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EDITORIAL

Assuming the job of Editor of the Brunswick, he it only for one issue, alas, brings with it the job of writing an editorial. —Pen in hand the words are beginning to flow

First we would like to add our welcome, as Foresters, to the many already expressed to Dr. and Mrs. Trueman and with it our sincere best wishes for their future at this University. We are indeed fortunate in having Dr. Trueman as our new President.

Our policy in this issue, as in the past, is to present material which is mainly of interest to Foresters but we hope that others on the campus will find it at least of passing interest. We have had many contributions but unfortunately, due to lack of space, we are unable to publish all of them. To those whose work is not included in this issue we wish to say "many thanks". We appreciate your efforts and can only regret the circumstances due to which your work goes unpublished.

Within the next two or three years there will be as many of us "recent" graduates in Forestry, as there are now practicing Forestry graduates in all Canada. We will be a very definite new factor in the profession and because the woods and affiliated industries are willing and even eager to give us jobs this speaks for itself in reassuring the "Doubting Thomases" who hold the impression that anyone connected with the harvesting of forests is doing so purely for personal profit and quick exploitation. We would be the first to deny that there is no profit motive in the woods industry, as indeed, there is such a motive in practically any other industry one might care to consider. BUT the fact that we are to be employed by companies in such unenviable positions to help look after and properly manage their forested holdings plainly points to the realization that they are becoming more and more aware of the necessity of proper management and the use of conservation methods. If these same companies merely wanted their trees cut, with the object of quick profit, then they would not hire university trained foresters but would depend on experienced bush workers of a more practical nature who are extremely capable of cutting and clearing standing timber with no thought for the future whatsoever. Progress in the field of Forest Conservation and Management on the sustained yield basis is being made and will continue to be made in the future but it is not something which stands out in a year to year inspection of the woods industry. European methods, developed over a period of several hundred years, are much more advanced than our own and while we can learn much from them, the very vastness and inaccessibility of some of our wooded natural resources make them impractical from the economic point of view in this country. Hence we are slowly but surely developing our own methods and it is our sincere hope that we all as embryonic Foresters, will play our own part, be it great or small, in this development.

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GLIMSES OF FINLAND

Harris E. Videto

July 27 was a warm and sunny day at Abo, Finland. Picture a small passenger boat with accommodations for perhaps 250 but which actually is carrying 400 persons. These are mostly Finns returning from a short visit to Sweden, the land of plenty. The boat is completely overrun, people sleep on the decks, on stairways, in corridors, everywhere. Nearby are bulging suitcases, bursting shopping bags. Clothing, canned goods, groceries, fruit, candy and cigarettes make up the parcels.

We tied up about 9:00 a. m. and the queue quickly formed to clear customs, money control and passport. Soon after my baggage had been cleared by customs, I was called from the queue by Mr. J. Vory, the General Manager of the Central Association of Finnish Woodworking Industries. (Metastaho). Mr. Vory had made the five-hour train journey from Helsinki to meet me, a Canadian forester, who wished to visit his country. He had made arrangements to leave his office for the week of my visit so that he could travel with me and so introduce me to officials in educational, research, industrial and forestry circles.

After the barest of formalities with the immigration officials we were soon on the train for Helsinki. On the way we had to pass across Porkkala Peninsula, some 40-odd miles. This area was leased to Russia, for 15 years and the Finns and others are not allowed to go what goes on there. The engine crew is changed to Russian, the train cars are blacked out with outside curtains, the coach cars locked, and Russian guards ride between the cars. This blacking out extends to aeroplanes and fishing and other boats.

At Helsinki (300,000 pop.) I visited part of the University. It is taxed to capacity today with 10,000 students. The Forestry Department is housed in a huge, modern building completed in 1928. The building cost 20 million Finnish Marks, but I was told it could not be replaced for 500 million finks today. (190 fink. = \$100).

There are 7 departments and nearly 600 students. This is a post-war flurry, normal intake being limited to 50. The under graduate course takes four years and two graduate degrees are given. The forestry building is well appointed but mention should be made of the auditorium. This is a sloping floor theatre with individual seats and desks for 225. Seats are of form fitting bent plywood. Decks have individual shielded lighting for note taking during films or slides. At either end of the 90-foot lecturer's table is a hooded control panel. Here the lecturer controls blinds, lights, air, and temperature. A lapel microphone allows him to speak to the projectionist.

Research in Finland is carried on by both government and industry. One of the several organizations is the Finnish State Institute for Technical Research in Helsinki. This consists of 13 laboratories, a library and publication department and the main office. Some 200 are engaged in research, about half of whom are graduate engineers.

The wood technical laboratory had 18 men when I visited it and had divided the work into these sections: Structures and properties of wood; Wood working; Glueing and surface treatment; Wood preservation; Drying of wood; Questions on wood waste.

The intensity of this work is more astonishing when we realized that Finland is concerned with hardly more than three species of wood — Scots Pine 55%, Norway Spruce 25%, and Birch 17% covering nearly 75% of the land. We are not surprised to learn that forest products are their leading exports. Among the more important wood using industries should be mentioned some 500 saw mills sawing for export. The Finns have 13 plywood factories, 10 spool factories, five match factories, 29 mechanical pulp and board mills, 33 cellulose and 23 paper mills. An amazing development for 3 1/2 million people from a forest of just over 50 million acres.

My tour took me to representative factories at Lathi, Jyväskylä, Vasa, Koski, Saunalahti, and Abo.

A Canadian cannot help being impressed with the close utilization all along the way. The "Law Concerning Private Forests" is particularly severe by our standards but has the support of the forest conscious people. This law requires the private owner to submit detailed plans of cutting, land use, and provision for assuring regeneration on any area

HIYA DOC!



The Forestry Brunswick wishes to take this opportunity to welcome Prof. "Doc" Roberts back to U. N. B. Doc came to U. N. B. in 1940 from Washington, New Jersey, as a hopeful forestry student. In 1942 he decided there was more excitement in the U. S. N. air force and joined Uncle Sam's forces. After three years of service he was discharged as a Lieut. (J. G.). Doc returned to U. N. B. and graduated in 1945 with a degree in Forestry.

For the past two years he has been employed by James Sewell Ltd Forest Consultants in Old Town, Maine. Doc is married and has one daughter. Note to the Band—Doc is considered some shaves with a trumpet!!!!

GOOD TIMBER

The trees that never had to fight for sun and sky and air and light, that stood out in the open plain, and always got its share of rain. Never became a forest king. But tired and died a scrubby thing. The man who never had to toil by hand or mind "mild" life's turmoil, who never had to win his share of sun and sky and light and air. Never became a manly man. But tired and died as he began.

Good timber does not grow in ease. The stronger wind, the tougher trees. The farther sky, the greater length. The rougher storms, the greater strength. By sun and cold, by rain and snows. In trees or man, good timber grows. Where thickest stands the forest growth. We find the patriarchs of both. And they hold converse with the stars. Whose broken branches show the scars. Of many winds and much of strife. This is the common law of life.

(Unknown)

he wishes to harvest or treat. The work is carried out with the advice and authority of foresters and his District Forestry Board. If devastation occurs, the woodland or forest is declared closed to cutting except for domestic use.

The "Law of Forest Improvement" is a companion law which sets aside 35 million finks. (about \$300,000) a year for the purpose of draining swamps afforestation, putting devastated areas back in shape, silviculture and other forest improvement and protection measures. Half of the sum is expended on state and unproductive areas, the balance on forest reforestation.

The same rational long term and wise use attitude can be traced from the forest to the factory. Sawmills and other plants are constantly being improved and integration is very common. Thus "many sawmills have established sulphate mills as extensions to their plant to utilize the pine wood waste. Several sulphite mills, again which use only the smaller dimensions of spruce for the manufacture of cellulose, have added a saw-mill to their plant to utilize the heavier timber obtained in the course of purchases of timber.

A typical unit visited consisted of a sawmill, great kilns, finishing mill, prefabricated houses, general wood working, permanent dry lumber ware house, wood flour for plastics industry. There is usually a wood fuel and box wood unit also. At another plant, spool manufacturing night figure while at a third there would be a veneer and plywood factory with a furniture and cabinet department taking much from the plywood mill.

Space does not permit a description of this beautiful land of ten thousand lakes, of the rolling panorama of deciduous forest, of the beautiful architecture of the towns and cities, of the statutory in all parks and squares, of the indescribably hospitable nature of a brave, hard-working, progressive people.

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(Continued on Page 3).

The Case For Specialization

Under the spell of Forestry Week the student of applied science begins to wonder if all this specialized labour he puts forth is actually leading him anywhere, as he progresses from year to year in forestry his field narrows, first into "A" and "B" groups in the field of Forestry itself, and then further into Pathology, Entomology, utilization and logging within each major subdivision.

All this apparently eliminates any doubt as to where our student is bound but actually it gives rise to never a greater doubt; where, for example, will I fit if the narrow field I have chosen is closed to me?

If I could take a more diversified curriculum where again would I go in search of a position? In this case the training is general and hazy and of little particular value to industry. It is indeed quite a predicament to find oneself in but one which has arisen unconsciously to everyone's attention as he progresses toward a degree.

After some consideration of many aspects the writer has arrived at what he finds is rather conclusive evidence that the fear of specialization is entirely without foundation.

Educationalists have stressed the classical curriculum, the need for "citizens" (a very elusive term) and the lack of culture in the undergraduate body; undoubtedly these charges are true but wishful thinking is no substitute for reality. Educators are educators, business men are business men and the dollar sign is indeed a powerful symbol.

Civilization needs the culture of which the educators speak yet, the college graduate is faced not with such a long range plan but with the fact of getting a job and to do so he must have the qualification industry requires. It is unfortunate that industry is not organized on a more cultural basis but since it is not the college graduate must meet its standards, which at the moment tend toward even more intense specialization.

The average applied science student is not devoid of a feeling of social responsibility yet he is at the same time engulfed in a struggle for survival amidst tremendous competition. A struggle whose key to success is again specialization.

Those who direct the nation's governmental agencies and private industries are barely satisfied by the particular knowledge of today's graduate. "Too hazy and incompetent," they say, yet in the same breath they feel that workers in allied fields are ignorant of their co-workers problems to such an extent that co-operation is virtually impossible. Here the problem is too much specialization it would seem. My answer is that there is not enough! It may seem impossible to reconcile that with my earlier mention of the need for a cultural curriculum but it most assuredly is possible.

We have reached a stage in our university training where the concepts and principles of the early days of college education is on the constant clash with the demands of the present.

Briefly specialization versus generalization. Unfortunately for the moment we are baffled, cries arise from either camp and curricula are revised again and again. There are smatterings of everything from Greek to electronics with no one heading the cue which has been before them for a good twenty years.

The leaders of industrial organization have shown the efficiency of teamwork as opposed to the arbitration that has produced our present day applied science curricula.

Sub-assemblies of lower school feeding the assembly of the final years with the parts that make the smooth running finished product. The mathematics and physical sciences facts leading to one field and one field only from start to finish. There should be no need for the worker in our field on graduation to know enough about his co-workers. Such duplication even in so minor a manner is unnecessary, it has worked in industry and business and it will work in science as well.

The educationalists will say "what of our well informed, tolerant, clear thinking citizen, we are not insects with clearly defined castes we are people concerned with government and religion and intolerance between races." Without a doubt that is the biggest problem of all yet today's half measure in mixing liberal arts and technology will certainly never achieve the desired results. (Continued on Page 3).



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