

Mr. Flowers
Mrs. Birch (10)

The CLASHER

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HONOUR FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL

Our Director General - Mr. JOHN A. DICKSON, M.A., B.Sc. (Forestry) - has been honoured with the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) of

Aberdeen University. Mr. Dickson, an Aberdeen University graduate, will receive his honourary degree at the Summer graduation ceremony at Aberdeen next year.

HIGHLAND FLING

A breath of the Highlands and Islands will come to London town early in the new year when

the MacBraynes' Steamer "Clansman" arrives at Tower pier.

The whole ship (a car ferry) has been converted into a floating exhibition to publicise the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. It has been named "Operation Highland Fling", and with a total cost of about £45,000 it is the most ambitious enterprise ever launched by the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh will officially open the exhibition on January 9th, which will run for nine days.

The Forestry Commission has played its part in the enterprise by putting on its own special display and supplying specimens of Scottish-grown timber from Glentress forest. It is also a good opportunity for publicising our own Jubilee Exhibition.

As some timber in foliage was also required for decoration purposes, this has been treated with a special proprietary compound in the hope of making it last throughout the show. It is expected that more than 30,000 people will attend.

WINSTON CHURCHILL TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP 1968

CHIEF FORESTER BOB GRANT (Grizedale N.W.(E)) recently returned from a three month tour in North America. He is now writing his

official report but favoured us with the following notes:-

"During the course of my Fellowship I travelled approximately 15,000 miles in aircraft ranging from a V.C.10 at 35,000 feet down to a Cessna 172 four seater plane in the Interlake area of Manitoba, which flew mostly at 50 to 150 feet on waterfowl census! In addition some 5,000 road miles were covered, varying from desert dust tracks in temperatures of up to 100 degrees fahrenheit, to snowbound mountain roads ascending to over 13,000 feet in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Modern jet travel catapults one with efficient but terrifying rapidity from the estuarine saltmarshes of the eastern seaboard to the misty rain forests of the Pacific west coast, and the range of topography and climate is almost incomprehensible by our standards.

The Fellowship, granted to study the "educational aspects of wild life conservation" took me to nine National Parks and numerous State and provincial parks in the U.S.A. and Canada, and to National wildlife refuges, Forests and recreational areas as well.

The wildlife interpretive centres, which are legion in the U.S.A., are really first

class and a great deal of useful information on techniques was gleaned. In wildlife management however, the National Parks policy of complete preservation has created enormous problems. In many National Parks the populations of Elk, (the North American equivalent of our Red Deer), have exploded to proportions far in excess of the carrying capacity of the available winter range, and this has resulted in the decimation of many of the aspen stands, an important species for all of the ungulates.

This was particularly apparent in Yellowstone and the damage was widespread in the two main Rocky Mountain parks in Canada at Banff and Jasper. The Parks authorities have now recognised the folly of this policy, which is the result of muddled legislation in the past, but to correct the situation is difficult due to the enormous areas of inaccessible country involved, and even more so to State and Federal political disagreements as to who should do the shooting - hunters or park personnel? Live trapping, an enormously expensive operation is carried out in Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado and Yellowstone but the difficulty has now arisen as to where to ship the captured to, as most of the areas in the state outside the Parks already have Elk problems!!

In North America generally, too much hunting over the years past has led to the imposition of short seasons and small bag limits for most species of ungulates and other wildlife. High powered conservation publicity with the usual political undertones has maintained these tight limits and deer and moose habitat, already being rapidly reduced by the spread of urban development, is now under even further pressure by over-population.

The intense pressures of both hunting and land use in general, with the resultant loss of wildlife habitat, has resulted in significant emphasis being placed on wildlife research. In the U.S.A., in particular, vast sums of money are spent annually on research into all aspects of wildlife management with perhaps the greatest accent being on habitat control. This work has reached a highly sophisticated stage with water fowl, and a great many lessons can be learned on how we can manage the many areas of water under Forestry Commission control, much of it of great potential for wild fowl.

During my travels it was impossible to divorce wild life conservation from public recreation, the two being very closely inter-related. When well correlated and zoned, they are obviously highly complementary to each other.

In the field of multiple land use, the example of the U.S. Forest Service is first class. I was deeply impressed by the way Foresters there involve themselves in all aspects of public recreation, and their educational and interpretive systems are magnificent. Unfortunately, due to legislative restrictions by the various States who have absolute control over all game animals, they are unable to carry out any practical management of wildlife populations.

The multiplicity of departments dealing with land management in America has sometimes resulted in inter-departmental rivalries which, unfortunately, has meant some duplication. Here the multiple use concept of the Forest Service is most refreshing. In the course of several talks which I was asked to give the resulting discussion invariably underlined how envious they are of the opportunities which present themselves to the Forestry Commission where, generally speaking, we have most of the management in our own hands with little or no conflict with other Departments.

In brief, the main lessons learned during my extensive tour of both U.S.A. and Canada, **an experience** for which I am most grateful not only to the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust but **also** to the Forestry Commission for allowing me the time away from duty, is that Foresters (and I refer to Foresters in the general sense and not just as a departmental grade) in Britain have a tremendous opportunity and challenge purposefully to control and integrate outdoor recreation, wildlife management and Forest management. They are probably better equipped than most people with their ecological training to interpret this to the public. As the largest single controller of land and wildlife habitat in the country, we have an opportunity to reap the economic rewards to be gained in this field and the same time gain the support of the public in helping Britains forests to play a much greater **role** in the social life of the country."

THANKS TO ALL

ARTHUR CADMAN wishes to thank all those many friends whose kind letters touched him greatly, and whose farewell gifts were most generous: these happy memories will be treasured, always. He writes: "The .220 Churchill rifle, with side mounted scope (so that the "iron sights" can be used when necessary) is already a well-tried companion. It will always be used wisely, for a sound reason and then, only to ensure a clean kill. But it will be the means of getting me out of bed at dawn many times, even though on many such occasions only field glasses will be used.

The collection of Sporting Books will give pleasure for many a long winter's evening, and the cheque has already bought a 'Barbours Thornproof': a necessary article of clothing known to most foresters!

So, very simply, let me say again - thank you all."

THE 'DO-IT-YOURSELF'
FOREST FAMILY

Here is an interesting story of a 'forest' family, sent in by Mrs. H. Nurse of N.E. England Conservancy. It illustrates what can be accomplished by enthusiasm, team work - and hard work.

In the early days of Wark Forest, the vacant farmhouse of Pundershaw and in-by fields were made into a holding and occupied by Mr. Joe Potts and his wife. Joe Potts has recently retired after thirty years good service to the Commission. During this time they have seen roads reach and pass their holding and the "hill" become a forest covering the horizon.

There are many ways in which the success of a holding may be measured. For example, the contentment it affords to its occupiers, the rewards it brings for their efforts, the way it fits into the management of the forest for fire protection etc. All these aspects were thoroughly understood by a Mr. A. D. Hopkinson, the planner and pioneer planter at that time.

Fruit has been borne in abundance to the Potts. Not least on the credit side of the ledger are their four sons, Tommy, Barty, young Joe and Jimmy - all now key men in the forest staff.

Tommy and young Joe have recently completed the building of houses adjacent to the village of Wark, the standard of workmanship being higher than commercial house building. It took four years in all to build the houses. Two years to collect materials, get plans made and passed, and prepare the site. The plans were drawn for them by a local man. They did their own haulage with a second-hand lorry bought from a local farmer, and prepared the site with a tractor-mounted shovel, also bought second-hand. They had the assistance of a mason to build the shell and assistance with the plastering. Apart from that, they did the job themselves with a bit of guidance from local men.

Tommy is a skilled, experienced plant operator. Joe and Barty are skilled, experienced production workers, complete with their own chainsaws, tractors, winches and tipping trailers and lots of "know how". Jimmy, the youngest, is a skilled management worker and lives at home with his parents.

So from one Forest Workers' Holding has come a team to plough, sow, reap and harvest, in a forest sense, second to none. If Mrs. Potts' household and holding chores allow time to look back over the years she must be a very proud lady. Many socks and coats were dried at her fire in the days prior to mechanical transport, when the walk and cycle home was long, with no 'wet time'. So long may her property-owning and machinery-owning sons continue to take the "irk" from their work. (The name Wark is said to be the past tense of work and refers originally to the completion of work done in building the Border stronghold in more troublesome times - it does not mean all the work has been done in Wark Forest!)

COURSE AT ATTINGHAM PARK

A course, organised by the joint effort of the Royal Forestry Society and the Timber Growers Organisation, will be held at Attingham Park, Nr. Shrewsbury on the 27th-30th October, 1969.

This Residential Course, designed for woodland owners, Land Agents and Head Foresters, is a successor to that held at Attingham in October 1967. Further information may be obtained in due course from the Hon. Secretary, Royal Forestry Society of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, 49 Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

BUILD-UP FOR "EXPO 69"

From the support now in hand from 'Trade' exhibitions and other organisations who want to participate in the Commission's Jubilee Exhibition at the Bush Estate, Edinburgh, next year, it looks like only exceptionally bad weather can prevent the show from being a great success.

Some 125 exhibitors have already booked space for what is now (unofficially) referred to as "Expo 69", and by the time bookings close at end of January, the total is expected to be about 150.

Among the variety of attractions laid on to 'Pull 'em in', will be the attendance of the world-famous angler Peter Anderson, who will demonstrate his amazing casting skill.

Preparations are also now well in hand for the 'Forest Weeks' in all Conservancies, and it is encouraging to note how all concerned are going at their tasks with increasing enthusiasm.

Events such as 'Expo 69', all the Forest Weeks, and of course our own Forestry exhibition at the main agricultural shows as well, all add up to a tremendous amount of hard work and organisation. So in this last SLASHER of 1968 may we say a special 'Thank you' to all concerned in making our Jubilee Year one to be remembered.

And a HAPPY 1969 TO YOU ALL.

CONGRATULATIONS

Following the recent promotion Board, the Director General, having considered the Board's recommendations authorises the promotion to Chief Forester of the following officers, who are named in alphabetical order:

<u>Pers. No.</u>		<u>Location</u>
A.70	Armstrong, H. C.	S(S)
G.118	Grant, W.	NW(E)
H.169	Hollowell, E. G.	S(W)
J.47	James, A. L.	New
J.103	Johnston, C. R.	W(S)
J.30	Jones, F. B.	E(E)
K.73	Kemp, R. A. F.	H.Q. (T.T.S.)
Mc.96	MacCaskill, D. A.	W(S)
O.26	Ogilvie, J. A.	N(S)
P.90	Power, R. J.	E(E)
R.158	Riddell, J. M.	N(S)
R.115	Robertson, D. D. C.	N(S)
S.73	Slatter, F. A.	S(W)
W.173	Waddelove, E.	NW(E)
Y.14	Young, A.	W(S)

The undermentioned non-industrial staff changes have been notified during the month of November, 1968.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Name	Grade	Location	Remarks
Oakley, J.S.	D(F)O II	Inverness H.Q.(W/S)	On return from secondment to Uganda.
Lomax, G.	Clerk of Works (T.W.G.III)	Cambridge E(E)	Successful candidate at Open Competition.

TERMINATIONS

Cadman, W.A.	Deputy Surveyor	New	
Drummond, R.O.	Asst. Conservator	N(W)	Retirement
Selby, B.C.	D(E)O I	York H.Q.(A & D)	Retirement
Gardiner, A.S.	Hd. For.	Alice Holt D(R)	To New Employment with Nature Conservancy.
Middleton, J.W.	Hd. For.	Northerwood House H.Q.(E & T)	
Bowdler, A.C.F.	For.	Langholm H.Q. (W/S)	
Watson, J.	For.	Clocaenog N(W)	Retirement
Williams, R.J.	For.	Dovey Corris N(W)	Retirement
Eley, E. J.	Supt. of Works (T.W.G.III)	Llandovery S(W)	
Elliot, Mrs. S.E.	E.O.	H.Q.(L)	
Niven, Miss E.B.D.	E.O.	H.Q.(L)	Retirement
Boyd, Mrs. J.M.	A.E.O.	D(R) Edin.	

TRANSFERS

Name	Grade	Old	New
Mithen, D.A.	Asst. Conservator	Cambridge E(E)	Lyndhurst New to take up post of Deputy Surveyor.
Hughes, B.D.	D(F)O I	Thetford E(E)	Cambridge E(E) on promotion to Asst. Conservator.
Pyatt, D.G.	D(F)O I	Edinburgh H.Q.(P & E)	Edinburgh D(R)
Jones, H.	Hd. For.	Tidenham Chase SW(E)	Private Woodlands in Glos., Worcs., and Herefordshire, SW(E).
Stout, H.C.	Hd. For.	Lock Eck W(S)	Glenbranten W(S) Change of Forest name on amalgamation.
Twallin, R.W.	Hd. For.	Dean F.T.S. H.Q.(E & T)	Northerwood House H.Q.(E & T)
Bain, J.	For.	Tentsmuir E(S)	Edensmuir E(S) On temporary promotion to Head Forester.
Baird, J.	For.	Black Isle N(S)	Edinburgh D(R)
Baldwin, R.A.	For.	Ceiriog N(W)	Machno N(W)
Beardsley, A.	For.	Santon Downham H.Q. (P & E)	Hexham H.Q. (P & E)
Bell, D.A.	For.	Thetford H.Q.(P & E)	Bourne H.Q. (P & E)
Brookes, C.	For.	Bennan S(S)	Glengap S(S)
Cliffe, P.E.	For.	Salisbury SW(E)	Salisbury H.Q. (P & E)
Conduit, J.S.	For.	Rhinefield New	Rhinefield H.Q. (P & E)
Cowie, F.R.	For.	Achray W(S)	Loch Ard W(S) On promotion to Hd. For.
Dale, I.A.G.	For.	Delamere NW(E)	Eredine W(S)

TRANSFERS Contd.

Name	Grade	Old	New
Edwards, O.N.	For.	Glengap S(S)	Kyle S(S)
Gordon, A.N.	For.	Fochabers H.Q.(P & E)	Banchory H.Q. (P & E)
Gough, T.	For.	Laurieston S(S)	Wauchope S(S)
Green, P.	For.	Wykeham NE(E)	Wykeham H.Q. (P & E)
Haw, G.	For.	Kielder NE(E)	Dalby NE(E)
Hornby, D.R.	For.	Hamsterley NE(E)	Hamsterley H.Q. (P & E)
Hunt, J.	For.	Glasfyndd S(W)	Rheola S(W)
Hutchison, P.	For.	Thornthwaite NW(E)	Thornthwaite H.Q. (P & E)
Jones, B.L.	For.	Irefon S(W)	Slebech S(W)
Lawes, C.E.G.	For.	Coed-y-Brenin N(W)	Coed-y-Brenin H.Q.(P & E)
Little, A.G.	For.	Edinburgh H.Q.(P & E)	Barehory H.Q. (P & E)
MacDuff, R.J.P.	For.	Cairnbaan W(S)	Cairnbaan H.Q. (P & E)
MacRae, L.D.	For.	Fort Augustus H.Q. (P & E)	Culloden H.Q. (P & E)
Main, D.	For.	Loch Ard W(S)	Loch Ard H.Q. (P & E)
Meechan, J.	For.	Edinburgh H.Q.(P & E)	Alice Holt H.Q. (P & E)
Moules, T.R.	For.	Cropton, NE(E)	Cropton H.Q. 'P & E)
Pollock, I.	For.	Ae H.Q. (W/S)	Alice Holt D(R)
Read, J.L.	For.	Dovey Valley N(W)	Dovey Valley H.Q. (P & E)
Robson, D.I.	For.	Glentroot S(S)	Creebridge S(S)
			Special Duties
Rogers, E.V.	For.	Wendover E(E)	Olrey H.Q. (W/S)
Stockdale, B.R.	For.	Cropton NE(E)	Kielder NE(E)
Thomson, J.	For.	Kyle S(S)	Bennan S(S)
Thurlow, E.G.	For.	Bradon SW(E)	Bradon H.Q. (P & E)
Westley, P.C.	For.	Rheidol N(W)	Alice Holt H.Q. (P & E)
Wilde, C.G.	For.	Slebech S(W)	Glasfyndd S(W)
Witts, D.M.	For.	Alice Holt H.Q.(P & E)	Alice Holt D(R)
Dixon, N.	Tr. For.	Spadeadam NW(E)	Kershope NW(E)
Collin, H.J.	Clerk of Works (T.W.G.III)	Kielder NE(E)	Edinburgh H.Q. (O/S)
Chapman, J.	E.O.	NE(E)	On detached duty New on promotion to H.E.O.

Staff Commencing or Returning from Service or Official visits Overseas

R. Lines	D.O. I	Nuffield Foundation Travelling Fellowship Japan, Australia, Canada, New Zealand 15th-30th November.
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Staff Moves - Forest Officers

Mr. D.A. Mithen assumed the duties of Deputy Surveyor w.e.f. 26th November, 1968 and as a result, the following staff changes have taken, or will take place.

Mr. B.D. Hughes	D(F)O I	E(E) (Thetford)	to	Cambridge, E(E) on promotion to Assistant Conservator w.e.f. 18.11.68.
Mr. I.A.D. Grant	D(F)O I	N(S)	to	Kielder, NE(E) w.e.f. 2.12.68.
Mr. D.F. Perry	D(F)O I	NE(E)	to	Thetford, E(E) w.e.f. 9.12.68.

The following posting is also notified:

Mr. R.J.N. Busby	D(F)O II	Seconded to	to	Cardiff S(W) w.e.f. the end
		Fiji		of February, 1969.

The following impending staff change is announced:

Mr. R.G. Cathie	D(F)O I	H.Q.(A & D)	to	East Scotland Conservancy
				(Aberdeen) w.e.f. 17.3.69
				to take up the post of
				Assistant Conservator
				(Forest Management) on the
				retirement of Mr. S.M. Petrie.
				The effective date of
				Mr. Cathie's promotion will
				be 1st April, 1969.