keep timber profits high by discouraging good forest practice.

In the twenties Mr. Granger and others will well remember a season-long speaking tour by Dr. C. A. Schenck, the purpose of which was to discourage private forestry in the United States. It developed that his trip was financed by German bankers who held timber bonds. As the supply of American virgin timber decreased and the land went out of forest production, the income from these German timber bonds gradually rose, and they sought to maintain the upward trend by discouraging the practice of forestry in America. When Schenck married a rich widow and no longer felt the need for money, he came back to America and apologized for his previous trip.

The desire for future personal gain at the expense of society and the national welfare is the only apparent motive behind these attacks on better forest practice when made by outfits who themselves are striving for better forest practice on their own lands. It would help a great deal if the tax payer and the general public could be made aware of these conditions.

It seems a bit strange that Weyerhaeuser would question the integrity of the Forest Service when they themselves are our best customers. Seldom a week passes that one of their men does not call at the Station or write in for data, information, or guidance of some sort in their work.

cc: Mr. Anderson

D (I has copy)
C O P YUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
WASHINGTONI
PUBLICATIONS
Yearbook of Agriculture, 1949

November 16, 1949

Hon. Edward J. Thye
United States Senate

Dear Senator Thye:

I am grateful for your letter of October 3, giving me an opportunity to respond to the criticisms Mr. F. K. Weyerhaeuser has made of certain information contained in "Trees", the 1949 Yearbook of the Department. Mr. Weyerhaeuser uses this occasion for a belated attack on the Forest Service's 1945 Reappraisal of the forest situation in the United States. I suspect there is some correlation between this attack and the introduction of Senator Anderson's forest practice bill (S. 1820).

I am enclosing a copy of our reappraisal report, the summary and conclusions of which will be found on pages 1 to 12. This reappraisal made use of the large amount of information available from the Forest Survey and other activities of the Forest Service, and from other agencies. Such information was brought up to date, checked, and supplemented. Much new resource information also was obtained to assure an authoritative summary of the quantity, quality, distribution, growth, and drain of the timber resources in the United States proper. Especially important new information on the character of forest practices by ownership classes was obtained by a field survey.

The report shows that saw-timber drain exceeds saw-timber growth about 50 percent. As a result the Nation's saw-timber supply is still declining and, of equal significance, its quality is deteriorating. This is the central fact in our forest situation. It cannot be brushed aside by labeling it "scare propaganda". The job ahead is to correct that situation. As the Secretary's Foreword says, "the genius of American democracy can yet restore our forests ... redeem our watersheds ..."

Mr. Weyerhaeuser refers to open challenge of the basic facts of saw-timber growth and drain. I do not know what he has in mind, but in 1943-46 the American Forestry Association made an appraisal of the Nation's forest resources, and accepted with minor adjustment the Forest Service estimates of growth and drain. Following 3 days of open discussion at the American Forest Congress in October 1946, the Association submitted to its membership a 30-point forestry program, to which was attached a resume of the forest situation with a statement that "the basic findings of the two agencies are in substantial accord". Since that time it is true the National Lumber Manufacturers Association has differed from us in the interpretation of these findings.

(Over)

Mr. Weyerhaeuser now cites recent findings of our Forest Survey in Illinois to discredit the reappraisal estimates. Illinois was one of the States for which no systematic survey of forest resources was available at the time our reappraisal estimates were compiled. Field work by the American Forestry Association revealing the inadequacy of our estimates came too late to incorporate in our reappraisal. The discrepancy was known when the Association said their findings for the country as a whole were substantially in accord with ours. The error in estimate of saw-timber stand for Illinois is less than 1/2 of one percent of the national total. The situation in Illinois is not typical. For the major timber-producing regions we had data from the Forest Survey. We are anxious to refine and improve our estimates as rapidly as more reliable data become available. But there is no likelihood that such findings will materially alter the basic facts of the Nation-wide situation.

The statements from page 276, quoted by Mr. Weyerhaeuser, referred specifically to sawmill installations in excess of the sustained-yield capacity of the land in recently developed sections of southwestern Oregon. I do not believe Mr. Weyerhaeuser can produce facts to disprove those cited on the page from which he quotes.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser says forest industry believes 50 billion board feet annually will meet the Nation's requirements, and that a goal of 72 billion board feet is too high. On the basis of its Reappraisal studies, the Forest Service believes that a long-range goal of from 18 to 20 billion cubic feet annually, including 65 to 72 billion board feet, is reasonable. Over the long-term future this visualizes an expanding high-level economy and a growing population. It estimates potential domestic requirements for forest products based upon the ready availability of forest products at reasonable prices. In addition, it allows a margin for the inevitable losses from fire and forest pests, for exports, new uses and national security. Precisely what figure within this range is selected doesn't change the fact that it will take decades of good forestry, going much beyond what has been accomplished in the past, to achieve it.

Some students of the situation may think the goal should be to bring our commercial forest lands into full productivity. This would mean a still higher figure, and would require a longer time for achievement. Others, like Mr. Weyerhaeuser, may prefer a lower figure, such as 50 billion board feet. We might point out, however, that saw-timber drain in 1944 was 54 billion board feet, and that it has averaged higher than that in subsequent years. So Mr. Weyerhaeuser's goal of annual growth would appear to mean a permanent shrinkage of our forest economy. We do not think that desirable or necessary. We think an economy of abundance will be better for the Nation than one of scarcity, and we think the forest industries can share in that abundance.

I think there is some misunderstanding about the statement attributed to me to the effect that saw-timber would be exhausted in 30 years as things are going now. At any rate, to discuss how long our saw-timber will last is not the main point. In terms of growing forests, the essential thing is the adequacy of the productive growing stock, i.e., the timber capital required to yield the needed crop year after year. The reappraisal showed present saw-timber stand in the East to be little more than half what is believed necessary to sustain desirable growth goals.

Even in the Douglas-fir region of Oregon and Washington it appears that 20 years more as things were going in 1944 would carry the saw-timber volume below the amount of growing stock needed to sustain the growth goal. This is not an encouraging picture: at best it will take decades of good forestry generally applied to bring annual saw-timber growth to the desirable level.

I have covered the basic issues in Mr. Weyerhaeuser's letter, but I feel constrained to comment on some of the incidental details and questions of credit with which he is so much concerned.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser feels that the Yearbook slighted industry's progress in forestry. In addition to a section of 5 chapters and 44 pages on "Company Forests", in which many industrial forestry programs were mentioned by name, a chapter on "Industrial Forestry Associations" was prepared by Chapin Collins, formerly Director of American Forest Products Industries, Inc., in whose "newspaper office ... the Tree Farm idea was born and became a reality with the dedication of the nearby Clemons Tree Farm owned by the Weyerhaeuser Lumber Co." (p. 675). If the Tree Farm program was "treated with criminal brevity", I can only say all the copy supplied by Mr. Collins was used. The "Keep Green" and "More Trees" programs are not only treated by Mr. Collins but are mentioned on p. 661 in the chapter on "Teachers and Conservation".

Similarly, in charging that State efforts have not been recognized, Mr. Weyerhaeuser overlooks a chapter on "State Forests", prepared by Stanley Fontanna, Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Conservation and President of the Association of State Foresters. The chapter on "Cash Crops from Small Forests" discusses the assistance rendered by State foresters and extension foresters to forest landowners (pp. 174-175). The question of forest taxation is discussed in the chapter on "Large Private Holdings in the North" (pp. 269-270).

Mr. Weyerhaeuser charges that our estimate of only 1% of the privately owned commercial forest land under "high-order" forestry is ridiculous. The specifications which we set up for "high-order" cutting practices call for an intensity of forestry that will involve cultural practices, such as planting, thinning, control of grazing, and timber-stand improvement, wherever needed, as well as the best types of harvest cutting to achieve and sustain the full productive capacity of the land. Such an intensity of forestry has not been economically feasible as a general rule in the past. We do not believe the Western Pine Association data which Mr. Weyerhaeuser cites to support his charge took any cognizance of such "high-order" forestry. The text on page 277, to which Mr. Weyerhaeuser refers, says, "Under the rating system used, the 39 percent of operating area (in the West) rated at least fair was a measure of definite accomplishment. It indicated that much of the area received forestry treatment about as intensive as was practical, considering current economic feasibility."

Mr. Weyerhaeuser challenges our estimate that 2000 farm foresters are needed. His calculation is based on the erroneous assumption that the 650 counties now included in farm forest management projects are being adequately served. Experience with this highly successful form of assistance shows that a project forester can help about 100 woodland owners a year. Even if only one-half of the 4 million small owners in the country were in need of assistance, and even if these were helped on the average only once in ten years, it would take 2000 foresters to do the job.

4-Senator Thye

This number of foresters to serve the 261 million acres of small forest holdings does not seem large when we note that most of the 2500 foresters now in private employment are working for the lumber and pulp industries which together control only 51 million acres of land, only about half of which is as yet afforded any management. I appreciate, however, that it is probably difficult for Mr. Weyerhaeuser and perhaps other large forest owners to fully realize the vital part that owners of small forest properties must have in building and keeping a really adequate forest resource.

In referring to the area in need of planting, Mr. Weyerhaeuser confuses figures on the acreage of poorly stocked and denuded forest land, of submarginal farm land that should be converted to forest, and of a suggested goal for forest planting in a certain number of years. Since Mr. Weyerhaeuser questions Forest Service data, I might refer to findings of the American Forestry Association.

When recommending the planting of "not less than 20 million acres in the next 12 years", it stated, "There are approximately 73 million acres of poorly stocked and deforested areas, and 20 million acres more or less marginal farm lands where planting for soil conservation and wood production is needed ... Planting on the scale recommended will create new wealth for the Nation and hasten the balancing of the forest budget." If planting "creates new wealth" it would be folly to envisage no further planting after 12 years. The Natural Resources Planning Board in 1942 suggested a 32-million acre planting program to cover most urgent needs in 25 years. Our own recommendation to the 81st Congress has been for a program of cooperation with the States sufficient to plant 1 million acres of State and private forest land a year in addition to a 15-year plan to plant 4 million acres on the National Forests.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser closes on the theme, "The Forest outlook is encouraging, not alarming", with the clear implication that the situation is well in hand, that there is no need for larger Federal appropriations or additional public action, and that the future will take care of itself.

Yes, the situation is encouraging if we can be content in the knowledge that, as a Nation, we are doing considerably better in forestry than a previous generation, without considering whether that is good enough. But the situation is alarming when we realize that all that we have done thus far has not reversed the trend of forest depletion and deterioration.

The outlook may be encouraging when viewed from the position of a large timber owner with a good forestry program of his own. But it may well be alarming to the consumer who sees lumber prices 3 times higher than they were before the war and twice as high as all other building materials, and who somehow can't shake himself loose from the old-fashioned idea that such a state of affairs stems from scarcity, not abundance.

To me a serious aspect of Mr. Weyerhaeuser's letter is his closing challenge of what amounts to the sincerity and motives of the Forest Service. At another point he implies a question as to the professional competence of the many field men who participated in the Forest Service Reappraisal Project. Perhaps all I need to say in answer is that those who know the personnel of the Forest Service best generally find quite the opposite to be true.

5-Senator Thye

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss the subject matter of Mr. Weyerhaeuser's letter with you in person.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser's letter is returned herewith.

Very sincerely yours,

(S) Lyle F. Watts

LYLE F. WATTS, Chief

Enclosures

Watts, Lyle Ford

Biog

Belong of Feb. 24, 1936:

"Lyle Watts named head of 'North Central Reg.'"

App'd Regional Forester R-6, Feb. 18, 1939.

Legal resident, Iowa.

Born Nov. 18, 1890

Entered F.S. as Forest Assistant, 1913

(2 years in chg Dept. of Forestry, Utah College of Agriculture) 1920-3

"demonstrated unusual organizational ability in the direction, supervision, and coordination of the various activities, and proved his qualifications in conducting unusually difficult and important problems."

Iowa State College, B.S. in Forestry.

Field asst. + on fire patrol, seasons of 1911 + 12. Entered 1913 on

Deputy + supervisor on Boonville, W. Va., + Idaho

N.F.'s, 1918-26. R-4 office of Timber Management 26-8

LYLE F. WATTS

Forest Service career officer

Sixth Chief Forester, 1943-52

Expanded wartime activities ended.

Planned effort to shift administration of National Forests from custodial to managed-property basis began.

Federal-state cooperation in forest management and protection was greatly expanded through various acts and amendments.

Timber Resource Review began.

Lyle F. Watts, a career Forest Service officer, became Chief in January 1943. The first two years of his administration were devoted largely to the support of the effort to produce critically needed forest products for the war and for essential civilian uses. He later became chairman of the advisory committee on forestry for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and he helped organize the Forestry Division of the FAO.

Among notable achievements and legislation enacted during Mr. Watts' years as Chief:

- In 1944, the Sustained-Yield Forest Management Act provided for federal-private sustained-yield units under which federal stumpage could be sold to responsible purchasers without competitive bidding, in order to support communities and industries dependent on the federal forest resource.
- In 1950, the Cooperative Forest Management Act expanded and replaced the earlier Norris-Doxey Act to provide cooperation between the Department of Agriculture and the states in supplying technical services to private land owners.
- In 1947, the Forest Pest Control Act established the policy that the Government had responsibility to protect all forest lands, regardless of ownership, from destructive insects and diseases.
- In 1952, the Timber Resource Review was started.

Chief Watts retired in June, 1952.

Lyle F. Watts

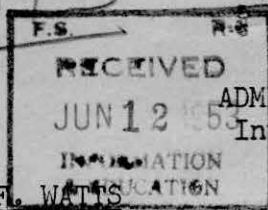
Richard E. McArdle

✓ Lyle F. Watts

See Press Release R6-N14 of June-1952

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W #715
June 8, 1953



ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN
Intermountain Region



No. 20

DOCTOR LYLE F. WATTS

Our former Chief returned to his old home region last week to receive high honors from Utah State Agricultural College. At the annual commencement exercises Monday, May 25, Lyle received the hood of honorary Doctor of Science for "distinguished and effective leadership in advancing the conservation of forests in the United States and internationally."

Dean Lewis M. Turner of the U.S.A.C. School of Forestry, who presented Lyle to the President of the Board of Regents, said:

'Mr. President: I have the honor to present Lyle F. Watts, retired Chief of the United States Forest Service. As a public servant Mr. Watts has devoted his life to the conservation of our heritage of forests, streams, and scenic grandeur, a service for which he was recently granted the distinguished service award of the United States Department of Agriculture 'for distinguished and effective leadership in advancing the conservation of forests in the United States and internationally.'

'Because of him, the groves, 'God's first temples', offer a greener sanctuary. Because of him the wild denizens of forest, mountain, stream and lake are more abundant and more secure. Because of him our watersheds better conserve and store winter snows and summer rains.

'For all these contributions to the nation's wealth, health and scenic beauty, and for his service in organizing the Utah State School of Forestry, I take pleasure in recommending on behalf of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees that he be granted the degree of Doctor of Science.'

Lyle began his Forest Service career in the Intermountain Region and took a year out from government service to organize and head the School of Forestry at the Utah State Agricultural College.

After his 'graduation' Lyle took time out from the weightier matters of his trip to the Region to visit the Regional office. He left with us the following thoughts:

'I foresee an emphasis on the evaluation of the protection forests, with much greater attention to the details of timbering and other uses, particularly on municipal watershed lands. This will call for a broadened research program, with an ever-widening scope of management to cover these vital forest areas, with more intensive forest practices than ever before.'

Alert and keen-minded as ever, and right up to date on national affairs, Lyle is still vitally interested in conservation. He is now Oregon secretary of the Izaak Walton League and is making his influence felt throughout the northwest.

We take this means of extending congratulations and best wishes for continued outstanding leadership and success in forest conservation in America.

THE ASHLEY REPORTS

The National Forest boundary realignment between the Wasatch, Uinta and Ashley Forests, effective April 1, 1953, added most of the Granddaddy Lakes district of the Wasatch and the Duchesne district of the Uinta to the Ashley National Forest. The Granddaddy Lakes district was divided between Ranger Palm of Altonah and Ranger Bishop of Duchesne. Ranger Bishop, his wife and family are new and welcome members to the Ashley group.

The Fort Bridger district of the Ashley, along with its administrator, Ranger Robert Hoag, is now part of the Wasatch National Forest.

Contractor John See of Ogden, Utah is building a modern Ranger Station dwelling in Vernal, Utah. Plans call for the structure to be complete and occupied by Ranger Glen A. Lambert by August 1 of this year.

During the past winter the Ashley completed construction of a six-car garage, sign shop, seed room, and storeroom on its newly acquired warehouse lot in east Vernal. The acre-lot has also been fenced during the past year. Two portable CCC buildings were utilized in constructing the improvements on the area.

C&M Supervisor Ward Evans and his crew constructed a bridge over Farm Creek early this spring. The road crew is now occupied on road maintenance work.

Ranger Glen A. Lambert is completing a 1200-acre reseeding project on Diamond Mountain this spring.

In April this year, Chief McArdle honored Ranger Lambert with a Certificate of Merit Award for his leadership in the Safety Program on the Ashley National Forest.

Louise Fay Hirsch is currently directing activities on the Manila district. The young lady made her appearance on the forest January 27, 1953 as the first child for Ruth and Ernie.

Administrative Assistant Olpin spent the first week of June in the R.O. on JLA detail.

Howard J. Makela, Assistant Ranger, is serving a 70-day detail to R-1 on insect control work.

The Ashley and Wasatch will have two Trail Riders of the Wilderness Area groups this summer. The first trip is scheduled for July 25, the second for August 1.

Although winter on the Ashley was comparatively light, a cool spring has held the snow pack in place, insuring an ample supply of irrigation water for the season.

KEEP IDAHO GREEN

According to Dale Nelson, an Associated Press writer, a new idea to KEEP IDAHO GREEN has popped up. It was the "brainchild" of Emmett, Idaho sheep rancher Robert Naylor. After observing that log-hauling tractors left natural seed beds, Naylor thought - why not put seed hoppers on these tractors so they could reseed an area while logging it? The vibrations of the machines could shake the seeds into the tracks. Naylor is the present chairman of the KEEP IDAHO GREEN committee which was formed seven years ago. Operating now on an \$8000 annual budget, they're going "great guns". Our collective Forest Service hat is off to this fine movement, dedicated to fire prevention, natural resource conservation and land restoration.

Lyle Watts
Form 295 (Revised Feb. 1946)
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
(M)
Oregonian
(Name of paper)
Portland
(Where published)
2/21
(Date of issue)
L. K. Mays
(Sent by)

Watts Says Forest Roads Needed to Reach Timber

"Investment" of \$25,000,000 annually for four years in access roads as proposed by the U. S. forest service appears unlikely at present, though some increase in road funds is expected of congress, Chief Forester Lyle F. Watts commented here Friday.

"The Pacific Northwest needs main stem roads more than any other area," stated Watts, who was regional forester here for three years until 1943.

"We'll get some increase over the past year's \$10,000,000 for roads, but it should be known that \$8,000,000 of it goes for maintaining roads we already have," he said.

Half of the lumber cut on national forests is from Oregon, Washington and northern California, he pointed out. But four forests in northern California have hardly been touched, because of the lack of roads.

Cut Increase Possible

"We cut about 4,700,000,000 board feet of timber now from all our forests, but if we could reach into the back country this could be raised to around 6,500,000,000 feet," he said.

The forest service chief lauded the co-operative sustained yield program as the most important legislation in forestry since he went to Washington, D. C., from here nine years ago.

"But the present market picture with its high timber prices and stiff competition makes these units harder to work out," he said. "When conditions level off more progress can be made."

The forest service has established thus far five so-called federal units, including ones for Grays Harbor, Washington, and Lake county, Oregon, which reserve certain stands for local industry. Only co-operative timber unit is with the Simpson Lumber company, out of Shelton, Wash.



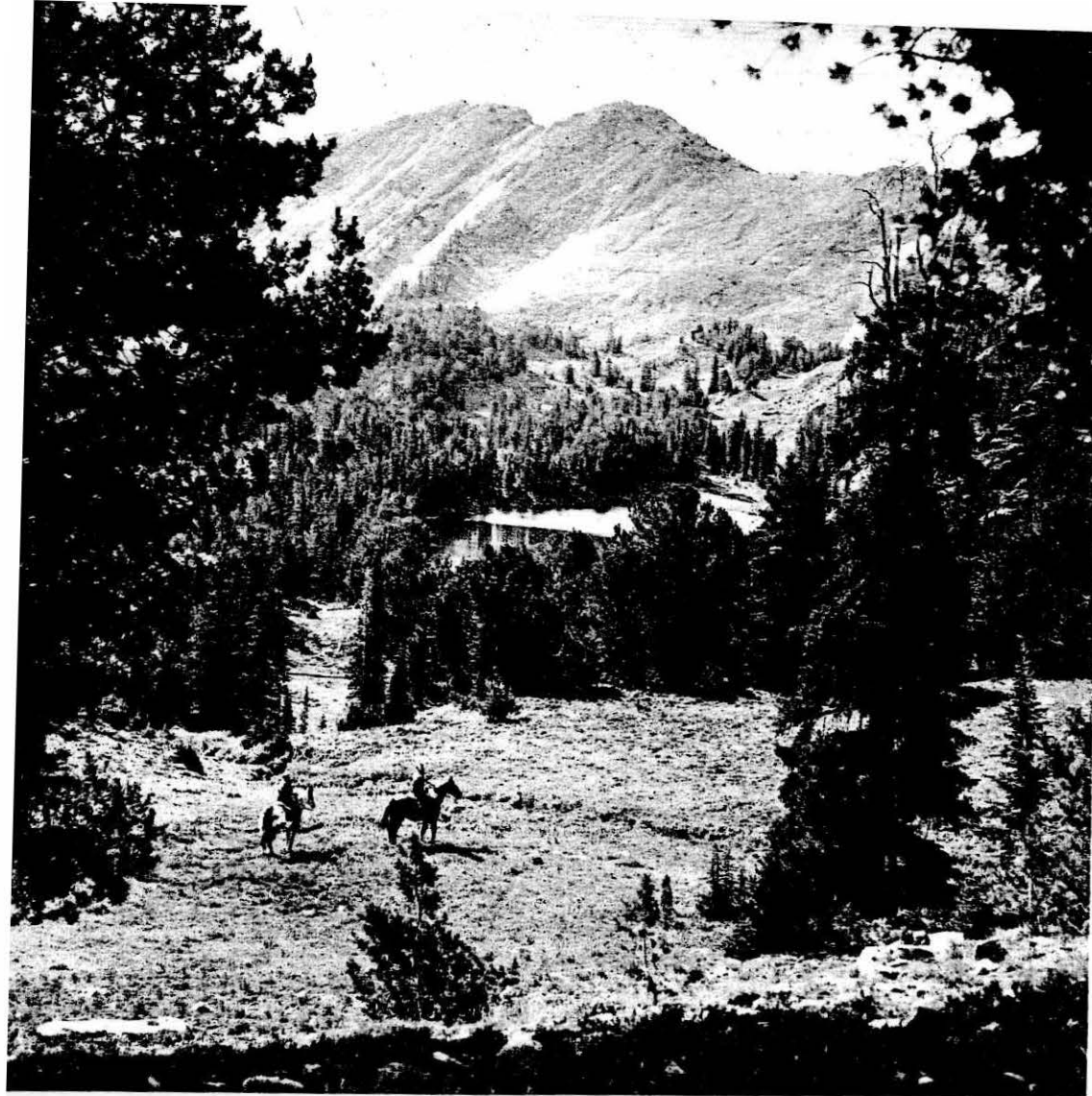
LYLE F. WATTS

Chief forester for bigger cut

Watts was spending only a day here, as he will devote most of this season's field trip to southern California, Arizona and New Mexico, where the worst fires have been occurring.

"We spend more per acre on fire protection in southern California than anywhere else," he stated. "Thousands of acres of what we call elfin forests have been burned. You call it brush land, but it's important for its watershed and range values."

The visiting agency head renewed acquaintance with numerous former aides and with the new regional forester here, T. Herbert Stone, who served under Watts when he was chief of the Milwaukee, Wis., region.



our water and much of our food depend on conserving woodlands — like these in the Rockies

Wilderness Boss

RICHARD L. NEUBERGER

rests at the
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to save them

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Lyle Ford Watts,
United States

had "a hankering for" after he retired from the White House.

The millions who invade the National Forests this summer will quickly see the problems of their host, the boss forest ranger of the U.S.A. Desolate acres of cut-over stumps in the near-by foothills will tell them the gravity of these problems. Charred remnants of magnificent groves will emphasize the peril that confronts Watts' domain whenever lightning forks from the sky or a camper is careless with a match.

Conservation — or Trouble

"TO BUILD homes for veterans and for other domestic uses," says Watts, "we'll need about fourteen billion cubic feet of lumber each year. Fire and insects and disease destroy two billion feet annually. Yet we have a growth of only eleven billion feet. This means our forests are being depleted at the rate of five billion cubic feet every twelve months. That's a pretty deep hole to dig into the laps of our

the population, Watts contends that a six-point program ought to be adopted. This is it:

1. Forests must be selectively logged, so that only certain trees are felled.
2. Sufficient trees must be spared in order that the land will surely be re-seeded.
3. Forest-fire protection must be more vigilant and intensive.
4. Young timber must not be cut.
5. Logging methods which drag chains and cables against uncut trees must be prevented.
6. The American people must be conservation conscious and aware of the importance of safeguarding our great natural resources.



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'em 'peared very tough," the old-timer recalls.

But as Mark Twain discovered in the Nevada gold fields, the most resourceful men often resemble clerks or bookkeepers. Wainwright went on to lead the heroic resistance on Bataan and Corregidor — and Watts has developed his own brand of toughness in the Forest Service.

Once after jogging across the high ranges for many weeks, Watts recommended that cattle grazing be curtailed to save grass in the National Forests.

Angry ranchers met to protest. The slender man with glasses seemed an easy object to overcome. He sat huddled inconspicuously in a corner. Finally, a towering rancher thrust a chin within an inch of Watts' face. "What do you know about the range anyhow, mister?" he inquired.

He Silenced Them

Watts rose and looked at the map of the Northern Rockies. He began pointing to lonely passes and remote uplands. "Ever been up through those steep draws in the divide?" he asked.

The cattleman reluctantly shook his head.

"Well, I have," continued Watts. "The soil is eroding because the grass is gone. Cattle — your cattle, by the way — have chewed off all the forage. Maybe you'd better hit the saddle a little before you ask people what they know about the range."

The assembled ranchers said no more, and Watts' recommendations went through.

The job held by Lyle Watts is unique in American life. "The Chief Forester of the United States," says Representative Mike Mansfield of Montana, a former forest lookout himself, "is the trustee of the most precious natural resources belonging to the American people."

Summer Inspection

WHEN sultry heat begins to cook Washington's parks and sidewalks, Watts stuffs his forest-green shirt and breeches into an old suitcase and boards a train headed west. And the word spreads through the woods by "moccasin telegraph" that the Chief Forester has arrived. Rangers jog down out of the solitudes to report on timber conditions, range prospects and the feed available for wildlife.

Back in Washington his office is blanketed with color photographs of places where he grew up in the woods corps—the weathered bunch grass of the Idaho National Forest, a pine slope selectively logged in Oregon, white-faced steers grazing below a cliff in Montana.

Lyle Watts waves toward the pictures and his thin face creases in a friendly smile. "Sorta makes you feel good all over," he confesses, "to know your country trusts you with all of this. And the thing that keeps you on your toes is — will the next generation think you've done all right by

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LYLE F. WATTS
INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Release - Immediate

Washington, D. C., January 8, 1943

Lyle F. Watts Named
Forest Service Chief

JAN 16 1943
REFERRED TO
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, and in recent months an assistant to the Secretary, as Chief of the Forest Service.

His appointment fills the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox, who was Chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939. Earle H. Clapp has been in charge as Acting Chief.

Mr. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He received the Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree at the Iowa State College in 1913; was granted the professional degree of Master of Forestry in 1928. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913, as technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

Mr. Watts has had broad training for the assignment as Chief of the Forest Service. His experience includes service in all phases of the administrative branch of the Forest Service, from that of fire guard to Regional Forester in two Regions; several years in the research branch, including four years as Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; and two years in the field of forestry education during which time he organized the School of Forestry at the Utah Agricultural College. Mr. Watts' work in the Forest Service has been in four of the nine National Forest regions. His early work was in the Intermountain Region, with headquarters at Ogden, Utah. His research experience was in

the Northern Rocky Mountain region with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. In 1936 he was appointed Regional Forester for the North Central Region, which includes the National Forests of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he was transferred to the post of Regional Forester in the Northern Pacific Region, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

For the past two years Mr. Watts has been Chairman of the Department of Agriculture committee dealing with post-war planning for the Pacific Northwest.

Because of his wide experience in employing, organizing, and dealing with skilled and unskilled workers, and his wide contacts with livestock men, construction outfits and the public, he was brought to Washington last fall to assist the Secretary in the activities of the Department related to farm labor.

Secretary Wickard said, "Mr. Watts' broad experience and understanding of the country's need for protecting and maintaining the productivity of our forest land will be of particular value in wartime. He has a sound grasp of a program designed to meet the requirements of this emergency as well as the long range needs of the nation in conserving and developing its forest lands."

FOREST SERVICE

Washington Office Information Digest, January 9, 1943

(CONFIDENTIAL-SERVICE)Lyle F. Watts Named New Chief

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, and in recent months an assistant to the Secretary, as Chief of the Forest Service.

His appointment fills the vacancy caused by the death of F. A. Silcox, who was Chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939. Earle H. Clapp has been in charge as Acting Chief since Mr. Silcox's death.

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President Roosevelt's Message Includes Praise for the Workers

The following excerpts are from the President's message to the 78th Congress:

As spokesmen for the United States Government, you and I take off our hats to those responsible for our American production—to the owners, managers and supervisors, to the draftsmen and engineers, to the workers—men and women—in factories and arsenals and shipyards and mines and mills and forests and railroads and highways.

We take off our hats to the farmers who have faced an unprecedented task of feeding not only a great Nation but a great part of the world.

We take off our hats to all the loyal, anonymous, untiring men and women who have worked in private employment and in Government and who have endured rationing and other stringencies, with good humor and good will. We take off our hats to all Americans who have contributed magnificently to our common cause....

In this war of survival we must keep before our minds not only the evil things we fight against, but the good things we are fighting for. We fight to retain a great past—we fight to gain a greater future.... A tremendous, costly, long-enduring task in peace as well as in war is still ahead of us. But, as we face that continuing task, we may know that the state of this Nation is good—the heart of this Nation is sound—the spirit of this Nation is strong—the faith of this Nation is eternal.

Printed Material for 1943 Wartime Forest Fire Prevention Campaign to be Ready Soon
Orders for printing Wartime Forest Fire Prevention Campaign material have been placed and the Government Printing Office has informally promised that it will have the material off the presses and on its way to the various Regional Foresters by February 15 at the latest. The orders call for 12 million two-color 3"x5" envelope stuffers, 7½ million two-color 2½"x7" fire rules cards (on cardboard), 300 thousand 22"x28" 4-color posters (on paper), 14 thousand 11"x28" 4-color car cards (on cardboard), 5 thousand 4-color 24-sheet billboard posters, 100 thousand black and white fag bag stickers, and 100 thousand black and white fag bag tags. In addition the bids will provide for optional increases, in case additional funds become available, of 1,300,000 stuffers, 5,000,000 fire rules cards, 18,500 car cards, and 100,000 each of the fag bag stickers and tags.

The above order includes 101 change plates and 26 name strips, thus providing for names of many individual States on the signature strip for all of the above items.

Arrangements have also been made so that the National Park Service and the Office of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior may use our basic design with their own names rather than ours in the signature strip.

President Roosevelt Will Speak to American Farmers

The Department of Agriculture has announced that President Roosevelt has accepted an invitation to speak by radio to American farmers on an all network program on Tuesday January 12—the day the President designated as Farm Mobilization Day. The President's address will launch a nationwide drive by the Department of Agriculture and other federal and state agencies to enlist every farmer in the United States in the 1943 food production program.

In addition to the President, other internationally known leaders of the United Nations will speak from England, and Washington. An American farmer and a farm woman will be heard from Chicago. The program will emphasize the reliance of the United Nations on United States farmers for food and fiber to win the war.

(USDA Press Release)

TIMBER TOPICS

No. 7

Published by the Allis-Chalmers Mfg. Co., Milwaukee, Wis. through the cooperation of Allis-Chalmers Dealers

March - April, 1945

Douglas Fir Conscripts Plywood for Variety of Applications

Douglas Fir Packaging Supplies Large Part of Plywood Production

Plywood Serves in Everything from Pullman to Cootie Delousers

The nation's war effort enters a new phase—the invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe—a break through the outer defenses of Japan—so enters an era of unexampled demand for Douglas fir plywood.

Now the armed forces are clamoring for fir plywood for packaging supplies that must reach the front in a constant stream; for railroad cars and trucks in which materials are shipped across this country and across the world; for Pullman cars to carry our troops; for barges and boats in amphibious operations; for barracks and other structures to be quickly assembled in the theatres of operations. These are only a few of the applications of the gamut of applications for plywood conjured up by the military conscripting of the resources to speed total defeat of the totalitarians. But in the shipping and packaging of supplies for the army, navy and air forces took a sizable portion and a half square feet of plywood produced last year.

Logging Prospect Does 'See Guv'nor'

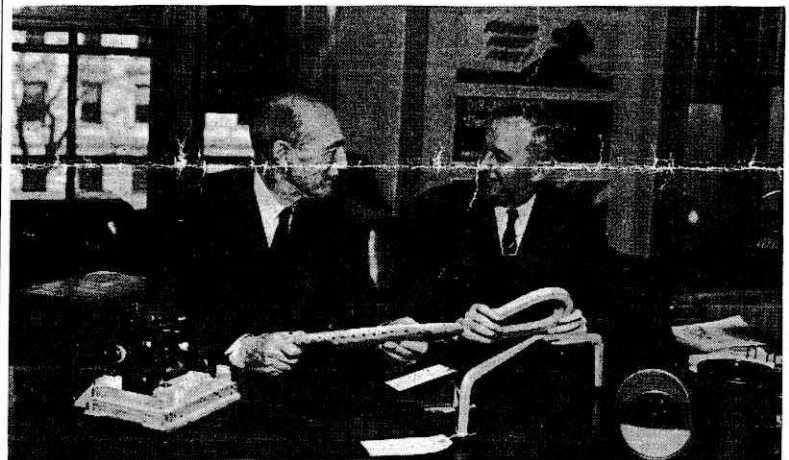
A Montanan, fresh from the plains and mountains, wanted to become a calk-booted Oregon logger. He applied at three logging concerns near Cottage Grove, Ore., where each time he was told—"Sure thing, see th' governor."

Unaware that "the governor" in lumbercamp talk is the "strawboss," the man appeared recently at the state capitol, gained an interview with Governor Earl Snell, and anxiously asked for "clearance" to become a logger.

It has been focused on the importance of the shipping containers. So perhaps a description of some of these cases is warranted before reviewing briefly other ways the military utilizes the material to help speed victory. (Douglas fir plywood today is manufactured under WPB allocation, with the great bulk of the output produced expressly for the army, navy, Maritime Commission and Lend-Lease; the remainder is available only for those war-necessary applications warranting high priority ratings.)

Airplane Wing Crate

Typical of the way plywood is being used in packaging for the air forces, is that reported by the public relations office at Sacramento Air Depot. There, fir plywood has long been a standby for crating shipments and making various



"What hath wood wrought" could be the caption that best describes the articles being examined by Gifford Pinchot, 80, (left), pioneer Chief Forester, and Lyle F. Watts, present Chief of the U. S. Forest Service. The purpose of their informal inspection of the wood products, developed and improved by the Forest Service scientists, was in connection with the celebrating of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Service.

F.D.R. Congratulates U.S. Forest Service on 40th Anniversary

President Says Economic Future of America Depends on Future Forests

President Roosevelt, in a 300 word congratulatory letter addressed to the Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on the occasion of the for-

a right to be proud—all of you, every member of the Service—for the Service has done great things. . . . It has made forestry known to America, it has turned many enemies of forestry into staunch friends, it has won the confidence and cooperation of the people, and it has led the way in making American forestry an outstanding achievement."

Forest Chief Predicts

Chief Watts, after reading the President's letter, predicted that 40 years hence technical advances will

*I
Information
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*Letter of 4/28/42
Corrected Copy
sent to Chief, F.S.*

1942

LYLE F. WATTS

Carroll County

Lyle F. Watts was born at _____, Iowa, November 18, 1890. After graduating from Iowa State College with a B. S. degree in forestry, he entered the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in 1913. He spent two years as forest assistant on what is now the Bridger National Forest, Wyoming, *and Longhorn National Forest, Colorado.* and three years as forest examiner on the Wasatch and Cache National Forests, Utah, and Idaho, and the Bridger National Forest, assisting in timber survey work and grazing activities. On the Cache National Forest he also ~~took~~ *had* charge of production of trees for forest planting at Pocatello Nursery.

In 1918 Mr. Watts became deputy forest supervisor of the Boise National Forest, Idaho, ~~supervising timber surveys and timber sales. In~~ 1920 he was promoted to the position of forest supervisor, acting in that capacity for three months. From late in 1920 to 1926, he served successively as supervisor of the Weiser and Idaho National Forests in Idaho. On March 1, 1926 he was transferred to the Intermountain Regional Office at Ogden, Utah, as assistant in forest management. The regional office has jurisdiction over Forest Service activities in Utah, southern Idaho, western Wyoming, and Nevada.

Mr. Watts left the Forest Service in 1928 to ~~become~~ *organize* Dean of the School of Forestry of the Utah Agricultural College, ~~a department which he organized.~~ A year later he reentered the Forest Service to serve at the Intermountain Forest Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah, where he directed silvics investigations and inaugurated important erosion-streamflow studies in southern Idaho. ~~While engaged in this work, he demonstrated unusual~~ ~~organizational ability.~~ On August 1, 1931 he was transferred to the

Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station, with headquarters at Missoula, Montana. ^{As Director of} ~~In 1935 he was made director of~~ ^{the} Station, ^{ed} supervising forest research activities, including silvics, range, forest products, forest economics, and forest influence investigations, and ^{ed} coordinating the research of the Station with that of other agencies in related fields.

The following year he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as Regional Forester in charge of the North Central Region, embracing National Forests in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, where a large program of public land acquisition and reforestation was under way. On April 1, 1939 he became Regional Forester in charge of the North Pacific Region (Washington and Oregon), with headquarters at Portland.

Mr. Watts is a member of Alpha Zeta, honorary agricultural fraternity; Phi Kappa Phi, honorary science fraternity; the Society of American Foresters, the American Forestry Association, ~~the Ecological Society of America~~, ^{the American Association for the Advancement of Science}, ~~the Northwestern Scientific Association~~, and the Utah Academy of Science.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

F.S. R-6
RECEIVED
APR 27 1942
REFERRED TO
PUBLIC RELATIONS

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE FORESTER
AND REFER TO



WASHINGTON

I-Information
General

F.S. R-6
RECEIVED
APR 27 1942
Education and
Information
Ans.....

April 22, 1942

Regional Forester
Portland, Oregon

Dear Sir:

DM *HLW*
For our information files we want a biographical statement on Lyle Watts. We'd appreciate your reviewing the attached statement prepared for this purpose, making any corrections needed, and amplifying it with additional pertinent data.

Very truly yours,

DANA PARKINSON, Chief,
Division of Information and Education

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. E. Randall".

By: CHARLES E. RANDALL, Acting.

Enclosure

TO TAKE NEW JOB

Watts Sees Object Lesson in Great Lakes Area

Watts
(Picture on This Page) 139

After a "tour" of the Great Lakes area, where the country has been practically denuded of trees by unrestrained logging operations, a better realization of the needs of conserving the country's forests may be obtained, in the opinion of Lyle F. Watts, new regional forester here, who arrived Friday from Milwaukee, Wis., to take over his duties.

Mr. Watts was named to succeed C. J. Buck, for many years regional forester here, who left for Washington, D. C., to become an assistant to the chief forester.

Service Replants Trees

In the Great Lakes area, where Watts was regional forester, the big problem is one of rehabilitating the forests and about 100,000 acres a year are being replanted, he said.

Here, on the contrary, he pointed out, the job as he sees it is in promoting and perfecting the sustained yield idea so that this area will continue to have a wealth of forests as one of its most valuable resources for centuries to come.

"We need to avoid the mistakes made in the Lake states and thereby avoid the consequent upset to the lumbering industry caused by the cutting out of forests," he said.

"As I see it, the co-operative approach, with the private owners, states and federal government participating, may be the answer to the conservation of our forests."

Watts Iowa Alumnus

Watts is not new to the coast, as he went to high school in Bellingham some years ago and about that time worked on a ranch in Yakima one summer and spent a summer working in the Carnation condensery at Mount Vernon.

Watts is married and has a son and daughter. His wife and two children will come west to join him later.

He is a graduate of Iowa State college. He has served as supervisor of the Weiser national forest in Idaho and of the Idaho national forest, assistant chief of the division of forest management at Ogden, head of the department of forestry of Utah Agricultural college, head of the silvicultural research at Ogden and director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment station at Missoula, Mont.

From the latter job he went to the position of regional forester of the north central region with headquarters at Milwaukee.

Top Woodsman



Information
~~Press Release~~

Big file.

Mar. 1939

LYLE F. WATTS NAMED HEAD OF NORTH PACIFIC FOREST REGION

The appointment of Lyle F. Watts as Regional Forester for National Forest Region Six, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon, was announced recently by F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Watts has been serving as Regional Forester of the North Central Region at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Watts succeeds C. J. Buck, who is being transferred to the Washington Office of the Forest Service as general inspector and special assistant to Chief F. A. Silcox.

Watts
Regional Forester Watts is a graduate of the School of Forestry at Iowa State College, having received there the degrees of B.S. in Forestry and Master of Forestry. Since his graduation he has been constantly engaged in forestry work, including 23 years in the Federal service, during which time he has had wide experience in scientific and administrative work. Before his permanent appointment to the Forest Service in 1913 he saw wide service in the western forests in scientific research, and was in charge of the laboratory in forest planting for the Iowa State College. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913 as a technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

In 1915 and 1916, Mr. Watts directed timber survey work on the Wyoming and Wasatch National Forests. In 1917 he was assigned to the Cache National Forest, Idaho, as forest examiner in charge of forest planting at the Pocatello Nursery. From May 1918 to April 1920 he was deputy supervisor on the Boise National Forest, Idaho. From 1920 to 1926 he served as supervisor of the Weiser and Idaho National Forests; on March 1, 1926 he was transferred to the Regional Office at Ogden, Utah as assistant in forest management.

Watts

Information
~~Press Release~~

Big file.

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The appointment of Lyle F. Watts as Regional Forester for National Forest Region Six, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon, was announced recently by F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Watts has been serving as Regional Forester of the North Central Region at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Watts succeeds C. J. Buck, who is being transferred to the Washington Office of the Forest Service as general inspector and special assistant to Chief F. A. Silcox.

Watts
Regional Forester Watts is a graduate of the School of Forestry at Iowa State College, having received there the degrees of B.S. in Forestry and Master of Forestry. Since his graduation he has been constantly engaged in forestry work, including 23 years in the Federal service, during which time he has had wide experience in scientific and administrative work. Before his permanent appointment to the Forest Service in 1913 he saw wide service in the western forests in scientific research, and was in charge of the laboratory in forest planting for the Iowa State College. He entered the Forest Service July 1, 1913 as a technical assistant on the Wyoming National Forest.

In 1915 and 1916, Mr. Watts directed timber survey work on the Wyoming and Wasatch National Forests. In 1917 he was assigned to the Cache National Forest, Idaho, as forest examiner in charge of forest planting at the Pocatello Nursery. From May 1918 to April 1920 he was deputy supervisor on the Boise National Forest, Idaho. From 1920 to 1926 he served as supervisor of the Weiser and Idaho National Forests; on March 1, 1926 he was transferred to the Regional Office at Ogden, Utah as assistant in forest management.

Watts

7032 Plankinton Building,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
February 11, 1939.

MS
Professor G. B. MacDonald,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

Dear Professor MacDonald:

Reference is made to your letter of January 31.

The following data roughly outlines the work I have done since entering the Iowa State College in the fall of 1909:

Graduated with a B.S. in forestry in 1913.

Field Assistant on timber survey work during the summer of 1911, with the United States Forest Service in Utah.

Fire Guard on the Superior National Forest in Minnesota during the summer of 1912.

First permanent appointment in the United States Forest Service, July 1, 1913. Timber survey work on the Wyoming National Forest.

From July 1, 1913 - January, 1916 - timber survey and timber sales work in the Intermountain Region of the United States Forest Service.

From January, 1916 - May, 1917 - forest nursery and planting work in the Intermountain Region of the United States Forest Service.

From May, 1917 - February, 1920 - Assistant Supervisor, Boise National Forest in Idaho.

From February, 1920²⁰ - February, 1922 - Supervisor, Weiser National Forest in Idaho.

From February, 1922 - May, 1926 - Supervisor, Idaho National Forest in Idaho.

From May, 1926 - July, 1928 - Assistant Chief, Division of Forest Management, Intermountain Region of United States Forest Service, Ogden, Utah.

From July, 1928 - September, 1929 - in charge of Department of Forestry in the School of Agriculture, Utah Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.

From September, 1929 - July, 1931 / 0 in charge silvicultural research, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah.

From July, 1931 - April, 1936 - Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Missoula, Montana.

From April, 1936 to date - Regional Forester, North Central Region, United States Forest Service, with headquarters at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In my present position, I represent the Federal Forest Service in the eight North Central States. The work consists of the management of 12 National Forests, including a gross area of approximately 20,000,000 acres, of which only about 8,000,000 acres are in Federal ownership. The primary job in this connection is the development and rehabilitation of badly depleted forest property. Reforestation is going ahead at the rate of approximately 100,000 acres a year. Recreational areas and wildlife habitat are being developed or improved. Additional land is being purchased at the rate of approximately 250,000 acres per year.

The other phase of my work has to do with Federal cooperation and guidance in state and private forestry. This phase is perhaps most important in the long run because the bulk of the forest land is in private ownership and a very large percentage of it is destined for State ownership and management. In fact, State holdings already exceed the Federal holdings in the Region.

Very sincerely yours,

LYLE F. WATTS

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Release - Immediate

Washington, D.C., November 5, 1942

Lyle F. Watts Named to Coordinate
U.S.D.A. Farm Labor Activities

- - -

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard announced today the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, Regional Forester from Portland, Oregon, as an assistant to him with a special assignment to coordinate farm labor activities of the Department. Mr. Watts is taking over his new duties immediately.

Mr. Watts, who has been in the U. S. Forest Service since 1913, has had wide experience in employing, organizing, and handling both skilled and unskilled workmen, in dealing with livestock men, farmers, construction crews, and the public in general. In his work with the Forest Service he has gained an intimate knowledge of labor conditions in the lumber industry of the Nation. He was associated for 6 years with the late F. A. Silcox, who was chief of the Forest Service from 1933 to 1939 and who was widely known for his work in the field of labor.

Mr. Watts, who was born in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, in 1890, is a graduate of Iowa State College. From 1918 to 1928 he served as supervisor in national forests in Idaho and in forest management work in the Inter Mountain area. In 1928 he organized the School of Forestry at Utah Agricultural College. He re-entered the Forest Service the following year, and served successively at Ogden, Utah and Missoula, Mont. In 1936 he became Regional Forester for the North Central Region, embracing national forests in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In 1939 he became Regional Forester of the Northern Pacific Region with headquarters at Portland, Ore., and has held that post up to the present.

- - N - -

*Compiled for
Dick Neuberger 9/28/49*

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA
Regional Forester and Assistant Regional Foresters

Lyle F. Watts, Regional Forester, in charge, North Pacific Region, Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Native of Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa. Entered Forest Service, Sevier National Forest, Region 4, as field assistant under temporary appointment. Education: B. S. Iowa State College, major forestry, 1913; M. S. Iowa State College, 1928. Probationary appointment as field assistant, Wyoming N. F., 7/1/13. Deputy Forest Supervisor, Boise N. F., 5/1/18; Forest Supervisor, Boise N. F., 1/16/20. Forest Supervisor Weiser N. F., 4/1/20; Forest Supervisor, Idaho N. F., 1/16/22. Staff officer, Division of Timber Management, Ogden, Utah, 3/1/26. Left Forest Service 1928 and organized the School of Forestry, Utah Agricultural College. Re-entered Forest Service as Senior Silviculturist, Great Basin Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah, 9/1/29. Transferred to Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station, 8/1/31. Director of Northern Rocky Mountain Forest Experiment Station, 11/1/35. Regional Forester, Region 9, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 4/1/36. Regional Forester, Region 6, Portland, Oregon, 4/1/39.

Oliver F. Ericson, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Timber Management.

Native of Cleburne, Kansas. Education: Four years, majoring in Chemistry, Betheny College, A. B. 1910; 2 years, majoring in Forestry, U. of Washington, M. S. F. 1913. Temporary appointment as Field Assistant, Whitman Forest, in eastern Oregon, June 1912. Permanent appointment as Forest Assistant, Chelan N. F. in northern central Washington State, July 1913. Transferred to Crater National Forest, southern Oregon, August 1916, and to Whitman N. F. and Olympic N. F., being promoted to Supervisor in charge of the latter forest, March 1920. Promoted to staff officer, Division of Timber Management, Portland, Oregon, July 1923, as logging engineer. Placed in charge of Division of Timber Management as Assistant Regional Forester, September 1935.

Lynn H. Douglas, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Wildlife and Range Management.

Native of Broken Bow, Nebraska. Education: Four years, University of Nebraska, major Agriculture, B. S. C. Employed by State of Ohio Forestry Dept. summer of 1910. Probationary appointment as Grazing Examiner, Region 7, to conduct studies of grazing conditions in that Region. Transferred to Region 2, Denver, Colorado, July 1913, advanced as staff officer and placed in charge of the Division of Range Management December 1934. Promoted to Assistant Regional Forester, Region 6, Portland, Oregon, in charge of Division of Wildlife and Range Management, July 1938.

Ira J. Mason, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Recreation and Lands

Native of Chicago, Illinois. Education: U. of Michigan, B. S. F. 1925; Yale, summer school; U. of Washington, post-graduate work. Field assistant Cascade N. F. 1924. Permanent appointment as Forest Ranger on Snoqualmie N. F. 1925. Promoted to Senior Forest Ranger January 1927. Served on Snoqualmie staff as Junior Forester from September 1927 to 1929. Transferred to California Forest and Range Experiment Station 1929, and was promoted to position of Asst. Forester. Transferred to Umatilla Forest, June 1933, and promoted to Asst. Forest Supervisor of Rogue River, December 1933. Brought into Division of Timber Management as staff officer, May 1934, promoted to position of Forest Code Examiner; transferred to Division of Recreation and Lands, April 1935. Promoted to position of Assistant to Assistant Regional Forester in 1939 and to Assistant Regional Forester, in charge of Division of Recreation and Lands, 1942.

James Frankland, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Engineering.

Native of Seattle, Washington. Education: Civil Engineering, U. of Washington. Employed by City of Seattle as public utility construction inspector 1908-10. Employed by construction firm of Stone and Webster, on power plant construction at White Salmon, Washington, 1912-13. Assistant Engineer, Port of Tacoma, Washington, 1919-21. Bridge engineer, Hedrick & Kreamers, construction engineers, Portland, Oregon, 1922-23.

Began Forest Service career as a temporary forest guard on the Snoqualmie National Forest, in Region 6 of the Forest Service in 1911. Also worked during the summer season of 1913 in same capacity. Received first permanent appointment as an Assistant Forest Ranger on the Snoqualmie N. F., July 1914 and was made Forest Ranger in 1916. Transferred to the Oregon National Forest in September 1916. On military furlough May 1917 to March 1919. Was Captain 69th c.a.c. Re-entered the Service in 1924 and assigned to the Division of Engineering. Placed in charge September 1931.

C. Otto Lindh, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Fire Control.

Native of Battleground, Washington. Education: Attended U. of Montana and Both Washington and Oregon State Colleges, B. S. F. Oregon State, 1927. Worked during summers 1920-24 on Columbia N. F. First permanent appointment as Ranger assigned to timber sales 1925. Transferred to Umatilla, Olympic, Rainier, Cascade and Snoqualmie National Forests on various timber sale and staff assignments until February 1935 when he was promoted to Asst. Forest Supervisor, Olympic N. F. Brought into Division of Forest Management as staff officer, 1935. Transferred to fire control activities October 1939, and promoted to Assistant Regional Forester in charge of Division of Fire Control, October 1941.

Floyd V. Horton, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Operation.

Native of Genoa, Nebraska. Education: Iowa State, forestry. Entered Forest Service as temporary forest guard on the Wallowa N. F., eastern Oregon, May 1913. Received permanent appointment as Guard, 1915. Transferred to Umatilla Forest as a staff officer in August 1916, and promoted to grazing assistant on the Wenaha Forest in 1917. Served in various technical grazing and staff officer assignments on the Umatilla, Deschutes and Crater Forests. Made Assistant Forest Supervisor, Umatilla N. F., December 1925, and placed in charge of the Columbia N. F. as Forest Supervisor in April 1927. Promoted to staff officer, Division of Range Management, December 1929. Promoted to Assistant Regional Forester, Division of Recreation and Lands, April 1930. Placed in charge of Division of Operation December 1941.

John C. Kuhns, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of Education and Information.

Native of Oil City, Pennsylvania. Education: Studied forestry at Penn. State College. Worked as temporary forest guard on the Umpqua Forest, in Oregon during summer of 1910, and was given permanent appointment as a ranger in 1911. Transferred to the Cascade Forest in 1916. Promoted to staff officer of the Deschutes N. F., as grazing examiner, 1917. Transferred to Wenaha Forest and promoted to Forest Supervisor in charge in February 1918. Transferred to Whitman Forest, 1924, and Snoqualmie Forest, 1933, and promoted to Assistant Forest Supervisor in charge Regional Forester in charge of Division of Education and Information, Portland, Oregon, August 1937.

Horace J. Andrews, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of State and Private Forestry.

Native of Sidnaw, Michigan. Education: U. of Michigan, A. B. 1915; M. F., 1916. Forest Assistant, timber surveys, 1914, 15, 16, and 17 in summer, while teaching forestry at University of Michigan. Also taught at State College of Forestry, New York State at Thomas Edison Laboratories and at Iowa State College from 1918 to 1923, while intermittently working for various lumber companies in the east and middle west. Was in charge of Michigan Land Economic Survey 1924-26; and Assistant State Forester of Michigan 1926-27. Chief Forest Fire warden of Michigan 1927-30. In charge Michigan State Land office June 1929 to April 1930. Appointed as Senior Forest Economist, Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment Station, Portland, Oregon, January 6, 1930. Returned to teaching at College of Forestry, U. of Michigan, October 1938 to August 1, 1939, when he was placed in charge of Division of State and Private Forestry as Assistant Regional Forester in Portland, Oregon.

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**Arnold R. Standing, Assistant Regional Forester, in charge, Division of
Personnel Management**

Native of Brigham City, Utah. Education: Utah State Agricultural College, majoring in Botany, B. S. 1929. Temporary forest guard Caribou and Wasatch National Forests and logger on Whitman National Forest, from 1918 to 1922. Permanent appointment as Forest Ranger, Cache National Forest, Region 4 of the Forest Service, April 1923. Placed on grazing studies as Junior Range Examiner July 1924. Transferred to Uinta Forest April 1926. Transferred to Division of Range Management in the Regional Office at Ogden, Utah in April 1927 and served as assistant to the Chief of the Division until placed in charge of Dixie National Forest as Forest Supervisor in March 1936. Promoted to Assistant to Assistant Regional Forester in charge of Division of Personnel Management in Ogden, Utah, January 1937. Promoted to Assistant Regional Forester in charge of Division of Personnel Management, Portland, Oregon, November 1939.

Albert H. Cousins, Regional Fiscal Agent, in charge, Fiscal Control.

Native of Boston, Massachusetts. Educated in Boston. Entered government service as P. O. Inspector. Transferred to Forest Service in Washington, D. C. in July 1907. Promoted to Officer in charge of Fiscal Accounts in Portland, Oregon, December 1908, when the headquarters of the Regional Forester were established in Portland. Promoted to staff officer at the Forest Service Supply Depot in Ogden, Utah, January 1917. Returned to Portland as Regional Fiscal Agent of the Division of Fiscal Accounts, August 1920.

JA—FOREST SERVICE

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING SLIP

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Register-Guard

Where published
Eugene, Oregon

Date of issue
6-18-62

Sent by
Willamette N.F.

Stationed at
Eugene, Oregon

Ex-Forest Service Chief Dies at 72

PORTLAND (AP)—A heart ailment claimed the life last Friday of Lyle Watts, 72, former chief of the U.S. Forest Service.

Watts, who began his long career in the Forest Service as a forest assistant in Wyoming in 1913, served as chief of the service from 1943 to 1952.

He became forester for the North Central Region in 1933, was transferred to chief of the North Pacific region in 1939 and held that position until being appointed national chief.

Watts, served as technical advisor to the U.S. Delegation to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization at several sessions from 1945 to 1951.

He took part in 1949 in the U.N. conference on conservation and utilization of resources at Lake Success, N.Y.

He received the Department of Agriculture's Distinguished Service Medal and the French Government's Croix du Chevalier de la Merite Agricole.

He is survived by his wife, Nell; a daughter, June, Dallas, Ore.; a son, Gordon, with the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.; a sister, Mrs. Gladys O'Neil, Bellingham, Wash.; and a brother, Cecil, Clear Lake, Iowa.

USDA—FOREST SERVICE

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OREGON JOURNAL

Where published
PORTLAND, ORE.

Date of issue
6-18-62

Sent by
R-6

Stationed at
PORTLAND

Ex-Chief Forester Rites Held

Lyle Watts, 72, chief of the U.S. Forest Service from 1943 to 1962, died of a heart ailment in a hospital Saturday.

Watts began his long Forest Service career in 1913 as a forest assistant in Wyoming. He became forester for the North Central Region in 1936 and was transferred to chief of the North Pacific Region in 1939, holding that position until he received the national appointment.

He once took leave in 1928, to organize and serve as dean of Utah State College's School of Forestry.

Watts was a member of the technical committee on forestry and primary forest products of the United Nations Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture in 1944 and 1945. He was technical advisor to the U. S. delegate to the U. N. Food and Agriculture Organization at several sessions from 1945 to 1951.

In 1949 Watts took part in the U. N. conference on conservation and Utilization of Resources at Lake Success, N.Y.

Among honors he received was the Department of Agriculture's distinguished service medal and the French government's Croix De Chevalier De La Merite Agricole.

Survivors include the widow, Nell; a daughter, June, Dallas, Ore.; a son, Gordon, who is with the Forest Service in Washington, D. C.; a sister, Mrs. Gladys O'Neil, Bellingham, Wash.; and a brother, Cecil, Clear Lake, Iowa.

Funeral services were held Monday.

USDA—FOREST SERVICE

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING SLIP

Copy sent chief

Name of paper
THE OREGONIAN

Where published
PORTLAND, ORE.

Date of issue
6-19-62

Sent by
R-6

Stationed at
PORTLAND

Conservation Leader

Oregon owes a specific debt to Lyle F. Watts, one of the nation's great foresters and conservationists, in addition to his guardianship of the national forests.

As chairman of the Legislature's Interim Committee on Water Resources, the retired chief forester of the United States headed up the cooperative effort of conservationists and water users which resulted in the adoption of the best water act among the states. The Oregon law, recognizing the multiple beneficial uses of water, providing for basin studies, and establishing the machinery for assignment of water rights in the public interest, was the legislative follow-up of the studies made by Mr. Watts' committee.

As regional and national forester, Mr. Watts contributed significantly to the national welfare. As an Oregon citizen, his efforts contributed to advanced laws governing the conservation and wise use of Oregon's greatest resource, water. His death, at 71, closed a long and valuable career.

*Watts,
Lyle F.*

AD-514
(1-60)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

DATE

REFERENCE SLIP

2/17/64

REFERRED TO

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Cliff Dusley
Room 3215

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REMARKS

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talks by Lyle Watts

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UTILIZATION -- THE KEYSTONE OF INTENSIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT

(Address by Lyle F. Watts, Chief, U. S. Forest Service, at annual meeting of Forest Products Research Society, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 23, 1952.)

There was a time when all the timber marker needed for tools were a blazing ax, a bed-roll, and a good pair of legs. Those days have long since passed. The tools of timber management today are complex kits of implements and plans, which are infinitely variable according to the objectives of management and the character of the forest. This is but another way of saying that intensive management of forest properties is arriving in the United States. It is my purpose today to explore with you some of the reasons why it is here and some of the directions in which I think it is going.

The principal tools of the forest manager are still the ax and the saw, in the sense that selection for the harvest is the best means available to insure satisfactory subsequent harvests and realization of optimum yield of good wood. That this is an over-simplification is perfectly clear, but again it is but a way of saying that the harvest dictates all that comes after. The harvest in turn is controlled by a host of economic factors that reflect yarding costs, transportation costs, and so on. If those costs are too high in relation to the use of the product, it cannot be harvested. If there is a satisfactory margin the product will come out of the woods. So although we speak in general terms of intensive management, we may have to become specific when we talk of a particular locality, or a particular forest region, or kind of tree.

The dominant factor, however, in all matters controlling the harvest will be the market for the finished product. This is the particular aspect that I want to explore more thoroughly with you, because it is in the harvesting of wood for new and better fields of usefulness that utilization research comes to bear on the total management problem.

Before we go into that I want to point out that a lot of influence on management policies has been exerted by matters entirely outside the field of forestry or utilization research. Forest management is affected by the whole industrial development. I need but point out the revolution caused in our whole concept of accessibility by the advent of the tractor and truck in logging. Also, the development of light portable power saws has worked a veritable revolution in wood practices. Such things have made it possible to spread good management over thousands of square miles formerly thought outside the bounds of commercial forestry.

Likewise, the field of forest products utilization has felt the impact of the over-all rapid development of new industries and new products in fields remote from forest products. For example, although the discovery 25 or 30 years ago of the synthetic resins at first had nothing to do with forest products, soon some of them were found to be excellent materials for bonding wood. As a result we now have the whole exterior plywood industry, the laminating industry, and a long series of products bonded into artificial boards or whatnot by use of artificial resins.

(Over)

The history of forest products utilization research in this country can be roughly divided into three periods. In the early days, beginning about the turn of the century, the motivating influence primarily was one of encouraging efficient and wise use of wood in order to conserve our forests. In those days, research in wood utilization was being written on pages that were practically blank. We knew little or nothing of the basic properties of our native American woods as engineering materials.

This period of accumulating basic information continued up into the depression years. Then it became a major problem to promote and encourage the use of wood in order to insure better forest management. It was quite clear that only through utilization of the forest crop could we move in the direction of good forestry.

World War II gave tremendous impetus to wood use. We are no longer fearful of loss of markets for the products of the forest. Expanding technology and more and more new uses give us confidence that we shall be able to use the wood we grow, wisely and well.

The third and current phase of utilization research may be said to combine the elements of the first two phases. We study the efficient use of wood in order to conserve materials, manpower, and wealth. And we study the wise and efficient use of wood also from the point of view of promoting efficient and more intensive management of the forest.

The harvesting of the virgin forest over most of the United States was a pretty haphazard job. A host of silvicultural problems were created that do not lend themselves well to solution except through the use of the harvesting tools. Another group of problems, broadly speaking, lies in the field of intelligent harvesting of our remaining old-growth forests where we still have an opportunity to harvest intelligently and with due regard for the lessons of the past. For example, in the remaining stands of old-growth Douglas-fir we know the nature of the problem created by many billions of feet of trees infected with Fomes pini. We know that regeneration will be greatly forwarded by the harvesting of those trees and that a thriftier, more productive forest will follow.

We are thoroughly aware of the importance of developing utilization for decadent ledgepole and Engelmann spruce stands in untapped Rocky Mountain territories before we can look forward to having current growth and future yields from those lands.

We know the nature of the extensive culled-over hardwood lands in the central hardwood belt and we realize clearly that we shall never be able to have a satisfactory forest in that territory until we can provide satisfactory utilization of the culled stands. There will be difficulties in managing the delta hardwood and upland hardwood stands of the South and Southeast unless and until satisfactory and profitable markets can be provided for the species in those stands.

The hardwood problem extends into the Lake States, New England, the middle Atlantic states, and the Appalachians. Under-utilization characterizes most of our hardwood-producing territory, and until a proper balance can be struck we shall continue, I suppose, to over-cut conifers and under-cut hardwood.

The problems posed by residual stands of low-grade cull hardwoods, or extensive accumulations of so-called inferior species, cover a lot of territory and will be with us quite a while. There is no question but that these stands could be restored to productivity if we had unlimited money and manpower to do the indicated silvicultural jobs of conversion and reclamation. But I do not foresee that they will be treated that way. I think rather they will gradually be converted to productivity through utilization of the old over-story.

Good management of second-growth stands in many cases requires progressive thinnings and selection cuttings. In some cases, especially in southern pine, very good progress has been made in utilizing intermediate cuttings for pulp, using this technique to promote efficient and rapid growth of saw timber of reasonably good quality. We have not yet reached the stage, however, where the most efficient thinning practices can be employed, simply because we have not yet reached the stage where the material removed in early thinnings has market value. There may come a time when management will be so advanced that men will invest in early thinnings with a certainty of satisfactory recovery due to increased growth rates, but commercial practice has not yet gone that far in very many instances. We need for almost all timber types more broad by adaptable utilization processes that can take wood well below pole size and utilize it at a profit.

I want to refer briefly also to the growing importance of pruning. Pruning has been demonstrated to be profitable in many types where the objective is production of clear wood. It is not likely that it will ever be applicable to all species. For a long time it may be limited to a few species that are well adapted to production of good quality veneer and lumber; but in some of those cases research has already proved that the process can be made to pay large returns.

Summing up, we might say that our major problems in management are:

1. Harvesting of defective virgin or old-growth stands
2. Removal of defective cull and old over-story of both good and poor commercial species, especially in hardwoods
3. Utilization of hardwoods in mixed forests where over-cutting of conifers tends toward an increasing percentage of hardwood
4. Thinning and intermediate cuttings in the management of second-growth stands
5. Pruning by various methods and in various species where a market has created or will create values for clear wood that will return adequate profits to the operation.

Now let us look briefly at some of the trends and developments in utilization research that have already contributed toward the solution of management problems, and then analyze, if we can, how they may be expected to contribute further in the future.

Utilization research, generally, can be divided into three major parts:

1. Work on wood that will be used in its natural form
2. Modified wood, that is wood to which something has been added in order to enhance its usefulness
3. Chemical and fiber products in which wood has lost its original form.

Consider the first division -- wood as wood -- and the things that have taken place that have a direct bearing on management policies. In 40 years we have built up a vast amount of knowledge of the fundamental strength properties of our species, and we have thus made possible the use of our woods as engineering materials.

I mentioned earlier the influence of the development of synthetic resins on the laminating and plywood industries. There have been some rather dramatic developments in the last two decades. It has been only about 20 years since a laminated-arch building -- one of the first examples of this type of construction -- was erected at the Forest Products Laboratory. It is still in use and the laminated arches are still sound. Incidentally, that building was covered with some of the earliest exterior grade plywood ever manufactured. We were rank amateurs in lamination of large members in those days, but the technique has developed with giant strides. There seems to be no limit now to our ability with edge gluing, scarf jointing and lamination to build members of almost any size and tailored to almost any shape.

Now, clearly, this opens the way to wide employment of wood from trees much smaller than what we were accustomed to deal with in the virgin timber. We no longer need to aim at the growth of huge old trees for a lot of uses that once required them. As a matter of fact, we have much more flexibility with the laminating technique than we ever had when we had to saw straight timbers from very large trees.

It must not be thought that the technique of lamination throws open the field of utilization to indiscriminate use of common grades and cull lumber -- that is not the case. For a lot of purposes lamination requires a pretty high grade of wood, and I believe that in the future this particular point will increase the importance of pruning in some species for the production of clear lumber. Yet there is a place in some heavy lamination for the inclusion of knotty material in the inner parts of the members. But let me repeat, the premium price will still be paid, I believe, for clear lumber.

I have referred already to the development of the exterior plywood industry. The most dramatic recent development to my knowledge is the return of wood to the box-car field, from which it looked as if it were going to be completely eliminated a few years ago. The so-called Unicel box-car is an all-wood car, with the exception of the chassis. I am informed that the same principles of stressed covered panel construction and lamination are also being applied to highway trailers. The field of usefulness of this type of construction would seem to be quite broad.

There also seems to be a continually increasing field of usefulness for plywood in general, because it is a thoroughly satisfactory material. Now this points up the necessity for forest management to look toward the production of veneer logs. I do not believe anybody thinks that they will have to be of the gigantic diameters that are being cut in the Northwest today. As a matter of fact, techniques for the cutting of veneers from second-growth Douglas-fir are already in use. None of it is coming from pruned Douglas-fir, but it can and probably will in the future. These developments, in my mind, point to a need to plan for the production of a certain proportion of clear wood, and I do not believe our management policies can ever lose sight of that fact.

In the harvesting of defective old-growth, research has come up with some interesting developments in utilizing so-called "white-pocket" Douglas-fir. White-pocket constitutes a tremendous obstacle to management in parts of the Northwest and California. It has been found, however, that certain grades of this material can be satisfactorily used where the stresses are not too high, and some of it is already moving in trade channels. Likewise, the cutting of veneer for certain utility grades of plywood has been thoroughly demonstrated and is already, in a small way, an accomplished commercial fact. It is not likely that these uses will satisfactorily absorb the very large volumes of white-pocket material found in harvesting old-growth fir in southern Oregon, for example, but research is opening other avenues.

We are always alert to opportunities for further utilization of hardwood dimension stock, by which I mean the small, sound, pieces cut from between the knots and decayed areas in trees from defective hardwood stands. Again, I do not anticipate that this field, or any other field concerned only with the use of wood as wood, will solve all the problems arising from defective hardwoods, but it will help.

In the field of modified wood we think in terms of adding to wood materials that modify its properties for higher usefulness. For example, we have learned to stabilize wood dimensionally against the come and go of moisture content; but it costs too much by the processes so far developed, except for special uses where the cost can be borne. There is perhaps nothing that would give greater satisfaction to the wood user than a cheaper method of doing this job. I am optimistic that it can be accomplished and we are directing our attempts through channels of fundamental investigation to solve the problem.

Similarly, the search for cheap and effective fireproofing treatments continues to receive attention. Both of these tasks are of importance in assuring the customer's continued satisfaction with wood and continued markets for lumber.

There is yet another field -- that of preservation -- in which there is renewed activity. It has become clear that there is a very large general field for wood preserved against decay and insect attack by sufficiently economical methods. That field transcends in volume the comparatively limited use of preserved wood to which we have been accustomed in the past -- that is, for crossties, piling, bridge timbers, mine timbers, and the like. The chemical industry continues to come up with new materials that offer promise as cheap preservatives.

In all problems of management, whether dealing with old-growth, young growth, hardwoods or conifers, it has become apparent in recent years that major contributions can be expected in utilization developments based upon fiber. There was a time not too long ago when the three major pulping processes were quite critical of the species and qualities of wood used. The sulfite process was practically confined to spruce, the true firs, and hemlocks. The kraft process, or sulfate, was more adaptable, and could take in practically all the conifers, and in recent years has been applied to many hardwoods. The ground-wood process was restricted to those species giving pulps of adequate strength characteristics and bleachability, or light color to begin with.

Many years ago the Forest Products Laboratory recognized the approaching problem of inadequacy of our pulp species to meet rapidly expanding pulp and paper requirements and started a program to expand the pulpwood base. This program has been eminently successful. I shall not relate all the accomplishments in that field; they are familiar to most of you. The rapid increase in pulp and paper requirements in the last 20 years has made imperative the rapid implementation of the new processes, applicable to a broad range of species, developed by that program.

In recent years a great deal of attention has been given to increasing the yield of pulps by the so-called semichemical processes. These processes have been applied to a great many hardwoods and softwoods with uniformly successful results when proper variables have been introduced to take care of the varying properties of the woods. It can be stated now that about any species available in sufficient quantity can be made into a commercially useful pulp product. This does not imply that all of them will be, nor that the economics of various situations will lend themselves to the immediate establishment of pulp facilities. I only mean to say that as far as the technical base is concerned it looks as if we could make pulp out of almost anything and do a good job of it.

A major part of the requirements in these semichemical and high-strength kraft pulps has arisen in the packaging field; witness the very rapid growth of the corrugated-board and paper-board industry. About 20 years ago the Forest Products Laboratory began a research program on the fundamentals of the manufacture of corrugated boards. That program has paid rich dividends, not only in a tremendous increase in use for packaging of civilian goods, but in rapidly expanding programs in the packaging of military goods. As you are well aware, these fiber products have displaced a large amount of lumber in the packaging field. I cannot regard this as anything but a major gain for forestry, for the simple reason that the kinds and qualities of wood going into these fiber products are much less restricted than was the case with lumber for packaging. In other words, we get much broader forest utilization.

In recent years, also, we have stressed developments in the so-called synthetic-board field. The softboards and the hardboards have made very heavy inroads into the general field of wood consumption. While it is true that no artificial wood fiberboard has yet been produced that has the oriented strength properties of wood, nevertheless for a lot of uses the fiberboards serve well. As yet, few if any of them can be prescribed for general exterior use, because dimensional stability and ability to maintain their structure through long exposure have not yet been developed, except by rather costly resin impregnation. Work now in progress at the Laboratory, however, gives promise of the

development of processes for stabilization of fiber products economically. That would be an end greatly to be desired, because again fiberboards can take a very wide variety of qualities and species. For example, even the old-growth, white-pocket Douglas-fir makes satisfactory kraft pulp and satisfactory fiberboard, and this sort of industry could use the wood waste now developed in a wide range of forestry operations.

Now I come to one of the newest and most interesting fields in which research is operating -- the field of sandwich construction. One of the most important applications of this type of construction is in the field of housing. We have at the Laboratory a small test unit built of various kinds of panels developed on the sandwich construction principle. I hope you will all see it while you are here. This work is all still in a highly experimental stage, but it could well bring about another revolution in housing. And it will give us a field of usefulness for fiber products that will, again, enable us to harvest very judiciously and wisely in our woodlands.

I must not close this discussion without brief reference to the possibilities in wood sugar. I am certain that if our country were not blessed with such a wealth of agricultural resources, the wood-sugar industry would have long since become of major importance. I am also convinced that the development of basic knowledge in the conversion of wood to molasses for stock feed and as a base for fermentation industries and the growth of protein foods is important in shaping our present program of national defense, and that it will be important in a program of ample feed and food supply for a not too distant future. Suffice it to say that we are continuing our exploration of the possibilities in this field. Technically we are in good shape. The economics of the processes involved are still unknown.

May I close with this observation. Wood becomes more valuable as our great industrial plant expands and our population increases. Wood helped tremendously in the building of this country, and in the implementation of our industrial plant, and it has now assumed major importance as an industrial raw material. No other country in the world is so well equipped to use wood well as is the United States; no other country could benefit more from forest products. Wise utilization coupled with wise land use and good forest management can give amazing wealth to our people from our forests.



INFORMATION DIGEST

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IN-SERVICE ONLY

No. 57

July 2, 1952

The Service Bids Farewell to Lyle Watts as Chief

The first morning of the Regional Foresters and Directors Meeting, held in the Conference Room, South Building, June 27 to July 1, was devoted to Mr. Watts' farewell message to members of his Staff, and to Mr. McArdle's acceptance of his new responsibilities as Chief of the Forest Service.

Mr. Watts said that in retiring at this time, he is simply following out what he called his ten-year plan. In fact he is going out a little ahead of the time he set 10 years ago, but for many reasons it seemed best to him to retire as of June 30 instead of later in the year. He said he had had a "swell" time for the last 9½ years, but that no one knows the burden of the Chief's job as he does.

One of his biggest jobs as Chief, Mr. Watts stated, has been in restaffing the Forest Service at the top level. For instance, out of our 10 Regional Foresters 8 were selected by him with the assistance of his Staff, all except 4 of our Directors were selected by him, all of the Assistant Chiefs except 1 and nearly all of the Division Chiefs in the Washington Office are new. He said we have leadership now that is better trained, better schooled in the philosophy of the Forest Service, than at any time in its history. This fact made it easy for him to decide to retire; he knows that no one could get a better group of men to carry on the leadership of the Service than we now have.

Mr. Watts reviewed the progress made in various phases of our work and critically compared it with what he believes should be our ultimate goals. "If I say things critical," he pointed out, "I am criticizing myself because if anyone had the authority to change anything I have had it."

Mr. Watts closed by saying, "You have a big job to do, you have the best organization under the sun to do it with, and I am perfectly confident that the Forest Service will make more progress in the next ten years than it has made in any 10 years of its history so far."

Mr. McArdle said he doubted if any Chief of the Forest Service had ever taken office under more favorable conditions. He said he was deeply and humbly appreciative of the many letters and words of encouragement and assurance he has received during the past two weeks, for he felt they also expressed confidence in the Forest Service.

Mr. McArdle pledged his firm support of the Service and the principles for which it stands. He sees no need for any immediate radical change in present policies or programs -- as a matter of fact he helped make some of them -- but, he said, these are changing times and we will have to be prepared to change with them. One of the first things he is going to do is to get better acquainted with

*For future reference
you have
page 2
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national forests and especially with Forest Service people -- and he plans on getting out into the field as soon as Congress adjourns.

Mr. McArdle said he believes one of Lyle's biggest achievements is the teamwork he has developed in the Forest Service -- not only here in the Washington Office but also in the Regional Offices and Experiment Stations and between Washington and the field. He believes this is the key to our success in the future.

The Chief's job, Mr. McArdle said, is now too big for any one person to handle alone; Forest Service success will depend upon the efforts of all of us. He asked that we jointly and mutually rededicate ourselves to the principles for which the Forest Service stands. He said that only as a hard-hitting, vigorous, and progressive team will we be able to attain those objectives.

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At a meeting in the Jefferson Auditorium on the afternoon of June 27, under sponsorship of the Social Committee, the rest of the Forest Service family expressed to Mr. Watts the high regard and deep affection they have for him. Gifts from the Regions, Experiment Stations, and Laboratory were presented by the Regional Foresters and Directors and from the Washington Office by Miss Doris Bolian of Operation, Chairman of the Clerical Staff. This meeting was conducted in a light vein, as requested by Mr. Watts. Assistant Chief Loveridge acted as Master of Ceremonies. Presentation speeches were short and consisted principally of stories about Mr. Watts - his prowess as a fisherman, etc. In his response, Mr. Watts told of some of the problems he was faced with as a young forest officer and how he met them, the idea being (facetiously) to give the future foresters some hints as to how to get ahead in the Service. Following the program, light refreshments were served by the Social Committee.

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On Saturday evening, June 28, a farewell dinner party was held at the Beltsville Research Center for Mr. and Mrs. Watts. Some 200 members of the Washington Office, Alumni, Regional Foresters and Directors, and friends, including Secretary and Mrs. Brannan, were present. Again, in accordance with Mr. Watts' wishes the program was kept on the "light side." Future Chief McArdle acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The party started with a chicken dinner, W. O. Division Chiefs acting as waiters. Following dinner, the assemblage was regaled with a slide show, narrated by Assistant Chief Crafts, depicting in rather exaggerated terms highlights in the life and achievements of "retiree" Watts. A beautiful scroll, prepared by W. Ellis Groben of the W. O. Division of Engineering, was presented to Mr. Watts.

Secretary Brannan paid tribute to Mr. Watts for the fine record of public service he has given over the years and for the effective manner in which he has brought the Forest Service into closer integration with the other bureaus in the Department. He said he believes the Forest Service is probably the outstanding administrative agency of the Federal Government. He said this is not only because it has been in business a long time but because it has had the fine leadership of men like Lyle Watts. The Secretary presented to Mr. Watts a certificate appointing him Chief Forester Emeritus.

Mr. Watts expressed his appreciation for all the nice things that had been done for him on the eve of his departure, told some more personal experience stories, and closed by saying that while his work in the Service had been invaluable to him, perhaps more than anything he treasures the friends he and Mrs. Watts have made along the way.

The party concluded with dancing.

On June 24, Mr. Watts was also given a luncheon by a group of officials of the Department of the Interior, and on June 26 the Secretary of Agriculture's staff meeting was devoted mainly to a farewell statement by Mr. Watts to associates in the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Watts' Farewell Message

June 30, 1952

TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE FOREST SERVICE:

It is with mixed feelings that I write this, my last official message. There is a feeling of relief that I can now pass on to another the too-heavy burden of leadership in the wonderful work of the Forest Service. There is a feeling of deep regret that the time has come to sever the direct connection which I have enjoyed so much for nearly forty years. You see, the Forest Service gave to me and to Nell the wonderful opportunity we have had to serve the people of America. Whatever success we have had is due to the splendid organization and the traditions of public service of the Forest Service. It seems like a long road traveled swiftly from the Sevier National Forest in Utah in 1911 to the position of Chief, which I have held for nearly ten years.

The position of Chief, as do all positions in the Forest Service, calls for youth, for vigorous physical stamina, and for unlimited mental energy. Ten years is a long time to provide that kind of dynamic leadership. I am sure you all know that I am particularly proud of the Service tradition for early retirement. As a result of that tradition we now have a young, aggressive, hard-hitting crew. Never has the average competence of our personnel been so high. That statement is made without detracting one iota from the amazing job we oldsters -- many now retired -- did in building one of the truly great public-service organizations.

I am also proud of our tradition regarding tenure on any one job and of the policy for transfer -- intra- and inter-regional. Carried out with a heart and with judgment, it is good for our service to the public. It results in new challenges being offered to our employees all the time. It pays off in broad-gauge, well-qualified public servants. Under that policy Nell and I have made a host of friends in many places inside and outside the Service. I have made my quota of those who are not so friendly, and I have never worried any about that.

So after 38 years in the Forest Service, nearly ten of which have been as Chief, I am happy to abide with the tradition I have helped to build. Besides, Nell and I just want to spend more time with our six grandchildren (June 30, 1952, count), and I at long last will catch up on some trout fishing. And may I say that no two people ever had so fine a career and so many fine friends as have we. The career has not ended, nor has our ability to make friends for the Forest Service.

I know that there are some tough fights ahead. You are ready for them. My only advice is: Never forget the basic philosophy on which the Forest Service has grown great, "The greatest good of the greatest number in the long run." The greatest number of people are little people, and they are the ones who need to be remembered.

Sincerely,

Lyle F. Watts

LYLE F. WATTS

I think I need not say anything to this group about the importance of forest products in the defense program. As you probably remember, the war production planners started out in World War II thinking about wood as a nice handy substitute for some of the critical war materials. Before the War was over they were wondering where they could find substitutes for wood. That mistake must not be made in the present emergency. Forest products are now classed among the essential defense materials.

Following World War II, the Forest Service made a reappraisal of the forest situation in the United States. The facts we brought together showed very definitely that our total forest resource is in unhealthy condition, that we are heading for a period of tighter supply of some forest products. In fact, we are already experiencing shortages of certain kinds of forest products, such as large-size, high-grade lumber and timbers and the kinds of wood needed for some of the specialty uses. Lumber prices have skyrocketed way beyond the average price index of other commodities, reflecting in part at least the fact that our supply of good quality, readily accessible merchantable standing timber is getting scarcer.

Our reappraisal indicated a total volume of standing saw timber of about 16 hundred billion board feet. On the basis of earlier estimates, which were not closely comparable, that would represent a decrease of some 44 percent in 36 years. Probably the actual decline in saw-timber volume was even greater. Some of this decrease was to be expected, of course, as old growth forests were being replaced by second growth.

1/ Statement by Lyle F. Watts, Chief, Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, for the Agricultural Mobilization Policy Board. June 22, 1951.

Seventy-six percent of all our commercial forest area is east of the Great Plains. But all this area now contains only about as much saw timber as the 6 percent of our commercial forest land in Western Oregon and Washington, where most of the last stands of old-growth timber remain.

We are now growing saw timber as fast as we are using it. Our reappraisal showed the total annual drain exceeding total annual growth by 50 percent. That was on the basis of the 1944-45 rates of drain and growth. My guess would be that the excess of saw-timber drain over growth is as great today. In other words, we are eating heavily into our forest capital of quality growing stock.

On the other hand, there is a near balance between drain (13.7 billion cubic feet) and growth (13.4 billion cubic feet) for all timber, including that less than saw-timber size. However, 80 percent of the total drain is in saw timber, particularly the better softwoods, whereas much of the growth is in small low-grade trees and inferior hardwoods.

I have attempted to give you this brief general picture of our over-all forest resource situation as a background for what I want to tell you about current activities. The point I want to emphasize is that we are up against a mighty tough proposition if we are to meet the forest products needs of the present emergency without further seriously weakening our long-term forest resource base.

National Forests

One of the responsibilities of the Forest Service is the protection and management of the National Forests. These National Forests contain about 180 million acres of Federal land located all the way from Alaska to Puerto Rico. Not including Alaska, they contain some 73 million acres of so-called commercial

forest land -- land that is bearing or is capable of growing merchantable timber. That is about 16 percent of all the commercial forest land in the United States. But this 16 percent of the commercial forest area now contains more than 30 percent of the Nation's total volume of standing saw timber. National forest timber is thus becoming more and more important in meeting the country's needs for forest products.

The yearly output of timber from the National Forests has been increased to about three times what it was 10 years ago. This year the total cut will exceed 4 billion board feet -- roughly 10 percent of the national total. The receipts to the Federal Treasury will be close to 50 million dollars.

In each timber management working circle in the National Forests, the yearly cutting budget looks to a permanent and continuing output of timber -- to what we foresters call a sustained yield. Production is not yet up to sustained yield capacity, however, on many of our National Forests. In the eastern forests and also on many western areas, timber growth still has to be brought back on areas that were deforested in the past. As the growing stock is built up on these lands, the yearly cut can gradually be increased. In the western National Forests, the big bottleneck to increased timber cut is lack of roads. Substantial areas of mature and overmature timber are still inaccessible and cannot be harvested until access roads are built.

The Forest Service estimates that construction of main-line log-haul roads to reach the large stands of national-forest timber now inaccessible would make possible an increase of about 2 billion board feet a year over the current timber-cutting rate. That would be a 50 percent increase -- from the present cut of around 4 billion feet to at least 6 billion feet. We in the Forest

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by proper documentation, such as receipts and invoices. This ensures the integrity and reliability of the financial data.

The second section focuses on the classification of expenses. It details how different types of costs should be categorized for better financial management. This includes distinguishing between fixed and variable costs, as well as direct and indirect expenses.

The third part of the document addresses the process of budgeting. It explains how to set realistic financial goals and allocate resources accordingly. Regular monitoring and adjustment of the budget are highlighted as essential for staying on track.

The final section discusses the role of financial reporting. It outlines the importance of providing clear and concise reports to stakeholders. This helps in making informed decisions and maintaining transparency in the organization's financial operations.

The document concludes by reiterating the significance of sound financial practices. It encourages a proactive approach to financial management, ensuring that all aspects of the organization's financial health are carefully monitored and controlled.

By following these guidelines, organizations can achieve greater financial stability and long-term success.

The following table provides a summary of the key points discussed in the document:

Section	Key Points
Record Keeping	Accurate documentation, receipts, and invoices.
Expense Classification	Fixed vs. variable costs, direct vs. indirect expenses.
Budgeting	Setting realistic goals, resource allocation, regular monitoring.
Financial Reporting	Clear, concise reports, transparency, informed decision-making.

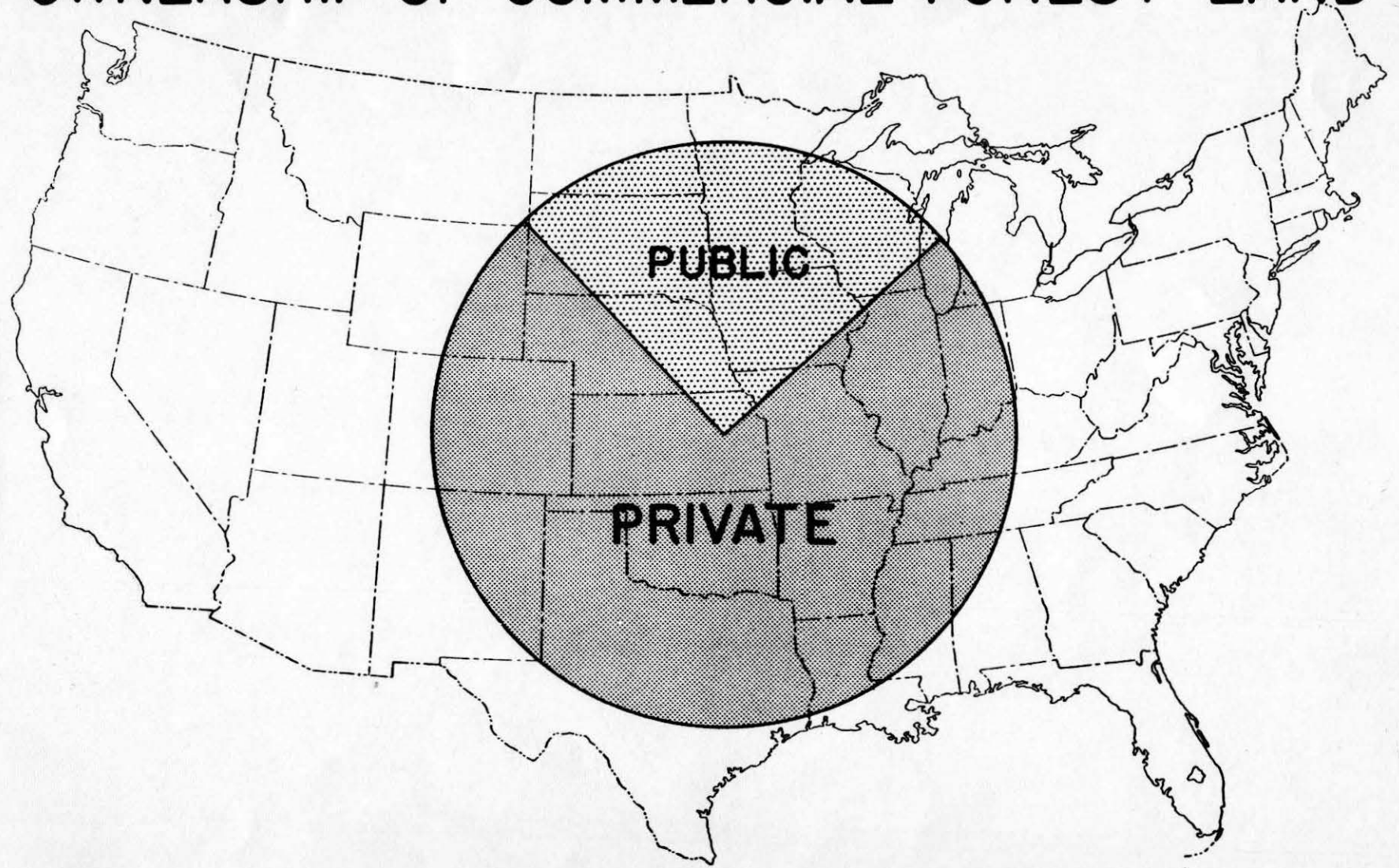
Service would like to move ahead with this access road program just as rapidly as possible, while the contractors and equipment and skilled workers for road construction work are available. They may not be available later, as the defense program expands, or if total war comes. And the demand for that additional timber will accelerate with the increasing needs of the defense program. It will be vitally important in the event of all-out mobilization.

Aside from the matter of national defense needs, building these access roads looks to us like a pretty good business proposition. The 2 billion feet a year increase in timber cut, at present prices, would bring an additional 20 million dollars a year into the Federal Treasury -- enough to cover the total cost of the access roads in just a few years, and continue as a sustained annual income indefinitely.

Some recently constructed access roads already have been paying handsome returns. In the Nezperce National Forest in Idaho, for example, 7 miles of reconstruction and surfacing brought in more than a third of the cost through timber sale revenue in the first 12 months. In the Plumas National Forest, California, 7 miles of new access roads were completed in October, 1947, at a cost of \$80,000. By September 1, of the next year, \$140,000 worth of national forest timber came out over that road. It much more than paid for itself in less than a year.

For the long pull, even greater timber production can be obtained from the National Forests. It can be obtained with more intensive management, including tighter control of fires and of insects and diseases, close utilization to get as much usable wood as possible from the trees cut, and silvicultural treatment of young stands, such as thinning and weeding and pruning, to speed growth and improve quality. Also, more than 3 million acres of good timber-growing land

OWNERSHIP OF COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND



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in the National Forests is now deforested and needs planting to restore it to productivity.

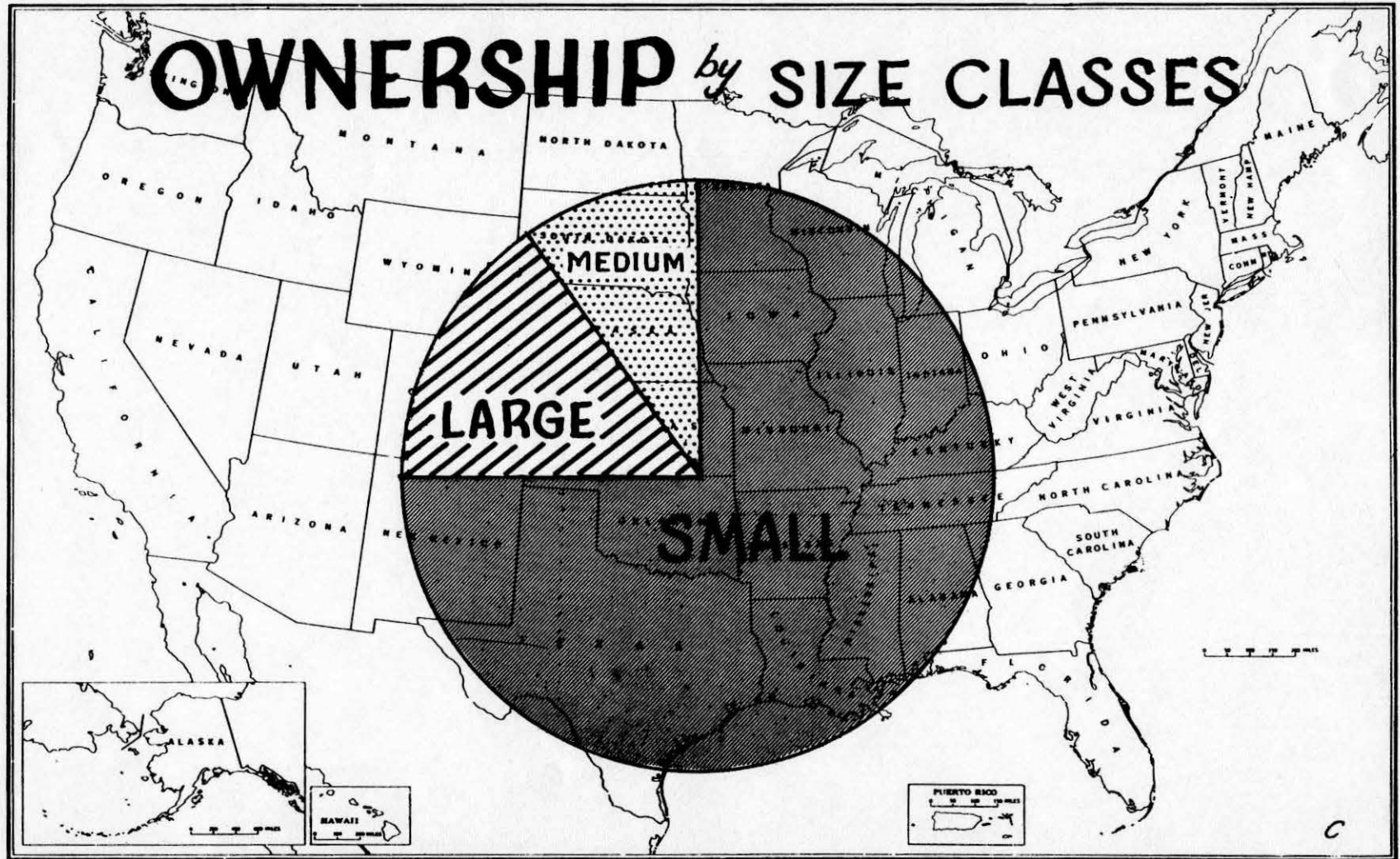
Private Forest Lands

For the bulk of our timber supply, however, we must look to the privately-owned forest lands. They comprise the bulk -- about three-fourths, in fact -- of our commercial forest area, and generally they are the best and most accessible timber-growing lands. (Chart I). Here the problem is to build up a seriously deficient growing stock for the long pull, while we continue to meet the current needs for forest products. That isn't going to be easy. Building up the growing stock would be relatively simple if we wanted to, or could, get along with a greatly reduced supply of forest products. But we can't do that -- least of all, in the present emergency. What we are up against -- what the situation calls for -- is an expert job of eating our cake and having it too.

On the average, timber growth on private commercial forest lands is probably less than half of what the land could and should produce. Our reappraisal showed that 64 percent of all cutting on private lands was still poor or destructive. Most of the rest rated only fair; only 8 percent was up to really good forestry standards.

We find the highest percentage of good practice on large industrial holdings. Many of the big lumber and pulp and paper companies are practicing good forestry. Compared with the 8 percent of good practice on all private forest lands, the larger holdings (5,000 acres and up) showed good or high order practice on nearly 30 percent of the operating acreage. In the case of many of these larger operators, much of the land on which they are now applying good forestry is cut-over land, understocked with second-growth. So even with the best of

PRIVATE FOREST LAND



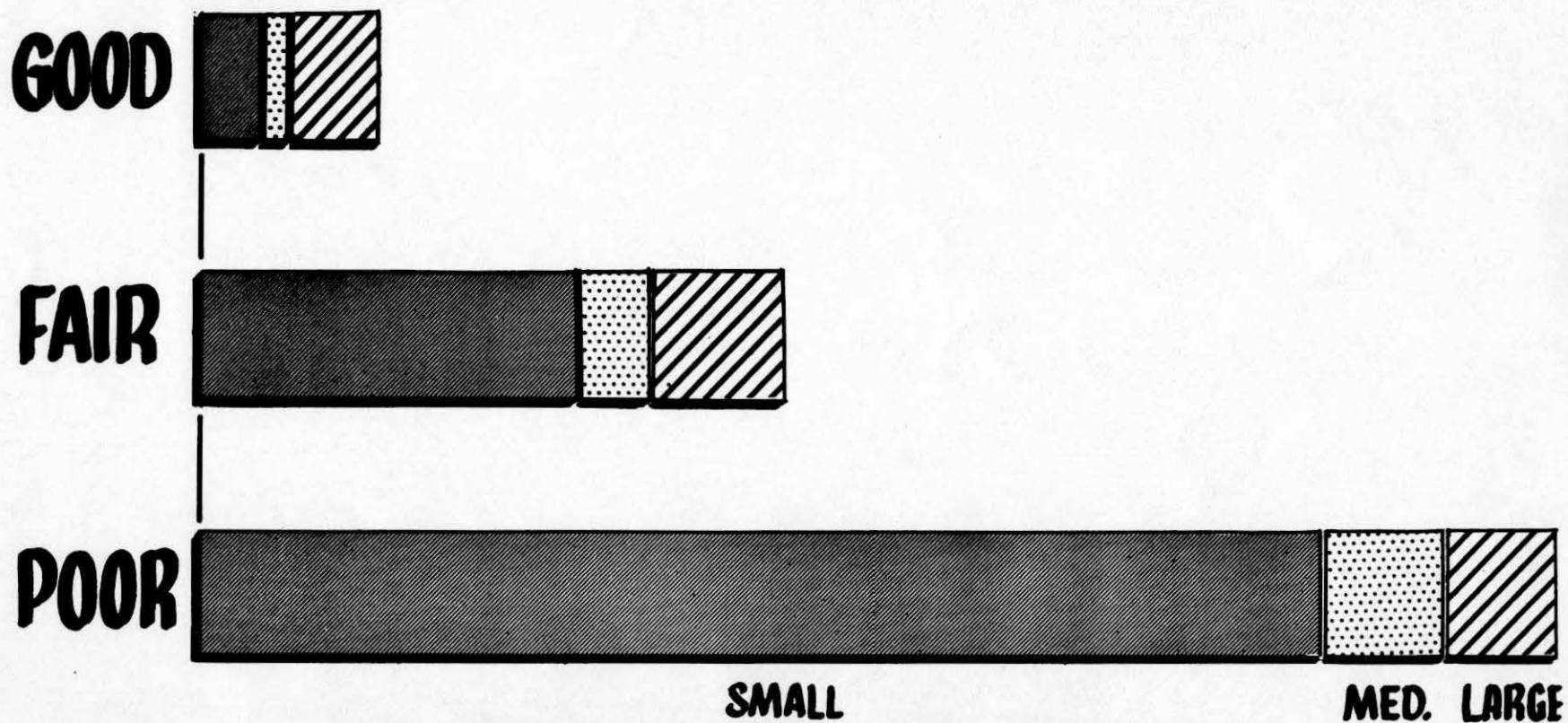
practice, quite a number of them are short of timber now, and this will continue until their "tree farms" and other lands can grow new forests to merchantable size.

Then too, the commercial forest land in industrial and other medium to large holdings altogether amounts to only 84 million acres. But there are 261 million acres of commercial forest land in small holdings, divided among more than 4 million owners. (Chart II). About half of this land in small holdings is in farms, and half in non-farm ownerships, held by small-town merchants, bankers, doctors, lawyers, real estate men, speculators, and the like. A substantial portion of our forest products supply comes from these forest lands in small ownerships, farm and non-farm. And on these lands more than 70 percent of all cutting is still poor or destructive. The 261 million acres of private commercial forest land in small ownerships is the heart of our forest problem. (Chart III).

As I see it, the present situation calls for making every possible effort to foster and encourage good forestry practice on private lands, while we are continuing insofar as possible to get timber from these lands to meet essential domestic demand and the defense program requirements. Because of the declining trend of the resource and the long-time nature of the emergency, time is of the essence. The Department of Agriculture has recently reaffirmed its opinion that some form of public control of cutting and other forest practices is necessary to keep lands reasonably productive and prevent forest deterioration. We should continue, and even intensify, whenever we can, other programs aimed at raising the general level of forest management practice and building up our forest growing stock. About 75 million acres of good commercial timber-growing land, public and private, is now so poorly stocked or deforested that planting is necessary to

PRIVATE FOREST LAND

PRESENT CUTTING PRACTICES



bring it back into production. Reforestation work should certainly go forward as rapidly as possible.

Now, I want to describe briefly some of our current activities in the defense program.

Emergency Fire Protection

Under a directive from the Federal Civil Defense Administration, the Forest Service and cooperating agencies are working on the preparation and assembly of comprehensive plans for the protection of the Nation's forest and wild lands from possible fire attacks through enemy action. The Department of Interior and the State forestry departments of 43 States are cooperating in the preparation of the operational fire plans, which will cover all told more than a billion acres of forest and range land in continental United States and Alaska. C. A. Gustafson, Chief of Forest Fire Control for the Forest Service, has been named chairman of a national committee to coordinate the program. Other members of the committee are Joseph Kaylor of Maryland, representing the State Foresters' Association; John F. Shanklin of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior; and Howard J. Eberly, representing the Federal-State cooperative forest fire protection program.

When organization is completed, it is anticipated that we shall be able to mobilize quickly all presently available forest fire fighting personnel and equipment in the event of an attack. Planning will also provide for additional personnel, equipment, and facilitating gear that might be required for emergency fire protection.

The forests of this country are highly vulnerable to sabotage or enemy attack. The Japanese knew that, you remember, when they made their long-distance

attack on the forests of the western United States with incendiary balloons in 1945. If it had been a little later in the season, that balloon barrage might have caused plenty of damage. Besides the direct damage forest fires do to timber, watersheds, and property -- and to human life -- they can disrupt communications and transportation, tie up logging and other industrial operations, and cause a big drain on the time of workers on the farms and in the factories -- time that would be much better spent at productive work.

Probably most of you have never seen a really hot forest fire. When one gets going strong, like the fires that roared across parts of southern Maine three or four years ago, it is really a terrible thing.

Defense Production Activities

With respect to forest products, the President's Executive Order No. 10161 delegated functions under the Defense Production Act to the Secretary of Commerce and to the Secretary of Agriculture. There were a lot of questions as to where the division of responsibilities between Commerce and Agriculture should be. Since forest industry is a highly integrated industry, we in Agriculture believed that any division of emergency authority between Departments would lead to complications. In the interest of focusing defense powers and duties in the defense agencies, we felt that the National Production Authority, which was set up in the Commerce Department, should be the principal Government agency with which forest industry would deal on defense production matters -- just as the War Production Board was the principal agency during World War II. We insisted however that the Forest Service be used in an advisory and facilitating capacity, for those jobs which our widespread field organization and our personnel trained in forestry and forest products were especially equipped to handle. And by agreement between

the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture, that is the way it is working out.

We expect NPA to make full use of the Forest Service for any special studies that may be needed to administer the action programs and overcome difficulties in the forest products field. They have been keeping us very busy.

With regard to applications for accelerated tax amortization and for Government loans for plant expansions, NPA receives the applications and makes the final recommendations to Defense Production Administration, the certifying authority. But when forest products are involved, it refers the application to the Forest Service for field investigation and report.

The Forest Service is primarily concerned with the adequacy of timber supply in the territory tributary to proposed plant expansions. In the aggregate, the proposed expansions will amount to many millions of dollars and will represent a potential new drain on the country's timber resources of considerable proportions. Generally we report favorably on a proposed expansion of plant facilities wherever the timber supply is adequate and there will not be an excessive concentration of installed capacity in the area. But we do not want to be a party to any plant expansion that would disrupt existing industry, or that would jeopardize sound long-term developments by causing over-drain and depletion of the forest resources.

The Forest Service is calling upon its field offices to make the necessary investigations on the ground. This means that men already familiar with the local situation and with the forest industries and the forest conditions in the area will study the local timber supply situation in connection with the proposal. Up to June 1, a total of 165 applications from forest products industries had been referred by NPA to the Forest Service for review. These included 157

applications for accelerated tax amortization and 8 for government production loans. Action had been completed for 132 of these applications and prompt action was expected on the remainder. Most of the applications were for additional expansions in the pulp and paper industry. Others were for increased production in softwood plywood and in lumber, and for wood treating plants.

A high proportion of the applications referred to us contemplate plant expansions in the Southern States. In many forest areas the installed plant capacity is already much in excess of the growth rate of local timber; but there are a number of places in the South where expansion of plant capacity is possible and desirable, especially where the expansion is based on increased utilization of hardwoods. The big development of the pulp and paper industry in the South has made possible an increased utilization of small-sized trees and hardwood species formerly unused, and that makes more intensive forest management possible. A number of plant expansions in the South and elsewhere also are based on the utilization of sawmill waste.

Research Projects

The Forest Service has under way a survey of the equipment, supplies, and manpower needs of the primary forest products industries. Personnel is assigned to this work from our regular research activities. The wood-using plants and loggers have been very cooperative in providing the needed information. Reports have been completed for NPA, DPA, and OPS on various problems, including the pulpwood situation in the northern regions, and the general long-run timber supply and requirements situation in the United States. Also we have completed reports covering the log supply situation for the softwood plywood industries on the West Coast and the hardwood veneer and plywood industries in the Lake States and the Northeast.

Plans have been made for a survey of the timber laminating industry, to determine existing laminating facilities, potentialities for expansion of the industry, and requirements for specific equipment and supplies to meet prospective requirements for laminated products, especially for the wooden ship building program.

A survey of the chestnut tannin extract industry was made to appraise the supply situation for chestnut extract wood and wood procurement problems. Studies have been made on the supply and availability of foreign forest products, including cork and mahogany.

Our Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, is making a number of research studies for the military agencies. Special investigations on the design and testing of containers are being made for the Chief of Ordnance, Department of the Army. The Laboratory is also conducting special instruction courses in packaging techniques for members of the armed forces and representatives of defense industries.

The Laboratory's work on containers and packaging was one of its big contributions during World War II. Improvements in shipping containers and packaging techniques not only greatly reduced damage to war material in transit, but resulted in saving at least 10 percent in lumber requirements and 20 percent in shipping-space requirements. In other words, they made it possible for 4 ships to carry as much war material as 5 ships carried before.

The Laboratory also is doing research on the so-called wood sandwiches for the Air Force. Wood sandwiches consist of high-strength veneer surfaces glued or cemented to light-weight cores, thereby providing a strong, stiff, but light-weight material which has been used in the manufacture of aircraft and certain

types of boats. Sandwich construction may have other possibilities, too -- for instance for panels for pre-fabricated houses.

The Forest Service is making a comprehensive study for the Army Engineers Corps, to analyze military requirements and procurement of timber products during World War II. For the Corps of Engineers the Forest Products Laboratory is completing a study of the current lumber procurement, handling, storage and utilization practices of the military depots and other facilities. We are also participating in the Task Group C Air Transport Mobilization Survey, concerning priority guides for the non-military uses of our craft. In the mapping field, more than 50 percent of the manpower of the Forest Service Photogrammetric Unit are on special work for the Navy Hydrographic Office, preparing maps for defense purposes.

Now, to go back for a moment to the forest situation generally, as I attempted to outline it at the beginning. The way it looks now, we are going to be in a semi-war economy for as far ahead as we can see. That means we should give attention not only to the immediate defense requirements, but to the long-term factors that make for the permanent strength of our economy.

In the present mobilization effort, we shall want to meet our timber-products requirements as far as possible with good cutting practice, and with full regard to the long-term interests of industries and communities. Beyond that, there is need to strengthen our over-all forest resource situation. Our prospective semi-war economy will probably mean a long-continued and heavy drain on our resources. While we meet present essential needs, we shall certainly want to see every possible means taken to build up our forest growing stock, to strengthen our resource base nation-wide, and to make our forests capable of meeting the requirements of the future.