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**Studying Insects Damaging Forests**

Officials of the Dominion Entomological Dept. Have Difficult Task

The study of insects which cause damage to Canadian forests is no drawing-room occupation. It calls for life in the open, subject to all the vagaries of the weather, extremes of heat and cold, the scourge of flies, the terror of swamp and musk, the many other inconveniences, discomforts and risks of personal injury contingent on existence in the forest. The information necessary must be obtained, no matter what the conditions and distances from civilization may be.

The life of the entomologist is not one for a weakling; it is an exacting job for seven days in the week. To obtain the desired information, the officers of the Division of Forest Insects of the Entomological Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, generally camp in the heart of the forest and carry out their studies, together with the meticulous tabulation of their intricate work, as if under the conditions of a fully equipped laboratory or office. One of the first jobs of the officers of the division is to discover the injurious insects, to find out their habits and histories, and ascertain the kind and amount of damage done.

These insects must be scheduled according to type, such as defoliators (bark beetles and borers), and sucking insects, such as Balsam woolly aphid, beech scale and white pine weevil. At the same time, the relation of these

insects to their environment and the factors which control their abundance, and the forest conditions which favour them must be discovered. This study also includes climate, forest composition, natural enemies, such as birds, shrews, and particularly insects which feed on insects, known as predators and parasites. The entire study is named "Ecology," the ecology of the various species.

**Means of Combat**

In this way only is it possible to determine the whole question of the nature and cause of damage of forest insects sufficiently well and to decide when control should be attempted and what type of control is likely to prove profitable. In some cases, salvage is recommended; in other cases, direct means of control, such as by cutting, dusting and burning infested trees if necessary. At times, the use of parasites is indicated, while at other times the best method may be by means of silviculture—the management of forests to produce an environment unfavourable to the insect. When re-ported parasites are likely to be effective, it is the duty of the division to determine the best strategy, the time and place of liberation of the parasites and to carry out all the necessary field work involved.

The numbers of the insects have to be periodically measured by counting samples. This is a tedious job. In the case of the European spruce sawfly, the counting is done by digging up all the cocoons in a 2x2 foot square under several hundreds of carefully selected trees. This has to be done in "fly time" in the spring, when the officers have to keep themselves constantly protected with fly oil, or the work may be carried out in the late fall often in snow with sub-normal temperatures.

Daily observations are necessary throughout the season, seven days a week. The officer in charge seldom gets away from camp for more than part of a day. The camp on the Grand Casapedia, Que. For instance is 50 miles from the nearest village. Insects are no respecter of Sundays. To miss a day is to miss a link in the chain of evidence.

Experiments are carried out as closely as possible under natural conditions. Where necessary special cages are designed. Work with the microscope is done in a tent. During the winter, the data gathered in the summer and fall are analyzed statistically, notes compiled and the ecology of the insect worked out as far as the season's work permits. Further evidence may be needed which can only be obtained in the laboratory where, for example,

tests are made for indication of resistance to cold, effect of different host plants on reproduction rate, inheritance of certain important habits, pathogenesis, reactions to climatic factors such as sunlight, humidity, and other factors.

**Effects of Insects**

Another function of the division is to discover the effects of the insects on the tree and the stand. Surveys are necessary over very large areas, some of which are cruised and the damage measured by standard forestry methods. This is generally done at the end of the season when the insect has hibernated and often keeps the entomologist in the woods until November. Only by co-operation with pulp and lumber companies and forestry services can a knowledge of conditions over the many thousands of square miles often involved, be obtained, but it is necessary to have detailed and exact information from an intensive study of one locality, or two or three as the case may be, chosen as typical of most of the infested area.

**Extra Treaty Money Paid for New Wards**

Stork Upset Some of the Figures of Officials on Annual Trip to Indians of the North

Capt. Geo. Patrick, of the Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, has just returned to that city after a trip to the Patricia district in Northern Ontario and to Northern Quebec to make the annual payment of treaty money to the Indians in those parts of the North. It is understood that over \$17,000 was paid out on the trip.

The trip by Captain Patrick was made by means of airplane. The distance covered in the air approximated some 3000 miles. The most distant point touched was Fort Severn on the east coast of Hudson Bay. There were approximately 4500 Indians who received the yearly treaty money, this being \$4 each. It is said that on several occasions the calculations of the officials were upset through the interference of the famous stork. Capt. Patrick, for instance, paid one couple \$8, which was \$4 each, but the brave sheepishly asked him if there was not another \$4 due. When the official requested particulars he was informed that another little Indian had been added to the family since the last treaty money was paid. The same experience happened at one or two other posts. At the same time there was little increase of population noted on the trip, the Indians scarcely holding their own between the natural increase and the deaths recorded.

Dr. W. L. Tryer, medical officer of the Dept. of Indian Affairs, accompanied the expedition and gave medical attention in some needed cases. Dr. Tryer also vaccinated all the Indians in Northern Quebec as a precaution against any spread of smallpox. In general, the officials report the health of the Indians of the Patricia and Northern Quebec areas as excellent.

The treaty money party travelled in two Fairchild cabin planes piloted by Canadian Air Force officers. The arrival of the airplanes at the various isolated posts brought a hearty welcome every time. In most cases the arrival of the party meant a holiday event, with feasting and dancing. In some cases the landing plane was greeted with firing of all the shotguns in the community. This greeting was more impressive than it may sound.

**Fifteen Tons Daily Sent by Airship in Fire Zone**

Airplanes in the Sudbury area have been transporting an average of 15 tons a day of fire-fighting supplies from the Sudbury seaplane base during the time when the forest fires were at their peak in the Sudbury area. Forestry observation planes and commercial planes brought in from outside points operated from the Ontario Forestry Branch's airbase on the south shore of Lake Ramsay, while Sudbury commercial planes pressed into fire service operated from the Austin Airways base off McNaughton Terrace, Sudbury.

Planes from all Northern Ontario, from Toronto, and even from Quebec, were pressed into fire-fighting service in the Northern Ontario forest fire areas. It was reported that commercial bases throughout the province are almost deserted while the fires are in progress.

Chatham News:—Three schools and a community hall have been wrecked by Doukhobors in the West. It's too bad about the schools. Apparently they are badly needed among the Doukhobors.

**M. Wernick Injured in Motor Accident**

Well-Known Old-Timer of the North in Hospital at North Bay.

Hosts of friends of Mr. Wernick, of North Bay, will regret to learn that he was in a motor accident last week and is now in hospital at North Bay. Latest reports are that his condition is improved and he is now on the way to recovery. Mr. Wernick, who for years has been the sales manager for all Northern Ontario of the Toledo Scale Co., was one of the pioneer residents of the Porcupine. He left here for overseas service in the early days of the war and served in France and Flanders all through the dark days of the conflict. After his return from overseas he went with the Toledo Scale Co., his headquarters being at North Bay, but he has been a frequent visitor to Timmins and this part of the North.

The car accident occurred on Friday last some miles north of North Bay when Mr. Wernick was on his way north. His car skidded in some loose gravel and crashed into the bridge over Jumping Casbon Creek on the Ferguson highway. Mr. Wernick suffered head cuts and chest injuries in the crash. He was taken to North Bay civic hospital. His wide circles of friends here wish Mike a speedy and complete recovery.

**Wm. Temberg Injured in Accident at Kirkland Lake**

Wm. Temberg, miner, of Kirkland Lake, is in the hospital at that town with injuries which it is feared may prove fatal. The victim of the accident was standing at the base of a chute in the mine waiting for some steel to be lowered. In some way or another one of the steel bars became dislodged from the hoisting box and fell down the chute, striking Temberg on the side. It is said that the bar pierced his side and that one of his lungs was punctured. He was rushed to the hospital where all possible skill and care is being given to him, but his injuries are recognized as very serious, according to word from Kirkland Lake. He was operated on at the hospital and there are hopes held out for his recovery.

**Clean up the Alleys and Yards for Safety's Sake**

In this issue of The Advance the advice given in Monday's paper is repeated:—Clean up all alleys and yards for safety's sake. Papers, old boxes, rubbish, junk,—all these constitute fire risk and a menace to health. Some of the alleys are so filled with odds and ends that the fire trucks would be handicapped in case of a fire. Some of the backyards make good breeding grounds for flies, and flies are notorious as disease-breeders and disease-carriers. At the present time the police are carrying on a campaign to have all yards and alleys cleaned up. Unless this desirable work is done at once there is nearly sure to be prosecutions under the various by-laws and other regulations. Not only to avoid this and the consequent annoyance and expense, "beat them to it," clean up all in the alleys or yards likely to cause fire hazard or menace to health.

**Principal Albert College Visits Here**

Rev. Bert Howard, Well-Known Educationalist and Leader Pays Visit to the North.

Rev. Bert Howard, principal of Albert College, Belleville, was a visitor to Timmins this week, coming here from Kirkland Lake. Rev. Mr. Howard found much to interest him in this North Country, while the people of this part of the North should be especially interested in Rev. Bert Howard and the educational institution he represents.

Rev. Bert Howard has the qualities of the ideal college principal or headmaster. He has a pleasing personality, a strong character, and an enthusiasm for ideals. He believes the great purpose of a teacher is to know his pupils in order that he may guide them in their life and work. One of the special features of Albert College is that the headmaster and his family and members of the faculty live in the college and they are in constant association with the pupils, not only to assist them in their studies but also to inspire stronger and better characters.

Albert College, Belleville, is a residential school for young men and boys, with day school facilities for young men and young women. Its curriculum emphasizes the fact that it is a preparatory school for life, as well as for business, the university and the professions. The college was established in 1857, and for nearly eighty years has been a valuable force for the building of better manhood and womanhood. Literature issued by Albert College show that buildings and equipment are modern and attractive, the courses varied and extended, the atmosphere and associations inspiring. Among the special courses of study are: Music, Business Administration and Commerce; Secretarial and Stenographic course, Arts department. Sports, athletics, recreation are given due emphasis with a view to health and development, while the cultural, the social, the moral and the religious sides of life are duly stressed. For those desiring a residential school giving an environment that will build character as well as stimulate academic achievement, the Albert College, Belleville, offers the opportunity.

**Eldest of the Three Burglars Aged Nine**

Call for Change for \$10 Bill Leads to Capture of Trio Breaking Into Store at Kirkland Lake

(From Northern News)

Co-operation from the public, from a citizen who was smart enough to realize something was amiss when two seven-year-old lads tried to "break" a ten dollar bill, and who knew his duty was to notify the authorities, brought what Teck Township Police Department believes is a partial, if not complete, solution of cat burglaries here. Three boys will be charged on Thursday, two of them seven years of age, and one nine years old.

Tom Pepper, timekeeper for the Township Works Department, gave the police a call when the three lads, who will be charged in juvenile court this week, tried to get him to change a ten dollar bill for them.

Police investigation from that point drew from the boys, it is claimed by police, a confession to entering the Government road branch of Dominion Stores and stealing \$29.89 in bills and silver.

Till the Pepper tip set them on the track officials were admittedly at a loss to understand how the store could have been entered by any adult by way of the single half panel taken from the back door, the only damage noted.

"The screen was cut and one half-door panel had been pried away," the police report reads. "The condition was discovered at 5 a.m. on July 20. When a check-up was made it was found that the till had been cleaned out and some foodstuff taken."

Although police could not understand how entry could have been effected by any adult, one local man, who was convicted before of a similar offence, was taken in on suspicion. He was later released.

It was not until the Pepper call that it could be seen how a space a foot wide and not two feet in depth would be big enough for any burglar, "cat" or otherwise.

When first questioned by policemen it is understood that the lads told Acting Sergeant Cairns they had taken the bill they were attempting to change from their father's pocket.

In their admission it is said that the youngsters set nine o'clock Sunday night as their time of entry. Some articles found in their possession led to their examination in connection with other cases and they told police it was they who had made the break-ins.

Of one twenty-dollar watch taken on one of the expeditions one lad told the police: "We sold it for 10 cents to get ice-cream. I don't remember the man we sold it to."

In Thursday's session of magistrate's court the trio will answer to charges of breaking and entering.

**Born at Moose Factory Dies at Age of 105 Years**

Chapleau's oldest resident, Mrs. J. Mecowatch, died Thursday of heat prostration at the age of 105. She was Indian, and was born at Moose Factory on April 1, 1831, and lived there until coming to Chapleau 40 years ago. The trip from Moose Factory to Chapleau is 350 miles and was made by canoe. When they first arrived in Chapleau they settled on the spot which later

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was to become the site of the old Indian school. They had a small farm there and grew a few vegetables and kept a few chickens. Mr. Mecowatch was a real worker according to those who remember him. He died five years after arriving in Chapleau leaving his wife and ten children, seven daughters and three sons. The old lady was still active until the time of her demise, her hearing and eyesight being good and she had never had a more serious illness than a cold. She could chop her own wood when necessary, and could show up some of the younger ones at an occasional dance.

The old lady estimated that she had 47 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She had lived in the reign of five monarchs, George IV, Queen Victoria, Edward VII, George V, and the present King Edward VIII.

The funeral was held from the home of Mrs. George Turner at Chapleau, at 3 p.m. Friday, and interment was made in the Protestant cemetery.

**Hon. Bob Rogers Dies at Guelph at the Age of 72**

Hon. Robt. Rogers, known widely for many years as Hon. Bob Rogers, and noted for his skill in organizing and fighting election battles, died on Tuesday at an early hour in Homewood Sanitarium, Guelph. At the time of death he was 72 years of age. He had been in active politics for close to half a century, but had hosts of friends on all sides of the political fence. Hon. Bob Rogers started in political life at an early age, and, though defeat and victory for him were rather strangely intermingled, he had a remarkable career in politics. He was a member of the Manitoba Legislature for some years and at one time occupied the post of Commissioner of Public Works for the province. Later, he was a member of Hon. Robt. L. Borden's Cabinet. He was noted as a firm friend and a genial, able good fellow.



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