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THE FOREST FIRE ORGANIZATION AND ITS PURPOSE.

Resume of Past Fire Season—The Personnel.

[By J. R. Mingle, Penn. State Forest District.]

ARTICLE I.

Recent years have served to awaken the people of both State and Nation to the dire need of protecting our forests. Of the countless destructive agencies which prey upon them, fire is the one great enemy we must strive to conquer.

The forests, we know, will never be immune from fire, for there are agencies not attributed to the destructive hand of man, but man in an advanced, educated state can if he will, serve as a barrier toward the unnecessary and terrible waste caused by the spreading of fire due to these agencies.

Means of Education

All means imaginable are being employed by the State and Nation to educate the people to the great need of protecting our forests from fire. Motion pictures of educational value have been taken of the forests. The eternal aim is to show man's relation to forest products and how unprogressive he would be without them. This means of education has possibly been the most effective. For the first time these pictures were shown in the Penn Forest District during the summer of 1922. Approximately 3,000 people attended. Facts, as never before, were shown and not apt to be forgotten. Pictures were again shown in 1922, just prior to the opening of the spring forest fire season with an attendance of over 3,500. Interest was manifested from the very first showing. A greater degree of effectiveness than ever before was shown during the fire season which closely followed.

Of the nineteen forest fires occurring in the Penn Forest District during the spring of 1924 only 23.8 acres of forest burned. \$31.50 was expended to extinguish these fires, and the damage amounted to only \$33.50. Of these 19 fires only 7 were attended by forest fire wardens. And of these 7 fires 4 were extinguished by interested citizens before wardens arrived. This speaks a day like Germany now enjoys when sufficient interest and action on the part of local citizens will render a forest fire organization unnecessary.

Signs in the Penn Forest District help play an important part. Their message carries an appeal which will be heeded by all public-spirited citizens. Perhaps more than any other "Prevent Forest Fires—It Pays," the appropriate and effective slogan, blazes forth from forest-sited highways.

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The great need brought before the public's gaze through the newspapers is a great help. Read by many and remembered always by those who think.

Letters to sportsmen, Boy Scouts, and other organizations prove effective. The cooperation is felt and heartily appreciated.

Results have been attained pleasing and gratifying to the Department of Forestry. People are beginning to see the great objective, to experience a more dogged determination to expatriate the deadly forest fire. Sportsmen are up in arms against it, not so much because of the economic value to the forest, but because it destroys that which they seek. Nature lovers abhor it because of the ugliness and repulsive results of its greed.

The beautiful objective is, then, for all to become more intimately acquainted with the best of our scenic assets, and nourish a truer appreciation of their worth. This would lead increasing numbers to a keener consciousness of the fact that we must preserve the trees that grow in the forests, not only because of their value but because of their beauty and charm.

The Organization

Prior to 1915 the Department was more or less handicapped in their earnest endeavor to suppress forest fires. First, lack of funds to carry on an appropriate system of detection and suppression. Second, the indifferent attitude of the people in their relation to the Department's efforts.

Since 1915 conditions have improved to a great extent. Pressing needs of protection have been taught with patience and vigor. Individuals and organizations fairly saturated with the spirit and need have enlisted themselves into the service. Steel towers have been erected on the high mountain tops and manned by efficient men during the dry seasons of spring and fall. Telephones connect these towers with the outside world. Specially designed tools for fire fighting are being used by the Department. Fire trails are kept clean against the possible spread of fire. Roads into the most remote parts of the forest are maintained to afford quick attack of fire.

Personnel.

The personnel of the Penn Forest District deserves no little mention. Upon them rests the responsibility of keeping fire from approximately 275,000 acres of forest. Team work on the part of the entire personnel is the only means of assured success. Each and every minute detail must have attention to keep the organization in perfect motion. The personnel in the Penn Forest District comprises the following: District Forester, 3 Forest Rangers, 1 Inspector, 53 Forest Fire Wardens, and 2 Towermen.

The first in command is the District Forester, who directs all activities, has a check on all reports and bills and investigations, sees to it that every cog in the big wheel is doing its part. In extreme cases takes personal charge of forest fires.

Next in command is the Forest Ranger. He is responsible to the Forester for all protective measures adopted and carried out upon his range. Takes charge of fires whenever possible. Supervises and directs in the absence of the Forester.

Inspectors employed during the dry seasons are always present at fires in their jurisdiction to render all help possible in determining the cause of the fire and the party responsible. Inspects and offers recommendation as to disposal of forest fire hazards. Conducts investigations and makes a written report for all fires occurring within his jurisdiction.

It is the duty of the Forest Fire Warden to respond at all fires reported to him or coming to his notice. He is urged to have at his call a crew of regular trained men for quick response. He shall have full charge of the fire in the absence of the Forester, Ranger or Inspector.

The Towermen are the eyes of the organization. Upon them rests the responsibility of detecting and locating the forest fire as quickly and accurately as possible. He knows the location of each warden. When smoke is spotted he is talking with the warden in that territory often times in less than five minutes after fire has started. He names the locality and insists upon prompt action. He keeps the forester informed from time to time on the progress of the fire, whether he thinks more help is needed or whether the fire is conquered.

Retrenching in L. & T.

A retrenchment program has been announced for the L. & T. effecting mostly trackmen and track foremen. Between Lewisburg and Bellefonte there were heretofore eight sections, the foremen being as follows: Bellefonte, Mr. Taylor; Lemont, Mr. Wingard; Centre Hall, Levi Hartley; Coburn, Frank Dinges; Paddy Mountain, Mr. Stover; Glen Iron, Jacob Smith; Millburg, John Mark; Lewisburg, Adam Krebs. The eight sections have been reduced to five, the sections being cut or absorbed being Coburn, Paddy Mountain and Lemont. Under the priority system it will be some little time until these employees themselves will know just where they are at until after the "bumping" has spent its force.

An order has also been issued which will close Linden Hall station where Frank Ishler has been agent for many years. An effort, of course, is being made to have the order rescinded. No official order has yet been given, but intimations have made the Vicksburg station also one to be closed.

Caution the Children.

With the opening of the public schools is increased the perils of the streets. It is the duty of parents to impress their children with the hazard of the highways. The observance of a few simple rules may prevent many tragedies which otherwise inevitably will strike sorrow into numerous homes before the school term closes next spring. A prescribed route should be selected for little children to follow to and from school, instructing them in the proper method of crossing streets at crossings, and if on the highway proper to walk on the left side, that auto traffic will be faced.

In addition to this parents should bring to the attention of the children in the home the newspaper accounts of accidents to children in the streets to impress upon them the dangers they face and to lead them away from their sources.

Attention is also here called to the fact that auto drivers for the past few months have ceased the observance of the "slow driving" signs near school houses, and it behooves them to have care from this time on and see to it that they cut down speed and proceed carefully in the vicinity of the schools.

Baseball During Picnic Week.

Centre Hall played three games of baseball during the Encampment and Fair, to large crowds. On Wednesday afternoon the Salona team put up a weird exhibition, and after the fourth inning the game resolved itself into a farce, no attempt being made to hold the visitors in check. The final score was 24-7 in favor of Centre Hall. The locals made 26 hits; Salona, 8. In the fourth inning Centre Hall had 15 men at bat.

Thursday morning the much-tooted Reedsville team met Centre Hall and went down to defeat by the score of 11 to 8. Cable served 'em up for the locals and had the Reedsville boys breaking their backs trying to connect with his stunts. He yielded only 7 hits, while Centre Hall collected 11 off Marker and "Bucky" Smith, formerly of Potters Mills, who apparently had an off day, since he was touched up freely.

In the afternoon the second game with Reedsville was played, and the Millin County lads turned the tables, winning by 6 to 2. Lefty Rogers proved a puzzle for the home batsmen who could find him for only seven hits. Gress, for Centre Hall, yielded eight. The game was hard-fought, despite the unevenness of the score.

Three of Millheim's star players—Rutherford, Musser and Cable, assisted the home team in the games during the week, and did great work. Rutherford's hitting was immense. Leave off the last two syllables of his name and you have the guy whose hitting he resembled.

In a game of soccer ball, Wednesday afternoon, Centre Hall and Spring Mills battled for four quarters without a score, although both teams threatened the goals on several occasions.

GRANGE ENCAMPMENT AND FAIR CLOSED

The 1924 Gathering Most Successful in Every Respect—270 Tents Occupied for Week or More.

From every point of view the Grange Encampment and Fair just closed was the most successful ever held in the fifty-one years of its life, during which time a one-day gathering grew into one covering more than a week's time. At its beginning the gathering was held on leased ground, the one closed occupied a tract of more than fifty acres, much of which is covered with beautiful shade trees, and thoroughly drained.

The paid admissions this year are said to have been more than at any previous time. There was also more free entertainment than at any previous time. The exhibits of machinery and autos, stock, etc., were never better.

Each of the two hundred and seventy tents was occupied by a family or group of people, making the population of the tents alone not less than 1500 persons. One hundred and ninety of these tents are owned by the association and the remaining eighty tents are the property of private parties who tented in them.

A new feature of the camp was to have thirty members of the Junior Farmer's Association to live in tents during the week.

The committee in charge and the Centre County Pomona Grange have reason to feel gratified with the results of this year's work. The personnel of the committee is as follows: Jacob Sharer, chairman; E. M. Sankey, sec.; D. K. Keller, treas.; R. L. Watts, department farm exhibits; J. S. Dale, department agricultural machinery; George Gingerich, department tents and grounds; R. C. Blaney, County Agent; D. L. Bartges, department privileges; Clyde Dutrow, assistant department privileges; A. H. Spayd, construction.

The Prize Winners:

Following is a list of those who secured first, second, third and fourth prizes for articles exhibited:

Horses—First Prize
Centre Hall—W. E. Rishel; Marvin Ishler (pony).

Bellefonte—William Immel.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—W. F. Rishel.

Bellefonte—William Immel.

Dairy Cattle—Holstein

First Prize
Centre Hall—Paul Bradford, J. Fred Slack, H. C. Reish, W. F. Rishel.

Bellefonte—Hartie Bros.

Second Prize
Bellefonte—Hartie Bros.

Centre Hall—W. F. Rishel, J. Fred Slack, H. C. Reish.

Guernsey—1st and 2d Prizes
Howard—Mayer and Confer.

Rebersburg—E. H. Hosterman.

Spring Mills—Shook Brothers.

Milking Machine—1st and 2d Prizes
Centre Hall—Perry H. Luse.

Jerseys—1st Prize
Smuldon—R. C. Blair.

Swine—First Prize
Centre Hall—W. F. Rishel, James L. Decker.

Pa. Furnace—A. C. Keplar.

Bellefonte—A. C. Hartle.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—W. F. Rishel.

Bellefonte—A. C. Hartle.

Pa. Furnace—A. C. Keplar.

Sheep—First Prize
Centre Hall—P. H. Luse.

Poultry—First Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. P. H. Luse, E. C. Lutz.

Oak Hall—M. K. Green.

Anaronsburg—J. Hollenbach.

Spring Mills—M. T. Zubler.

Bellefonte—D. L. Keller.

Second Prize
Boalsburg—John Kline.

Martha Furnace—J. T. Henry.

Third Prize
Centre Hall—Ralph Luse, Clarence Musser, Eugene Burkholder.

Bantams—First Prize.
Axe Mann—Clarence Heverly.

Turkeys—First Prize
Spring Mills—Charles Burrell.

Rabbits—First Prize
Centre Hall—W. H. Lingie.

Eggs—First Prize
Spring Mills—M. T. Zubler.

Centre Hall—E. C. Lutz.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—Henry Zerby, Mrs. P. H. Luse.

Farm Crops—First Prize
Centre Hall—Eugene Burkholder, Clarence Musser, Mrs. George Long, Mrs. W. F. Rishel, Bruce Smith.

State College—Lincoln Witmer.

Zion—John Eby.

Spring Mills—John Decker.

Second Prize
Lemont—Hulda Davis.

Spring Mills—John Decker.

Centre Hall—Mrs. Jacob Sharer.

Third Prize
Spring Mills—John Decker.

Centre Hall—H. W. Dinges, Bertha Sharer.

Fourth Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. J. C. Brooks, Mrs. George Long, Mrs. W. F. Rishel.

Crab Apples—First Prize
Lemont—John Grove.

Centre Hall—H. W. Dinges.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—Bertha Sharer.

Third Prize
State College—Lincoln Witmer.

Quinces—First Prize
Lemont—E. W. Evey & Son.

Plums—First Prize
Centre Hall—H. W. Dinges.

Second Prize
Lemont—John Grove.

Zion—John Eby.

Centre Hall—E. R. McClellan.

Centre Hall—Mrs. Jacob Sharer.

Lemont—E. W. Evey & Son.

Fourth Prize
Lemont—John Grove.

Centre Hall—Helen Odenkirk.

Grapes—First Prize
Lemont—E. W. Evey & Son.

Bellefonte—Albert Grove.

General Fruit Display in Packages.

First Prize
Lemont—Charles Thompson.

E. W. Evey & Son.

Centre Hall—H. W. Dinges.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—E. W. Evey & Son.

Gooseberries—First Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. Jacob Sharer.

Nuts—First Prize
Centre Hall—Bessie Zerby, Mrs. Emmet Brooks, Mrs. George Long, Coburn—John M. Weaver.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—Clarence Musser.

Zion—John Eby.

Third Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. Mary Tressler.

Elderberries—Second Prize
Centre Hall—John M. Weaver.

Blackberries—First Prize
Spring Mills—B. E. Decker.

Vegetables—First Prize
Centre Hall—Bessie Young, Mrs. John Durst, Mrs. Harry McClenahan, Mrs. P. H. Luse, Mrs. John M. Weaver, Mrs. D. G. Wagner, Mrs. Jacob Sharer, Mrs. J. M. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. W. F. Rishel, Mrs. J. C. Brooks, Mrs. Mary Tressler, Mrs. George Long, Mrs. G. E. Bryan, Lillie Brooks.

Spring Mills—C. H. Eungard.

Oak Hall—M. K. Green.

State College—Eleanor Wasson.

Second Prize
Zion—John Eby.

Woodward—Carl Behm.

Oak Hall—M. K. Green.

Spring Mills—John Decker.

State College—Eleanor Wasson.

Centre Hall—Bessie Zerby, Mrs. John Durst, Mrs. D. G. Wagner, Clarence Musser, Mrs. C. H. Eungard, Mrs. Jacob Sharer, Bertha Sharer, Earl Lutz, Mrs. J. C. Brooks, Mrs. Mary Tressler, Mrs. George Long, J. Roy Shaeffer, Mrs. E. E. Bailey.

Third Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. George Long, Mrs. D. G. Wagner, Mrs. J. C. Brooks, Bessie Zerby, John M. Weaver, Mrs. Jacob Sharer, Lillie Brooks.

Lemont—John Grove.

Spring Mills—B. E. Decker, C. H. Eungard.

Oak Hall—M. K. Green.

State College—Eleanor Wasson.

Home Economics—Canned Fruits, Meats and Vegetables—First Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. D. G. Wagner, Mrs. J. F. Bingham, Mrs. Jacob Sharer, Mrs. W. F. Rishel, Bessie Zerby, Mrs. J. M. Kirkpatrick.

Second Prize
Centre Hall—Mrs. J. F. Bingham, Mrs. W. F. Rishel, Bessie Zerby, Mrs. Jacob Sharer, Mrs. D. G. Wagner.

STYLE SHOW NEXT WEEK.

Altoona Merchants Making Great Preparations for Fall Season's Opening.

Members of the Altoona Booster Association are now engaged in making preparation for their annual Fall Style Show scheduled for next week, starting Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, and continuing until Saturday.

The approaching fall and winter season will be marked by a number of radical changes in modes and styles and it will be the purpose of Booster merchants to display in their stores just what are the proper things to wear and to decorate the home.

Some of the merchants have arranged elaborate programs in connection with the big event and every woman and every man for that matter within Altoona's buying zone should make it a point to visit the stores during one of the Style Show days.

The windows, in all their competitive beauty, will be unveiled Tuesday evening, September 16, at 7:30 o'clock. All during the evening music will be furnished by the Altoona City Band and the business district in general will present a holiday appearance.

A cordial invitation is extended to you to be among the crowds. adv.

REUNION OF VETERANS.

Thirty-three Civil War Veterans Meet on Grange Park—Their Ages and Companies Enlisted In.

Thirty-three veterans of the Civil war, ranging in age from 76 to 91 years, attended the annual reunion of the Centre County Veterans' Club, at Grange Park on Wednesday. Rev. J. Max Kirkpatrick delivered the address of welcome and music was furnished by the Odd Fellows band, of Bellefonte.

The speakers included J. Laird Holmes, Dean R. L. Watts, and Chaplain Metzger, of State College; S. D. Gettig, Esq., and Rev. Wilson P. Ard, of Bellefonte. The officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: President, W. H. Bartholomew; first vice president, Henry Meyer; second vice president, B. D. Brisbin; secretary, W. H. Fry; treasurer, George M. Boal; chaplain, Rev. G. W. Emenhizer. It was decided to hold next year's meeting at the same place on Wednesday of Grange picnic week.

In the afternoon the old soldiers joined with members of the Boal troop in furthering the arrangements for National Defense day.

Following is the list of the veterans present, the figures after the name representing their age, the letter the company in which they served, followed by their regiment:

Rev. G. W. Emenhizer, 81, 45th Pa. Volunteers.
S. M. Griffith, 79, G, 46th Pa. Vols.
D. W. Eberhart, 91, C, Eperg. Bat.
William Flack, 79, A, 45th Pa. Vols.
B. D. Brisbin, 82, G, 148th Pa. Vols.
G. M. Boal, 86, D, 148th Pa. Vols.
W. H. Bartholomew, 78, F, 2nd Pa. Cavalry.

John Miller, 77, F, 296th Pa. Vols.
Samuel Shirk, 77, G, 148th Pa. Vols.
W. H. Fry, 81, E, 45th Pa. Vols.
C. A. Snyder, 86, D, 1st Pa. Cav.
Tyron Walker, 82, E, 7th Pa. Cav.
J. W. Sunday, 78, B, 148th Pa. Vols.
J. B. Holter, 78, H, 57th Pa. Vols.
Ben Espenshale, 85, E, 79th Pa. Vols.
Phillip S. Dale, 82, A, 149th Pa. Vols.
William Hoy, 83, H, 56th Pa. Vols.
George Cox, 87, G, 51st Pa. Vols.
John Griffith, 82, D, 194th Ohio.

M. M. Garver, 76, G, 152d Pa. H.
S. R. Gottig, 86, D, 148th Pa. Vols.
James Reed, 80, I, 52nd Pa. Vols.
W. E. Tate, 81, I, 156th Pa. Vols.
George Thomas, 82, A, 194th N. Y.
C. H. Martz, 76, C, 21st Pa. Cav.
Charles Smith, 77, D, 49th Pa. Vols.
Anos H. Rice, 78, F, 19th Pa. Cav.
Frank Hunter, 83, H, 148th Pa. Vols.
C. D. Houtz, 84, D, 98th Pa. Vols.
D. W. Miller, 79, G, 148th Pa. Vols.
Edward Stumpf, 85, H, 148th Pa. Vols.
Alfred Durst, 82, H, 51st Pa. Vols.
P. H. Haupt, 82, U, S. Navy.

Bradford-Ferguson.

Wilton P. Bradford and Miss C. Claudine Ferguson, both of Phoenixville, were recently married at Elkton, Maryland, by Rev. Ernest E. Wenner. The ring ceremony was used. The groom is a son of William Bradford, of Phoenixville, a native of this section.

Institute Opens October 12.

The annual Centre County Teachers' Institute will be held in Bellefonte the week of October 12th. Among the speakers thus far chosen are Dr. Garwood of Millersville Normal, Dean Chambers, head of the school of education, Pennsylvania State College; and Dr. Shaw, of the state department of education, Harrisburg.

Electric Shock.

While in the act of making an X-ray picture of the broken bone in the arm of Dorothy W. Reed, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Reed, of Boalsburg, in the Bellefonte hospital, there was a terrific explosion or discharge of electricity, knocking the little child to the concrete floor and also knocking Mrs. Reed and Dr. W. Woods back to the wall. The child was somewhat bruised from the fall. There is some inclination on the part of the parents to attribute the mishap to improper manipulation that might have resulted very seriously. ***

Lungs Punctured.

A son of William Bair, of Lock Haven, met with a most serious accident recently while riding on the running board of a car driven by an elder brother. The lad's name is Ray, and all would have been well had not a large truck come along and crowded the car to the side of the road so close to the line of telephone poles that he was hit by one of them and splinters from it pierced his lungs. He was rushed to the hospital where every effort is being made to save his life. The father is formerly from this section, but later located at Rebersburg and from there went to Lock Haven.

Four Convicted of Selling Liquor in Centre County.

Four persons were convicted of liquor law violations in Centre county upon evidence presented by the State Police during the period extending from January 1st, 1923 to July 31, 1924. Two persons were acquitted, while 16 are awaiting trial, making a total sixteen arrested for Dry Law infractions in the nineteen month period covered by the State Police report. The report which was presented to Governor Pinchot by the State Police heads shows that three of the four persons convicted were sent to jail—for a term ranging from two to six months, and the remaining two from six months to one year. One man was directed to pay costs and set free. The fines collected for the Dry Law violations in the nineteen month period totaled \$1001.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Now it's after—the Grangers' picnic.

Edward Foust, of Potters Mills, purchased a new Ford roadster, last week.

James High was one of a large number of people from Lock Haven who attended the Encampment.

Harry F. Hubler and mother were among the Lock Haven people to attend the Encampment and Fair.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Blair County National bank, of Tyrone, Frank K. Lucknabach was elected president to take the place of the late A. G. Morris.

The enrollment in the Bellefonte public schools, which opened on Tuesday of last week, will approximate 900 pupils, 300 or more of that number being in the High school.

Harry Decker and family, who live on a small farm out from Altoona, were here last week. Mr. Decker just feels as chipper as ever, and tells the Reporter he is always busy.

Centre Hall, always supposed to be low in the percentage of children, has fully as large a per cent of children of school age as Bellefonte and other larger towns in Central Pennsylvania.

J. Shannon Booser has taken the sales agency for the Overland, Willys-Knight, Chrysler and Flint cars. He is a new man in the business, but will, no doubt, be heard from in the future.

Friday afternoon both the Lehigh flyers passed over the local branch, the one west passing the local east train at Centre Hall. The switching to the branch was due to a wreck on the Bald Eagle road.

Eight hundred cars were passed in a bit over an hour's time between Tyrone and State College, on Labor Day. The count was made by William A. Wagner and family, who motored to Centre Hall from Juniata.

Rev. T. J. Frederick, of Spring Church, Armstrong county, visited his native home