



For a number of years small tractors have eased the load of those who work in our forests, and because of their importance in lessening backbreaking labor they are looked after with all the love and care given a young couple's firstborn.

Guarding Our Forest Wealth Full Time Job for Experts

TOLD BY DOUG LACARTE

North Bay Division of the Department of Lands and Forests was host to newspaper, radio and television personnel on the annual safari arranged to acquaint news media with the plans and performances of the men who work so hard to keep the forests green and lakes full of fish.

This annual outing is looked forward to by reporters and photographers, and there is great rivalry in all organizations for the pleasure of being guests of the hospitable and knowledgeable forestry men.

The flight took off last Wednesday morning in the new Otter aircraft belonging to the Department with Chuck Thompson of the Sudbury Division at the controls. The flight covered 180 miles of the North Bay Division responsibility, with stops at McConnell, Lady Evelyn, Devil's Lake and Bear Island.

This reporter swallowed furiously in the initial take-off to keep breakfast down, but once out of the thermals and pockets close to the ground the flight was pleasant and uneventful.

Between hops, the trippers were acquainted with the bases, which are instrumental in keeping our forests green. Located in strategic areas, the bases house forest rangers, men and equipment and form an intricate network with the fire towers system in an all-out effort to get at a fire in the shortest possible time.

The North Bay and Temagami regions have not recorded a serious fire this year, but personnel are busy at other tasks. Campsite improvement and supervision, fish and wildlife, scaling, the laying out of summer resort subdivisions and portage clearing are only a few of the odd jobs performed during the April to October season.

Established in 1960, when an access road was run in from Thorne to render the McLaren Bay site unsuitable, the three-man comple-

ment at McConnell Lake under Forest Ranger R. Coulombe protect an area of some 250 square miles. Sand plains in the vicinity of the camp were logged at the turn of the century and devastated by fire soon after. A three-year reseedling and extensive planting program along with natural seeding has added over 1,250,000 trees in two townships.

In view of the then new procedure to decrease the time between the start of a fire and the arrival of fire-fighters, the base at Lady Evelyn Lake was begun in 1930. Forest Ranger J. Loney and his men are equipped with the latest in fire pumps, outboard motors, trucks and portable and very high frequency radios to guard an area, which is a favorite spot for canoe trippers, hunters, anglers and wandering tenters.

Located 29 miles north of River Valley, the Devil's Lake Camp was founded in 1937, but with the in-

crease in logging, mining and tourist activity, it was later renovated and the staff increased to three. Forest Ranger B. Harris and his crew are responsible for 280 square miles of valuable timberland and ore-bearing deposits.

The oldest of the four bases by far, the Bear Island base was established in the latter part of the 19th century. An ideal location, the major portion of the Temagami watershed can be patrolled from this point. Originally composed of one log building, expansion became necessary with the influx of cottagers and travellers to the area and five buildings have been added. H. Price is Forest Ranger in charge.

Hosts during the tour were: W. B. M. Clarke, District Forester; Assistant District Forester, D. M. Peacock; Chief North Bay Forest Ranger L. L. Bronson and Chief Temagami Forest Ranger, W. A. O'Donnell.

Life at Camp Lorraine Happy One for Girls

One hundred and twelve girls were registered for the three successful girls camps held at Camp Lorraine this summer.

These girls gained experience in Bible Study, hikes, cook-outs as well as learning to live together in new situations.

'Juniors in God's World' and 'Adventuring Together as Christians' were the books used for their Bible Study. These were adopted for Canadian use by the Committee on Teen-Age Work Department of Christian Education, Canadian Council of Churches.

One morning a group of girls and counsellors hiked to the 'Top of the World' and then over to 'Old Baldy' to pick blueberries which were handed over to the excellent camp cook, Mrs. Don McGugan, for making into pies.

Another day, the girls hiked to the Old Mission for a hamburger cook-out.

While at the Old Mission, the girls were taken over to the Quebec side. That same week, Mr. and Mrs. Don McLaren, pioneers of Lorraine Valley spoke to the camp about the Old Mission.

As part of the outpost camp project undertaken this year, beans were cooked on open fires on the beach by the girls. One evening the counsellors put on a show for the campers and the next evening the 'campers capers' was performed for the staff.

Other activities were an 'Indian Day' and 'Shipwreck Party'.

Mrs. G. Bowers, B.A., was the Girls Director and Mr. F. Patterson, vice-principal of Levack Public School, the Director for the Boys' Camps, and also Camp Business Manager.

Miss Jo-Ann Hamilton, a qualified teacher, was in charge of the craft shop where the girls learned basket weaving, to make stuffed animal toys, shell jewellery and many other interesting crafts.

Swimming instructions were given by Miss Ann McBean and the health of the campers was in the capable hands of Mrs. F. Patterson, R.N.

There was approximately one counsellor for every five campers.

Heather Cameron of Cobalt who had just completed three weeks training at Bark Lake, Lois Seymour of Larder Lake, Lynda Kenyon of New Liskeard, Carol Gibben of Englehart and Marlene and Christine Sylvester of Kirkland Lake completed the staff.

Cobalt Geology

A very comprehensive description of the geology and underground workings of many of the mines in the old Cobalt silver-cobalt mining camp is given in a preliminary report now ready for distribution by the Ontario Department of Mines.

The report, P. R. 1961-6, by the Department's resident geologist, Robert Thomson, is available upon application to the publications office in Toronto. The price is \$1:00 per copy. It covers parts of Coleman Township, Concession IV, Lots one to five and the Eastern "A" claims in Gillies Limit.



Even as at home, the way to keep a man happy and contented is through his stomach. Lands and Forests personnel are kept well fed by cook Gordon Nelson and his assistant Jack Williams. The guests of the Department who sampled the food last Wednesday agreed that it tasted like nectar and ambrosia, but considerably more satisfying.

Men and Machines For Fire Control

TORONTO — Protecting 303,000 of Ontario's more than 412,000 square mile area against forest fires requires not only a small army of trained men but also an unbelievable amount of equipment — what an army would call "materiel".

As with an army in action, decisions, strategy and quick movement also are essential; the idea of being there "fastest with the mostest".

During the Forest Fire Season, normally from April 1 to October 31, fires break out on an average of eight per day. During the severe fire outbreaks in June and early July in Northwestern Ontario, fires reached a peak of 85 in one day.

The regular protective staff during the Fire Season numbers 2,000. This staff is augmented by extra fire fighters when needed; 2,622 were added to the regular staff during the Northwestern Ontario fires this year.

Transportation is important, so the Department of Lands and Forests has 900 vehicles, 1,500 boats and canoes.

The Department has 44 aircraft — Beavers and Otters — and rents five helicopters.

The Beaver aircraft can carry 90 gallons of water in float tanks. The larger Otters carry 180 gallons. The Otter, from a lake or river source a mile or two away from a fire, can drop water on it at the rate of 3,500 to 4,000 gallons an hour — or about 20 tons; that is equivalent to what could be thrown on a blaze by two high pressure fire pumps in the same time.

"We have enough fire fighting equipment and maintenance requirements to supply up to 10,000 men," Lands and Forests Minister the Honourable J. W. Spooner points out.

"We use 757 miles (4,000,000 feet) of fire hose.

"Other working equipment includes: 1,300 fire pumps, 1,564 two-way radios — one of the biggest radio networks of its kind anywhere; 320 fire towers, 80 to 100 feet high, watching for "smokes" and able to triangulate positions of fires for exact guidance to fire crews going in.

"In addition there are comparable numbers of fire fighting tools such as pack pumps, shovels, axes,

Pulaski tools, fire brooms and other hand tools.

"To house men on the fire line, we have 2,400 tents and, with them, 31,000 pairs of blankets, as well as adequate cookery and dining equipment — pots, pans, plastic plates and cups and so on.

"The efficiency of our fire fighting force can be judged by the steady decline in the forest area burned during the past four decades. Here are the ten-year averages:

1920 to 1929	475,000 acres
1930 to 1939	400,000 acres
1940 to 1949	241,000 acres
1950 to 1959	97,516 acres

"The 1960 fire loss — 31,386 acres — thus was less than one-third of the ten-year average for 1950-59."

Exam Results For Grade XIII

Peter Bond — Eng. Comp. 59, Eng. Lit. 59; Peter Brisson — Eng. Lit. 66, Chemistry 51; Robert Brown — Eng. Lit. 54; Lynda Crozelle — Eng. Comp. 56, Eng. Lit. 68, Zoology 52; Allan Haarala — Eng. Lit. 51, History 63, Geometry 57, Zoology 51; Diane Koshilka — Eng. Comp. 66, Eng. Lit. 63, History 66, Algebra 51, Geometry 60, Botany 66, Zoology 66, Fr. Auth. 70, Fr. Comp. 69; Robert MacDiarmid — Eng. Comp. 58, Eng. Lit. 62, History 53; Anne Olson — Eng. Comp. 71, Eng. Lit. 80, Chemistry 55, Botany 50, Zoology 60, Latin Authors 70, Latin Comp. 63, Fr. Auth. 61, Fr. Comp. 62; Diane Rudd — Eng. Comp. 53, Eng. Lit. 77, Algebra 63, Geometry 64, Chemistry 68, Botany 89, Zoology 80, Fr. Auth. 56, Fr. Comp. 56; Erna St. Louis — Eng. Comp. 53, Eng. Lit. 59, Algebra 51, Geometry 54, Chemistry 51, Botany 50, Zoology 53; Sally Whitby — Eng. Comp. 80, Eng. Lit. 74, Algebra 78, Geometry 75, Trig. 65, Physics 54, Chemistry 58, Latin Auth. 64, Latin Comp. 74; Carl Osterberg — Physics 57; Rheel St. Cyr — Fr. Auth. 63, Fr. Comp. 65.

OLD PENAL COLONY

Norfolk Island, 13-square-mile area 900 miles east of Australia, was used by Britain as a penal colony from 1788 to 1856.

War Veterans

All ex-service personnel and their dependents are invited to take advantage of a free Legion service. E. H. Gray, Service Bureau Officer from North Bay will be at Legion Branch No. 44, Cobalt, on Monday, August 21, 1961, at 10:00 a.m. and at Legion Branch 33 at 7:00 p.m. to give skilled advice on veterans' benefits. Anyone with questions on war disability pension, War Veterans' Allowance (Burnt-Out Pension), Treatment, or hospital care is urged to call or write Mr. C. R. Sopha, phone 4707 or 4819, Cobalt, or Harold Washburn, New Liskeard, who will arrange an appointment.