

FORESTERS ONCE.....

Message From The Dean How To Catch a Bear

For fifteen years Forestry Week has been a highlight in the college calendar at U.N.B. Whenever they are found foresters exert an influence over their environment out of proportion to their numbers. Their spontaneous and contagious enthusiasm for the job at hand renders the possible easy — the impossible takes a little longer!

In years long past, as today, their boundless energies were directed to outdoor competitions involving feats of skill and brawn. Forestry Week, as celebrated through the years, has included the Hammerfest, a grudge soccer game between the engineers and foresters, the Bushman's Ball, Tug-O-War, and Field Nite. Beneath the watchful figure of Paul Bunyan a modern Bull-o-the-woods emerges, his name etched on the double-bitted axe that is the symbol of supremacy in forest skills and woodsmanship.

Research conducted by Gary Saunders and Fred MacDougall of the Class of '59 reveals that the Hammerfest once was not merely a beer-drinking spree. For example, in 1914, participants were treated to a veritable feast of oysters and tomato scallops, chicken, pork, beans, cake, pies, tea, coffee, raisins and nuts. Revellers were provided with clay pipes and "Old Chum" and the survivors, if any, were treated to a rum punch.

The ever-rising cost-of-living and the resulting austerity program has necessitated substitutions in the menu in recent years. In order to boost the economy of the Province of New Brunswick top priority is now given to a local product, which, unfortunately, bears the name of a lake in our good neighbour to the west.

Undergraduate foresters, while at college, are seeking to equip



DR. J. O. DINEEN

themselves for membership in a relatively young and little-known profession. Academic attainments must be given top priority, but not to the exclusion of extra-curricular activities, whether sports or social. A natural interest in the out-doors is usually accompanied by participation in prowess in competitive sports. However, the forester must be well-adjusted socially as well as proficient professionally for, in the day-to-day performance of his duties, he will be dealing not only with trees and machines but with people. On the one hand, possession of the social graces can no longer remain the monopoly of the artisan. On the other hand, skill in handling a canoe is becoming less important than the ability to programme a computer. Yes, even the engineer's sliderule is becoming outdated!

Few professions are as demanding as forestry. Proficiency is demanded in subjects ranging from oral and written English to meteorology and climatology, from economics and sociology to dendrology and silviculture, from statistical methods to forest administration and policy.

It seems that all logging camps in Canada are bothered by bears breaking into the meathouse or cookery. One thoughtful old camp foreman came up with this method for ridding his camp of these black pests.

"Find a nice flat piece of ground just behind the meathouse. Have the camp scaler or strip boss measure off and mark an area measuring 1/4 chain by 1/4 chain. Then get one of the loggers to cut down all the trees and brush on the area, and pile this slash to one side. Now the whole area must be dug out to a depth of 10 feet. Get the barnboss to do this because he is probably the most practised hand in the camp when it comes to using a shovel! "Once the hole has been dug out, throw all the trees and brush that have been cut from the area, into the hole. Set fire to it; (maybe the blacksmith or bullcook could help out on this). The fire has to do a thorough job, and the material should be turned over and stirred up with long poles so that nothing remains in the hole after the fire except several feet of ashes !!!

"At this point, send someone (the flunkey will do) to swipe two cans of green peas from the cookery stockroom. Open the cans and sprinkle the peas all around the edge of the hole. Now, hide in the nearby bush and wait. "When the old bear comes out of the bush to take a pea, kick him in the ash-hole."

With such a broad basic knowledge, and familiarity with the modern tools of our technological age, the forester is prepared for the task of seeking solutions to problems facing the forest economy and putting these solutions into effect. At every stage the forester is dealing with people—the general public, his employer, his professional colleagues, his employees. His college days are well-spent if they prepare him for the days ahead.

Said the deer as she walked out of the forest, "I wouldn't do that again for a Buck."

Presidential Ditherings

What can I say that hasn't been said almost every year at this time for the past decade or so except to extend sincere thanks and congratulations to all those, especially Gord Franklin who so man of the Forestry Week probably executed the duties as chairman of the Forestry Week program, who contributed time and effort to make the week the success which I believe it was.

To those organising such a series of events as this it seems that there are at least a thousand details to attend to, several hundreds of which are forgotten. However, come the time of its reality, the event usually is resolved of its own accord.

Unfortunately this year things were rushed and a little late getting started; but with true "last moment" philosophy characteristic of Foresters, all the multifarious tasks were accomplished on time.

Once again Big Paul flashed his pearls out over the campus through an abundance of black whiskers — and was monarch, at least for a week, of all he surveyed.

From our highly successful social, held Wednesday in the Forestry lounge, emerged our queen, selected with much indecision and dithering on the part of the voters, from four very lovely and charming candidates.*

As mentioned by our Dean, this aspect of University life is of no small import, and in order to achieve a full and balanced education in living and responsibility — even though it requires time



BOB HALLET

and effort and some of the accomplishments when viewed objectively may seem futile and insignificant—it should be remembered that the satisfaction of having done a job well is of major concern.

In closing I would like to say that participation is what makes or breaks the plans of anyone trying to organize activities, and in the years I have been at U.N.B. Foresters have always seemed to turn out in larger percentages than those in any other Faculty. It is this that makes Forestry Week and Foresters.

*It didn't require much more than a cursory glance at the winners of the events of the Field night, held Tuesday, to see that Stan Williamson had racked up more points than anyone else—placing first in three events. Congrats to a worthy Bull of the Woods.

DEFINITION OF AN ENGINEER

An (Engineering) student is a person who passes as an exacting expert on the basis of being able to turn out with prolific fortitude, infinite strings of incomprehensible formulae collected with microscopic precision from vague assumptions which are based on debatable figures taken from inconclusive experiments carried out with instruments of problematic accuracy by persons of doubtful reliability and questionable mentality.



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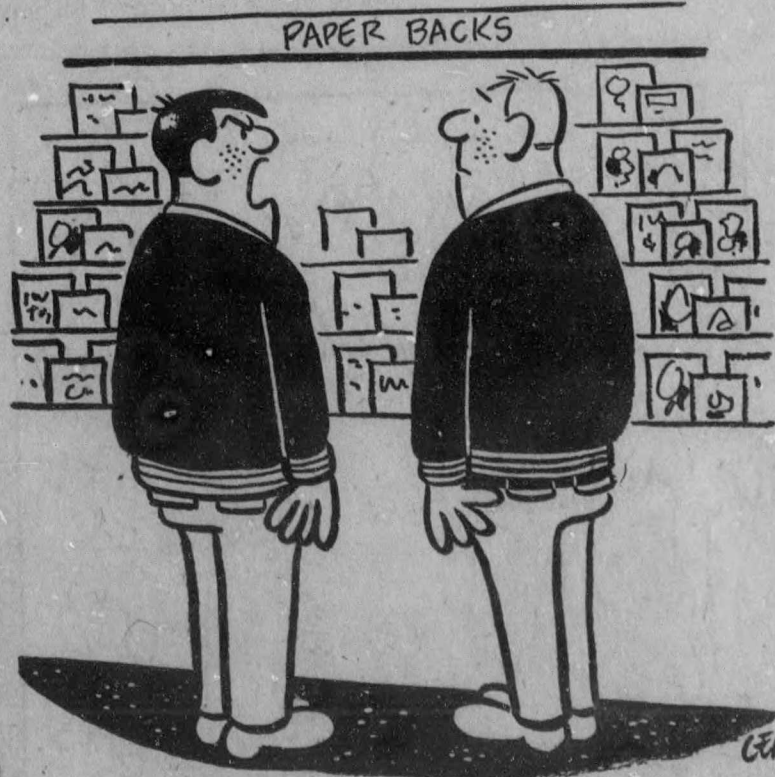
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