

The ELASHER

FORESTRY
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News & Views

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STAFF NEWS

REORGANISATION proceeds and there is news of further staff changes. MR. T. H. McGEORGE, hitherto Chief Clerk at Edinburgh, is to be Deputy Establishment Officer at Headquarters; and Mr. GEORGE TAYLOR, for some years Chief Clerk at Aberystwyth, is to become Head of Industrial Establishments Section, also in London. Mr. E. H. BRADFORD, who has been engaged on Management Research, has transferred to the Finance Branch to take charge of budgetary control.

Mr. M. NICOLSON is to become Assistant Senior Officer for Scotland, located in Edinburgh. Mr. R. COOTE will head the new O. and M. Branch at Headquarters.

Following the recent Assistant Conservator promotion board, Mr. E. E. DIXON is to be transferred from S.E. England to be Assistant Conservator in S.W. England; Mr. G. F. BALLANCE will move from E. England to become Assistant Conservator in S.E. England; Mr. D. A. MITHEN, on promotion, goes to E. England as Assistant Conservator; Mr. J. R. HAMPSON, on promotion, is to leave N. Wales to take up a post as Assistant Conservator in S.W. England; Mr. R. O. DRUMMOND is to be Assistant Conservator, N. Wales; Mr. J. N. KENNEDY and Mr. D. GRAHAM-CAMPBELL are to be transferred on promotion to Assistant Conservator posts in the Forest Management Division at Headquarters; and Mr. C. D. BEGLEY will leave S.E. England for Headquarters on promotion to be Chief Education and Training Officer, in succession to Mr. J. H. JAMES when the latter becomes Conservator, North Wales.

Mr. A. B. WESTCOTT, late of the former Office of Director, England, has left the Commission on promotion to Chief Executive Officer with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

**MORE MEMBERS WANTED FOR COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

General and currently Chairman of the Association. Sir Arthur hopes that this will be noted in particular by foresters and the timber trade in a number of Commonwealth countries where present membership is well below the potential, and steps to this end are being taken.

AN appeal for increased membership of the Commonwealth Forestry Association is made by SIR ARTHUR GOSLING, formerly our Director

Meanwhile there must be many potential members here at home. Sir Arthur tells us that membership in Britain and Northern Ireland is not much more than 400. But surely this figure might well be much higher, with about 1,400 of the Commission staff in the Forester grades, to say nothing of a substantial body of woodland owners and their own foresters, foresters employed by local authorities, and timber merchants and their employees. It seems clear that the Association must have greater financial support than it receives at the moment and unless some philanthropist emerges to endow a monetary blessing, the only way to obtain more funds is through more subscriptions.

The role of the Association in promoting forestry throughout the Commonwealth is well known and one might think that foresters in this country who have not so far joined would hardly want to remain outside the exchange of information that takes place, for example, through the medium of the Association's journal - the Commonwealth Forestry Review. And, of course, the Association offers other important facilities.

Membership fees are reasonable enough - three guineas for an Ordinary Member and 25s. for Associates who are still receiving a relatively low salary. Readers who may wish to join the Association should communicate with the Secretary, Mr. F. G. BROWNE, Commonwealth Forestry Association, at the Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.

****SANTON DOWNHAM'S BIG WEEK**

SANTON DOWNHAM, the forest village at Thetford, East England Conservancy, has had its Big Week. This commenced with the fourth Woodchoppers Gala, opened by Mr. RICHARD CHARD, the senior Forest Officer. Various forest activities comprised the theme and the programme included an integrated logging display. Mr. REX WHITTA, Deer-warden, contributed an excellent wild-life exhibition, with the emphasis on deer control and supported by the reproduction of the sounds and calls of a number of different species. There were police dog and gymnastic displays, and train rides by courtesy of American Air Force friends from the nearby Lakenheath Base. Mr. A. McQUARRIE, Ganger, operated the popular "flying cherub skyline".

On Sunday, the following day, the churchyard extension was consecrated by the LORD BISHOP of DUNWICH. On the following Friday, SIR HUGH CARLETON GREENE, Director General of the B.B.C., accompanied by the County Planning Officers of East and West Suffolk, arrived at Santon Downham in the course of judging to find Suffolk's Best Kept Village. The sun had followed rain, and the closely mown village green, and the wonderful old trees in their parkland setting, were seen to good advantage; the church and churchyard gained top marks for immaculate appearance. Unfortunately, however, the high hopes of the people of Santon Downham were dashed, for the village was beaten into second place by one mark by Tostock, with a score of 99. But, it may be said, Santon Downham is in the lead "tourist-wise", if the church visitors' book is anything to go by; the popularity score at a recent date was Santon Downham 643, Easten 246, Tostock 26 and Horham 16.

The week ended on the Saturday with the wedding of Miss ANITA CATTON, forest clerk on the Santon Beat of Thetford, to Mr. PETER MARTIN of Hockwold.

****ESGAIRGEILIOG CROWNS FOREST QUEEN**

IT was a day to remember at Esgairgeiliog, the forest village at Dovey Corris, in the North Wales Conservancy; the day the forest community crowned their Forest Queen.

She was MISS ISEABAIL TEAR, daughter of Forester D. TEAR, and the crowning ceremony was performed by MISS IRENE WILLIAMS of Plas Rhiwgwreiddyn, Ceinws. Then the Queen (and her retinue, which included children of Forest Workers) boarded a beautifully decorated lorry and, led by the Corris and District Band, toured the district, taking in the villages of Corris and Aberllefenni, where the Queen was given a great welcome.

Back at Esgairgeiliog the gala was getting into full swing, with fancy dress competitions for which there was a good entry of high standard. The judges were MRS. FRED EVANS, Llanwrin, and MISS IRENE WILLIAMS. Sports events had considerable support. Thanks were due to the Master of Ceremonies, Forester J. READ, for the able way in which he conducted all the events.

All proceeds went to the village hall fund.

****FORESTER PYWELL RETIRES**

FORESTER A. C. PYWELL of Willingham Forest, East England Conservancy, has retired after nearly 38 years service with the Commission. Arthur Pywell started as a forest worker at Rockingham in 1928. He was one of the "old school" sound and solid with, in his case, a flair for nursery work, for he was in charge of Roudham Nursery in Thetford Chase for a number of years.

At a farewell gathering at Willingham Mr. Pywell was presented by colleagues with a wheelbarrow (obviously he does not intend to be idle in his retirement) and Mrs. Pywell was given a silver teapot. The forest staff at Willingham gave Mr. Pywell a wrist watch.

On their retirement Mr. and Mrs. Pywell will continue to live nearby Tealby. We wish them a long and happy retirement.

**CRICKET IN THE NORTH EAST

THE 13th annual cricket match took place between the North Eastern Timber Merchants' Association and staff of the North East England Conservancy for the handsome silver cup presented by the late MR. TOM PLACE, a north-east timber merchant. The Commission side took the field with the encouraging thought that they had won the first game in 1953 and the last nine from 1956 to 64. But this year saw a change. The Commission batted first and at one stage were a disastrous 43 runs for 8 wickets. Later things improved slightly until 81 was reached, the skipper, District Officer A. RIX having run out of partners in himself collecting 38 not out. The merchants suffered a discouraging start also, being at one stage 20 for 4. Bowlers Assistant Forester B. STOCKDALE and Clerical Officer GEOFF CHAMBERS were in great form but the opposing captain played a fine innings to win the game.

Later there was a pleasing ceremony when Mr. RIX presented a replica of the Tom Place Cup to MR. JACK MAUND, the Conservancy Utilisation Officer. The many people who know Jack Maund will remember his love of cricket and it was largely his idea which promoted this annual competition, in which he had played for some years, and which he regularly organised. This, however, was his last before retirement and it was felt that the replica would be a sign of appreciation of his efforts. The merchants also made a presentation to Jack Maund as a mark of their esteem. This took the form of an attractively turned bowl of polished oak with an inset silver medallion inscribed "As a token of appreciation from cricketing friends in the timber trade."

**OPEN DAY AT GRIZEDALE

THE first Open Day to be held at Grizedale, we learn from the forest's newsletter, took place last month. Although primarily intended as an event for Commission staff and their families, a large number of other people joined in. There were visits to the deer museum and the genetics nursery as well as a tour of the forest.

The Grizedale Angling Club appears to be going from strength to strength, with Mr. MARTIN ORROM, District Officer, as President. There are now 45 members. The River Board has given valuable help and riparian owners other than the Commission are letting the Club use their waters. In all the Club now controls, with reservations, some four and a half miles of water.

We were particularly interested to read of the progress of the local "deerskin industry" which, we believe, is operated by ladies of the local forest community. Some of the products of this unusual form of handicraft - purser, moccasins, and so on - were placed on display and sale at the Game Fair and the Royal Lancashire Show, and many have been sold in different parts of the world, including Australia, America and Germany.

**NORTHERWOOD HOUSE SOCIAL CLUB ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

ATTACHED to this copy of The Slasher is a form for the nomination of candidates for election to the Northerwood House Social Club Committee.

It should be noted that successful candidates must be prepared to attend meetings of the committee as required, in London or at Northerwood House, and expenses will be met by the Club. Such meetings, however, are not likely to be held more than two or three times a year.

The two retiring members are Mr. W. A. CORMACK, Controller of Finance, and Mr. W. A. CADMAN, Deputy Surveyor, New Forest. Both are willing to serve for a further term, if re-elected. Just for information, the serving members are Mr. E. H. BRADFORD and Mr. D. A. MITHEN, while Mr. J. H. JAMES, Chief Education Officer, and Mr. W. H. MIDDLETON (Secretary-Treasurer) are ex-officio members.

Nomination forms must be returned to Mr. J. H. JAMES, Chief Education Officer, Headquarters, by not later than 15th September. Ballot papers will be distributed with a subsequent issue of The Slasher.

****SEED COLLECTION BY SKI**

ANOTHER unusual method employed to carry out operations is described by MR. PETER MCINTYRE, of East Scotland: "Mr. H. J. Hooper's air valuation from Sutton Bank (The Slasher, June) reminded me that it is said in the Edinburgh Office that the Commission acquired a certain piece of Scotland after I had traversed it on ski. I have to record that, like many good ones, the story is apocryphal.

"There was, however, one hard winter when my colleague in Angus had been waiting for six weeks for a chance to get seed from the fine European larch at Bachnagairn, nearly two thousand feet up at the back of Glen Doll. My Divisional Officer asked if I thought the site could be assailed through the hills from Aberdeenshire. I replied that the only chance of reaching Bachnagairn before the spring was on ski. He gave me a curious look. 'Well, what are you waiting for?', he asked.

"I had a very good day."

****THE EPITAPH**

THE tale of "A Stone In Shropshire" in the July issue reminded me of a gravestone in one of the dales of the West Riding of Yorkshire, says MR. T. S. THOMPSON, District Officer for North Cardiganshire. The story goes that on a winter's morning, after a bitterly cold night, the body of an old man was found on the moors. No one knew who he was or whence he had come; and the kindly vicar therefore composed the following epitaph on the simple stone erected above the grave:-

"Italy and Spain,
Germany and France
Have been through life
My weary dance."

"So now I claim
The grave my dearest friend
That to my journeys all
Hath put an end."

****DON'T ALL SHOUT AT ONCE, BUT**

WE have been asked to remind our readers that Alice Holt Library is available to any and every member of the Commission's staff, regardless of rank or profession. An up-to-date catalogue is being printed and will shortly be on view at every main Commission Office. Meanwhile, if you have any problem that you think can be solved by the borrowing and reading of forestry textbooks or journals, please write to Miss CONNIE DAVIES, the Assistant Librarian, at Alice Holt Lodge, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey. (Phone: Bentley, Hants, 2255). Better still, if possible, call in there to see what help our library service can give you. Books can be sent on postal loan to any part of the British Isles, and it's all for free, as they say.

****TRANSFERS**

THE following transfers have taken place in recent months: District Officers A. Bearhap from Perth to Glasgow; C. R. G. Clothier from Shrewsbury to York; A. E. G. Flynn from Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury; K. Halton from Woking to Cambridge; D. G. Pyatt from Alice Holt (P. & E) to Edinburgh (P. & E).

Foresters: M. Anderson from Culbin E.(S) to Teindland E.(S); W. B. Anderson from Hewton E.(S) to Culbin; B. G. Dean from Cannock N.W.(E) to Grizedale N.W.(E); J. Gould from Wyre Forest S.W.(E) to Cotswold S.W.(E); R. B. Hart from Carrick S.(S) to Glentress S.(S); D. R. Hutchins from Whaddon Chase E.(E) to Willingham E.(E); T. Johnstone from Osmotherley N.E.(E) to Pickering N.E.(E); P. B. Lane from Rockingham E.(E) to Whaddon Chase E.(E); D. J. McNaught from Areclaoch S.(S) to Craick S.(S); J. Trussell from Beechwood E.(E) to Bedford Parlieus E.(E); B. Wilson from Amptill E.(E) to Beechwood; R. E. Young from Cotswold S.W.(E) to Wyre S.W.(E).

Assistant Foresters: D. F. Anderson from Rannoch E.(S) to Glenerruchty E.(S); G. N. Barry from Chopwell N.E.(E) to Mounces N.E.(E); S. Cooper from Machynlleth (P. & E) to Coleford (P. & E); D. Elgy from Wark N.E.(E) to Alice Holt D(R); H. N. Embleton from Alice Holt (P. & E) to Thrunton N.E.(E); P. Marsh from Wensum E.(E) to Santon Downham D.(R); L. C. McCullum from Bin E.(S) to Culbin E.(S); P. M. Reynolds from Brandon Depot E.(E) to Amptill E.(E); G. A. Rose from Brecon S.(W) to Draethen S.(W); T. R. Sawyer from Hereford S.W.(E) to Fort Augustus, Work Study; M. Shaw from Barcaldine W.(S) to Strathyre (P. & E); K. G. Shuker from Alice Holt (P. & E) to Coleford (P. & E).

More to follow, next month.

NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO
NORTHERWOOD (FORESTRY) SOCIAL CLUB COMMITTEE

NOMINEE

NOMINATED BY

SECONDED BY

.....		
.....		
.....		

I am willing to serve on the Club Committee if elected and undertake to attend meetings as required.

Signature(s) of Nominee (s) (Please state rank or grade, and station)

.....	Date
.....	Date
.....	Date