

DEWITT NELSON
RESOURCES CONSULTANT
LICENSED FORESTER NO. 131

2844 CORABEL LANE
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January 5, 1978.

DN
1/7/78

Dear Carl:

Happy New Year! The following is in reference to our long time friend Oscar Evans. The man who all remembered. I know noone who processed more neophite foresters or about whom more stories were told. I didn't have the pleasure of working for him but I got to know him well in later years.

In spite of this the first man of the Forest Service of whom I heard was Oscar.

It was in the spring of 1920. I was enrolled in Animal Husbandry at Iowa State University. North of the campus was a wooded area, bottom-land of the Skunk River. It was known as North Woods. That was where the students had their picnis and "blanket parties".

On a cool spring Saturday I was walking in the North Woods. I came on to a camp fire with a half dozens fellows sitting around it. I joined them. They were Forestry students. One, Chet Martin, had spent the previous summer cruising timber for Oscar on the Plumas National Forest. Most of the hour or so I spent with them was listening to Chet tell stories about Oscar Evans. I don't remember the stories but that was my first exposure to Forestry and Foresters. I've enjoyed the exposure ever since.

In 1929 I served as Camp Manager for the Paul P. Pitchlyn (Training Officer) Training Camp at the Feather River Experiment Station near Quincy. There was a two story Staff House in which visiting Instructors slept. Oscar Evans was a Visiting Instructor for a few days. One mornig a number of us were sitting around the fire place waiting for the breakfast bell to ring. Soon we heard a clomping on the stairs and Oscar came down hurriedly tying his necktie on top of one he had already put on. He got a laugh out of it too.

In later years, after retirment Oscar religiously attended the National meetings of the Society of American Foresters.

Oscar like to talk to people. On these trips he traved by Greyhound bus by day and stopped over night in a major city enrout. He always had interesting stories to tell about the people he met enrout.

Oscar was a rigied disciplinarian and I guess you could call hime a character. He tolerated no hanky-panky or sloppy work. Those who worked for him never forgot him and always had a few stories to tell about him. They also had warm memories for the first man they worked for in the U. S. Forest Service.

In Memory of Oscar Evans.

DeWitt Nelson.

Sweden

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March 31, 1978.

Mr. Carl Wilson,
3 Maybeck Twin Dr.,
Berkeley, Ca. 94708

Dear Carl:

Here are some tid bits about Oscar Evans. You probably received Christmas cards from him but like me threw them away after a respectable time. Today I received the enclosed from Mary Jackman. Mary is one of the grand "old-timers" We were together on the Trinity in Weaverville back in the 20's. From there she went to the R.O. and later to the Solicitors office. She had much more foresight and saved these unusual cards. They must tell something about Oscar but I am not sure what. I think they would make great additions to the book you are putting together about him.

I really appreciate the great amount of thought and art in these one must examine the detail under a magnifying glass. In the lower left hand corner of the blue one there is a name, if you can make it out, which might indicate who the artist was. He might have been a U S D S delineator.

Hope you can use them.

cc Mary Jackman.

Sincerely,

