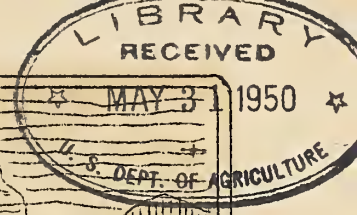


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Vol. 6, No. 3

March - 1941

NORTH DAKOTA HAS I&E TRAINING CONFERENCE

- By E. L. Perry, R.O.

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On March 4, 5, and 6, North Dakota had an honest-to-goodness 100 percent I&E training school. The entire State Office staff, the District Officers, and all Subdistrict Officers were in attendance, and for three long days they listened to lectures, threshed out controversial points, made test speeches, and wrote sample news stories. At the end of that grueling period not only were all hands still alive - they were still champing at the bit and raring to go.

I know within reason that the conference could not have been quite so successful as some of the boys let on, but truth to tell I was very well satisfied with it and State Director Cobb thought the men were more absorbed in the subject than in most training meetings he has had before. Certainly I have seen few groups more attentive or quicker on the uptake.

Mr. L. A. Campbell, Director of Information and Education in the Missoula Regional Office, was secured to assist in the conference and turned out to be a Grade-A instructor. His special forte is public speaking and he condensed into one day's time a course in that subject which he has been giving to Region 1 personnel. The speaking tests uncovered very little of the "unaccustomed as I am to public speaking" complex, and the boys demonstrated that practically anyone can write a news story. They each did write one in 30 minutes and probably all of them would have "rated the ink."

My judgment is that the session was very much worth while and I think that everyone engaged in it will profit by it. I know that I have, even though I was supposed to be on the "giving" end of it. Not only did I add to my scant store of training lore, but I also came away with a renewed faith in the unconquerable spirit of our field organization. Whatever harassments they may be undergoing - and they are many - you would never guess from their demeanor that the world is anything but their oyster, ripe for the opening. Getting two strikes on those fellows means nothing except that you had better get ready to chase the ball in the outfield on the next pitch.

A MILLION TREES FOR KANSAS

"A Million Trees for Kansas" is the slogan adopted by the Kansas Junior Chamber of Commerce in connection with their aggressive program for sponsoring the planting of one million trees in 30 counties on Arbor Day, March 28. The idea for this special observance originated with the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Great Bend, located in Barton County, a county in which 118 miles of shelterbelts have been planted to date by the PSEFP. Last year this organization succeeded in getting 35,000 tree seedlings planted under a similar program.

This year this same organization is enlisting the cooperation of all local Junior Chambers of Commerce in the state as well as other organizations which are willing to cooperate.

Trees are to be bought from commercial nurseries in quantities at one cent each and resold at the same price to all persons who place their orders between March 1 and 14. Printed order blanks are to be given wide distribution, and the whole plan is to be given extensive publicity. All trees are to be at points of distribution early on Arbor Day, and planting is to be done on the same day, according to plans.

Fred L. Conner, general chairman of the Arbor Day program, gives a great deal of credit for the cooperation and encouragement received locally to "Vic" Griswold, subdistrict officer at Great Bend.

In commenting on Arbor Day plans, Mr. Connor says in part:

"I hope that we can plant as many trees as our slogan indicates. That isn't very many compared to the number your organization puts out every year, but the publicity of all of the campaigns will create interest in planting and that will produce the result we all desire.

"It seems selfish not to do our part in planting the trees. Somebody set them out for us 50 years ago under considerably more adverse circumstances. We ought to do it for the future because our grandparents did it for us."

- John D. Hall, Kans.

RECREATIONAL VALUE OF SHELTERBELTS IMPORTANT

The article appearing in the November issue of PLAINS FORESTER entitled "Nebraska Community Working On 25-Mile-Long Shelterbelt" explained the approach and procedure but left out the important question "Why should or does a community undertake such a project?" The answer might logically be, "For self-betterment." How is this self-betterment brought about? Ordinarily our explanations concerning increased crop yields which increases buying power, holding snow which improves road conditions, etc., interest most business men with some getting enthusiastic. Surprising indeed is the interest shown and attitude of "We must do something about it" displayed when recreational values of shelterbelts are discussed.

Visualize a continuous or nearly continuous planting along a main highway through an entire county. There would be signs on the highway indicating the entrance to the county. Many of the plantings would have a

road from the highway leading into them where would be found a small individual (or larger) picnic ground with tables, etc. What a contrast this would be to the congested local park. The place could be marked with an appropriate road sign erected by a local club or business which might read something as follows: "Picnic Grounds by Courtesy of Columbus Chamber of Commerce." This type of advertising would be something new - at least new in our vicinity. The attraction to tourists, hunters, and even local people would surely be far greater than ever before. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that plantings adjoining municipalities would eventually be taken over by the town and made into a community forest. Self-betterment of the community would be realized not only financially but in many other ways. Why wouldn't any community want to be first to undertake such a program?

Possibly by having a few facts and a stretch of imagination, I have gone beyond all bounds of practicability. In any event, the recreational value of shelterbelt plantings can become increasingly important.

- Floyd W. Hougland, Nebr.

WHAT'S TO BLAME?

In the last issue of PLAINS FORESTER "Red" Meines speaks of his concern over the item "poor stock" as one of the major causes of mortality in plantation losses of 1940, and asks for information. I think what Red really wants is confirmation. Now it's my opinion that if you look a long while at his Question 5 there isn't much need to look at the other seven questions. His Question 5 was, "When no other cause is apparent, is it by deduction blamed to poor stock or poor handling?"

I look at it this way. We can't let the nurserymen off Scot-free because, as you know, we have discussed the importance of good stock to successful planting. On the other hand, it is pretty doggone hard for anybody to pick up a shriveled piece of a dead seedling months after planting and say that the stock was no good at the time of planting. The planting men might know that an approximate percentage of their stock was under par and determine their loss from poor stock on that basis. That would be assuming that those were the trees that died. Then, too, the field men have to be pretty careful how far they go in blaming poor stock for this loss, because as you know we have been producing sizeable surpluses that permit heavy culling, especially the throwing out of regrades and border-line stock when it is seen they are not needed. That's where Texas was smart. If they had said they planted poor stock in spite of that big surplus, Boy, oh boy! Which reminds me, I have a letter to write to one or two of the other states.

This office is sitting on the fence watching like a hawk to see who sticks his neck out the farthest. All right, you nurserymen and planters, go to it!

- D. S. Olson, R. O.

WORD FROM THE WISE

"If you are right you can afford to keep your temper. If you are wrong you cannot afford to lose it.

- Reg. 9, Daily Contact

SHELTERBELT OVERLOOK

The Dunlap area in Cottle County, Texas, is becoming justly famed for its high concentration of shelterbelts. As it was originally sponsored by the Lion's Club of Paducah, the latter organization is also sponsoring an Overlook or Turnout for John Q. Public to stop and note the visual evidence of how a shelterbelt concentration works.

There are over 50 active miles of shelterbelts in this Dunlap area, which is approximately 3 miles wide and 10 miles long. At least 7 miles of shelterbelts will be visible from the Overlook.

Landscape plans as drawn up and approved by the Texas State Highway Department will include slightly more than a third of an acre, with a driveway, parking area and bulletin board. The planting and other construction work will take place within the next few weeks.

The following letter from the Secretary of the Lions Club to the Texas Highway Department is the go-signal on what should prove to be an effective method of showing the public what our program looks like on the ground:

"Enclosed you will please find the Right-of Way Easement from Mrs. J. D. Stennett for the proposed Roadside Park, north of Paducah. Same being duly executed and we, Paducah Lions Club, have paid to her the stipulated amount as set forth in the easement-\$25.00.

"We understand the Club will get proper markings relative to the Club having sponsored the Tree Planting in Cottle County and this roadside Park Monument to same.

"We are more than glad to have a part in the beautifying of our Highways and to make it possible for all to enjoy the full benefit of these tree plantings in the north part of our county."

- Hyman M. Goldberg, Tex.

NEWS STORY OF THE MONTH

FARMER EXPLAINS SHELTERBELT VALUE Grand Forks (N. Dak.) Herald

Oben Gunderson, a one-half section farmer northwest of McCanna, told County Agent William R. Page he is convinced of the value of shelterbelt windbreaks. He has 70 acres of trees but plans to plant one and one-half miles of additional shelterbelts.

He has a shelterbelt of three rows of willows running a half mile north and south which was set out 16 years ago.

Gunderson found crop growth was benefited up to 50 rods east of the belt and for 20 rods on the west or leeward side. He estimated that in certain years, crop production was doubled in the protected areas which had the advantage of additional snow moisture and wind protection.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The shelterbelt planting program apparently has a unique appeal quite aside from the mere culture of trees. The Kansas Extension editor occasionally samples the popularity of the stories put out through his bureau by various State and Government agencies, and here is what happened to a number of forestry stories released during a 4-week period.

During the week October 7-12, 1940, three stories listed as "Rabbits Threaten Trees," "Trees Control Erosion," and "Shelterbelts Valuable," were put out. The first two were used by four papers each, but the third made twenty-four papers. The week October 14-19, also saw three tree stories released as follows: "Keep Livestock Out of Timber," "Protect Shelterbelt from Rabbits," and "Shelterbelt Progress." The first made four papers, the second, eight (note the word shelterbelt in the subject), but the third, dealing strictly with the progress of the program, made sixteen papers. The next week also saw three stories issued, the subjects being "Prevent Rabbit Injury," "Protect Trees from Livestock," and "Increased Tree Planting." The first was used by four papers, the second by eight, but the third struck the fancy of sixteen editors. The last week of the series also found three forestry releases going out. "Gathering Tree Seed" appealed to four editors, "Rabbits Threaten Trees" got by eight of them, but "Shelterbelts in Excellent Condition" was used by twelve.

Looks like the doings of the Project, as such, are news, doesn't it?

- E. L. Perry, R.O.

TRY THIS SOMETIME!

One evening in January a shelterbelt meeting was called at Dover, Oklahoma. The Vocational Agriculture instructor, Conn Price, had agreed to do all advertising and get out the crowd. As usual, a crowd of from one to forty persons was expected; in fact, I had taken along a friend from the F.S.A. office in Kingfisher to be sure I had someone to see my picture.

On arriving at the meeting place about 30 minutes early, quite a number of cars were observed parked at the school. I knew then that there had been some mistake. Surely there must be a basketball game or something scheduled. On getting inside, leaving my picture in the car until sure, I asked what was going on. When the informant told me that a shelterbelt picture was going to be shown, I almost had stage fright right there in the hallway.

Someone had done something to get them out. After the picture was over and most of them had gone home, I asked Mr. Price how he did it. He explained that he has a score card on which are recorded "honor points" for various agricultural accomplishments achieved by each F.F.A. boy. To make a long story short, he offered so many points for each individual that a boy could get out to the meeting. The boys fell for it and the 240 present was the result. As an added attraction, Mr. Lee, the school principal, put on a magician stunt.

This idea of "honor points" to the boys opens the way for further thinking. Why not have Mr. Price give so many points to the boys for

getting shelterbelt applications? This was suggested to him, and we have worked out a score which gives so many points for an application and then additional points if it is approved by the Forest Service. How does it work? That remains to be seen. Some applications have come in.

- Stephen O. Harvey, Okla.

WHAT ABOUT THOSE PLANTING MACHINES?

"Them thar" planting machines have come up for considerable discussion on the Devils Lake District. Some say they will plant(?) trees in a day, do the subsoiling and planting at the same time, plant conifers as well as the hardwoods, in fact do practically everything but make out reports for the subdistrict officer and take survival counts out of season.

Putting all joking aside I would like to have someone write an article about these machines -- just what they will do, and how to work with them the most efficiently. Will this machine require the best men of your crew? How about the speed of the tractor while using it? How much power will it require? How about in very sandy soils or rocky soils? Of course there are many questions that could be asked about this new machine and its operations.

It is understood that these machines will be used in the south during their current planting season, and here's a chance to "diffuse and divert" some helpful information for everyone, through the medium of PLAINS FORESTER. Will someone come to the rescue?

- "Gese" Freeman, N. Dak.

(Editors Note: This here magazine aims to serve its patrons plumb up to the hilt. No sooner was Mr. Freeman's appeal received than we set in motion the eager wheels of our world wide - well, anyway, our news gathering machinery, and the result is the following lyrical picture of the planting machine by Dave Olson. We're certainly impressed. Only thing is, what effect is it going to have on the inspector who pulls on a planted tree and it comes up too easy? It's going to be mighty unsatisfactory cussing out a pair of delinquent packing wheels.)

IT'S QUITE A GADGET, THAT PLANTING MACHINE

Perhaps it is just as well that Henry Lobenstein, the guardian of our brain child and its star salesman, isn't here to answer Freeman's inquiries. His glowing account of the planting machine would undoubtedly cause such a flood of orders as to bankrupt the Project and throw National Defense production out of gear. You will hear much more about these machines later, but in the meantime here is a little advance information.

Our original planting machine was developed in 1936 and 1937. After being thoroughly satisfied from test plantings with this model -- and we have a number of miles planted three years ago with this machine -- it was stored away for future reference. Its ability to do a good job of planting and practicability in getting the job done cheaply had been demonstrated, but obviously we could not mechanize the planting job when the very existence of the Project depended upon employment of labor and

liquidation of man-months in order to provide operating capital. Last fall when labor shortages began to loom up in some of our heavy concentration areas, particularly in the North, justification for the use of the planting machine and in fact an urgent need for it became apparent if we were to get our trees planted this spring. Consequently it was decided to construct eight new machines. Our early model brought out the desirability of modifications that would enable us to make the planting machine an attachment for our foundation tool, the unicarrier. That has been the principal change, but it has been an important one because it makes the machine light enough to be operated with a Farm-all, Moline, or similar type of tractor. It also brought the cost down to less than \$100 per unit.

In general, our standard subsoiler is the basic principle from which this machine has been developed. As the subsoiling tool rips open the ground to a 14-inch depth, the trench is held open "momentarily" by two steel plates directly behind the subsoiling blade. The tree is dropped between these two plates and held in position until the soil, rolling back into the trench, firmly holds it in place. Two heavy packing wheels directly behind finish the job of planting.

A planting crew consists of the tractor operator and two planters. The planters are seated on either side of the trencher tool and alternate in setting the trees. A clicking device on the machine, adjustable for various spacings, signals when the tree is to be dropped.

We do not have any detailed figures on the cost of operating the planting machine, but this is significant and gives a good idea of what it will probably be:

Ninety percent or more of our strips are subsoiled and the balance hand-marked for planting by the present standard hand-planting method. It takes a tractor, a unicarrier, a subsoiler, and two men to do the subsoiling operation. With the planting machine we have merely added the cost of the planting attachment and one man to get the planting as well as the subsoiling job done. I believe that at the most it will not cost you more than a dollar an acre over the cost of subsoiling to plant the trees. The range of total planting cost should be somewhere between two and three dollars per acre depending upon soil conditions, distance to move the machine and crews, and so forth, and of course the size of the job involved in the individual belt.

To me its greatest possibilities seem to be in the narrower belts, especially the very narrow intermediate belts. As you know, supervision, distribution of trees, transportation of crews and similar overhead charges for hand-planting a 2- or 3-row belt is all out of proportion as compared with the 12- to 16-man crews used in the standard 10-row belt. With the tree-planting machine, trained units of three men, one serving as foreman, will assure that the standard quality of work is maintained. No tree tender will be necessary because the machine carries its own supply of trees, and the planting unit can be transported as readily as we now transport our subsoiling units.

One machine is now in operation in the South on an endurance test. We are quite certain that the "bugs" have been removed so that the trees

are planted as well as by our hand-planting method, but we do want to be sure that there are no weak points in the machine. To date it seems to be standing up in all types of soil conditions from blow sand to heavy soils. The South Dakota "friction hitch" used for the subsoiler is applied to the trencher of the planting machine so that rocks or stumps will not break the machine.

Those who have seen our new machine in operation are immediately sold on its possibilities, so much in fact that we have had to turn away orders. When the machine was first sent south this winter Webb and Nelson showed considerable concern for fear they might have to dig down into their "other" money and help the Project buy the machine. They had no use for it because labor was plentiful. After the demonstration both of them recalled certain areas where labor might be a little bit scarce, and they wondered if we couldn't possibly arrange to have a machine or two made for their States.

North Dakota will have the best opportunity to see these machines under operation in a big way. We are leaving it to the organization of that State to show comparative results, best methods of organizing the work, and other details for the benefit of the rest of the Project next year.

- D. S. Olson, R.O.

CONFESSION IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

A gentleman in Kiowa County circulated a petition last summer to try to get support enough to stop the Forest Service from furnishing poison bait in that county.

He spent considerable time and worked diligently, and obtained about 30 signatures in the county. Incorporated in the petition were the names of a number of farmers who were supposed to have lost livestock of some description. The petition necessitated both Mr. Sampson and Mr. Reigner of the Fish and Wildlife Service making a trip into this county to iron out the resentment against the use of poison bait. Both men did an exceptional job in that respect.

Being in closer contact with those cooperators than most anyone in the county, I doubted very seriously all the allegations set forth in this petition. So I decided to see what I could find out about the matter. I picked up the petitioner from time to time on the assumption that he would show me where some of the individuals lived, or to view some shelterbelts. I made it a point to come in contact with some of these men that he had on his petition as having lost livestock. Almost all of them said they hadn't lost any or they had got into grasshopper poison, etc. Of course some were found who had lost some dogs. The fellow was quite perplexed, but it developed his information was pretty largely heresay. So being convinced that we weren't such a bad lot after all, he made an application for a 300-rod belt on his farm, agreeing, and it being incorporated in his co-operative agreement, that he would hunt and use poison bait to control rodents.

Considerable time was spent on this man, but it was worth the effort.

- Jewell G. Harrison, Kans.

RABBIT HUNTS BENEFIT MANY

Hunt number 317 marked the completion of South Dakota's community hunting program for the season of 1940-41. From the standpoint of number of hunts and acres covered, this year's hunting program was the largest since the development of the community hunting system in the fall of 1937.

The season's totals again exceeded our expectations and are summarized as follows:

Number of hunts	317
Number of acres covered	1,976,390
Number of participants	18,152
Number of rabbits killed	56,013
Number of fox killed	206
Number of coyotes killed	12
Amount of proceeds	\$12,945.93

All but two of the above items increased over last year's totals; for instance, the number of hunts this season was 317 compared to 250 last year. Although 67 more hunts were held this year, 3,880 less rabbits were bagged. This definitely indicates that desired results are being obtained in reducing rabbit populations in our area of operation. Since the fall of 1937, we have carefully observed rabbit populations, especially the infestation per section, and now find that since 1937 we have reduced the population nearly one-half. In 1937-38, the average rabbit infestation per section was 34+; in 1938-39, 31+; in 1939-40, 23+; and this season, 1940-41, 18. Of course our poisoning operations have been highly important in this reduction in areas of heavy planting concentrations, however, the widespread reduction (27 counties) must be attributed to community hunting.

Higher than usual prices for rabbit fur and carcasses prevailed throughout the season, the high being 26 cents per rabbit for a short period. The average price throughout the season amounted to slightly over 22 cents per rabbit.

As in previous years, various organizations, clubs, and groups sponsored the hunts and received all proceeds from the sale of the bag. Again these proceeds were used for many charitable and other worthy purposes, among them, the partial payment for an Iron Lung installed in the Huron City Hospital, donations to the Infantile Paralysis fund, purchasing of an artificial limb by a group of farmers for an unfortunate neighbor, giving away of Christmas baskets during that season to poor and needy children, purchasing band equipment and music, purchasing equipment for various sports including basketball, baseball, and golf, playground equipment for schools, 4-H clubs and Extension clubs, donations to Greek War relief, various social activities including banquets and dances and many others.

Recently our State Director wrote a circular letter to the field personnel which contained the following paragraph:

"We have come a long way in this community rabbit hunt thing in the past few years. Before we entered this field in South Dakota the community rabbit hunt was actually an oddity. We have not only instituted but

actually established a practice or activity that I am now certain will, in part at least, carry itself. Any community rabbit hunt, whether independent or supervised by the Forest Service, helps our rabbit problem, and it is because of this I feel that our boys in the field have done a grand job in popularizing this thing to the point where it can be regarded as nothing else but a truly going institution in this state."

- B. O. Wichmann, S. Dak.

HOW CAN KEY MEN BE MOTIVATED?

Most of us agree that the biggest help we have or can have on our job is obtained from different community leaders. At the same time most of us do not know how to take full advantage of their help or to keep them motivated. When one farmer gets down, the whole community will usually chip in with help to put the neighbor back on his feet. However, very few people seem to want to do much to prevent this occurrence. Apparently the danger must first be forcibly called to their attention.

Since I am anxious to learn of ways to motivate these key community men, I would like to see more ideas along that line presented in PLAINS FORESTER. To start the ball rolling, I am presenting one idea we tried.

Meeting with our 3-man Township Tree Committees began to lose its zip and pep, with a slacking of interest. And so we called a county-wide meeting of all the committeemen, news editors, county commissioners and other key-men interested in our project. The County Agent called the meeting for us, gave us some valuable advice, made the introductions, and then turned the meeting over to us.

To create a feeling of good fellowship, we had a dinner meeting. To review our Project and inject some inspiration we showed "Trees to Tame the Wind." Then we pointed out the things that the committeemen had accomplished to help them realize they are an important cog in building up their communities.

So much enthusiasm was displayed that every note of pessimism was quickly lost. Just the presentation of old sores seemed to help, especially when it was pointed out that the Forest Service was considering them and in most cases had already made adjustments where they seemed best. When these community leaders realized that there were so many of the active leaders in the county pushing the tree planting program, they went away with new enthusiasm.

There is already shown within one month's time an increase in poison distribution, a spurt in negotiations, an increased desire to get plans before the community; doubtless results will show up in better cultivation too. Many talked of buying or making grapehoes of their own and a few living close together mentioned chipping in to purchase such tools.

Although this meeting seemed so beneficial, the advice of the County Agent was probably good, "Don't try it too often. With so many agencies in the field now, we are likely to over-organize."

- Carl L. Hawkes, Kans.

SHELTERBELT TO BE PLANTED IN THE CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA

At the intersection of U. S. Highway No. 2 and North Dakota Highway No. 3, one-half mile south of the city of Rugby, North Dakota, is a monument of concrete and stone erected by leading citizens of the town. The inscription thereon reads:

"GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA - RUGBY, NORTH DAKOTA".

Six rods on the east side of North Dakota Highway No. 3, and running north $3/8$ of a mile to the city limits of Rugby, are 10 subsoiled rows which, when planted for Chas. Peterson next spring, will be another monument (I hope) to the position the site holds in relation to this continent.

And for you fellows who believe you have the true geographical center of North America in your working circle, I gathered the following information: In 1931, Dr. Shively, a dentist here in Rugby, wrote to the U. S. Department of Interior, Geological Survey, and was informed that the center of North America lay somewhere in Pierce County. Inasmuch as the intersection of U. S. Highway No. 2 and North Dakota Highway No. 3 was only $1/2$ mile south of Rugby, and Rugby about in the center of the county, this was the site selected for the monument.

An interesting side light is the method of determining the center. A map of North America was placed on a metal plate of uniform thickness and specific gravity, and the outline drawn thereon. The plate was then cut according to outline, and the outline plate balanced on a single fine point. That point was Pierce County.

I understand this information is given on Page 254 of Bulletin 817 from the U. S. Department of Interior.

- Victor C. Anderson, N. Dak.

IT MAY EVEN BE A ROYAL FLUSH

This is the retelling of "one of those days" in the field -- Believe it or not.

Arrived at Louis Ernsts, Polk County, 9:30 A. M. Hesitated to drive down snowy road. Saw man in rear view mirror. We talked shelterbelt. Signed him up on a half mile, also got good news story from him concerning his portable sawmill.

Thence on, -- got stuck in snow, party came from behind and "unstuck" me. Talked trees and left agreements. Continued on. Contacted Fredrickson (had application from him); signed $7/8$ of a mile. His brother was there -- signed him to tune of $6/8$ of a mile.

Thence Stromsburg. Contacted Lawyer Stanton, who wanted belts on five of his farms. Saw Banker James; he game me application.

Towards home, contacted ACP member Staroscik who antied two applications. Finally home. Four applications in the mail. Called up D. O. which presented one more.

Summary: Took care of one application, signed 2-1/8 miles, left agreement for one party to sign, got good story for news article, picked up 13 new applications, and every person contacted either signed up or made application for a shelterbelt.

How's that for four aces?

- E. E. Evans, Nebr.

RECORD OF COMPENSATION FOR INJURY CASES ON PRAIRIE STATES
FORESTRY PROJECT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1940

	Number of Accidents Which Occurred During Year							
	R.O.	N.D.	S.D.	Nebr.	Kans.	Okla.	Tex.	Total
Falling and swinging								
Objects	-	1	1	7	1	6	2	18
Hand tools	-	3	3	7	4	4	1	22
Sprains or strains	-	3		1	4	1	5	14
Vehicles	-		2		1	1	1	5
Machinery & equipment	-	6	2		3	1	5	17
Falls of persons	-	2		3		1	2	8
Handling objects	-	2	1	5			2	10
Poison oak and ivy	-	1	1	7				9
Hernia	-		1			1		2
Burns	-					3		3
Guns	-	1				1		2
Miscellaneous (Foreign objects in eyes, infection, etc.)	-	11	9	11	4	10	6	51
GRAND TOTALS	-	30	20	41	17	29	24	161
Last Year	2	28	30	63	24	22	23	192
Increase or Decrease*	2*	2	10*	22*	7	7*	1	31*
Lost time in excess of 3 days		14	5	9	8	14	9	59
Cases disallowed by Commission		2		1	3	2	2	10
Medical and Hospital Expense		294.75	341.30	476.69	159.10	852.10	544.39	2,668.33
Compensation allowed		52.21	90.34	177.01	81.36	1087.39	648.49	2,136.80

There were no deaths on the Project during the past year as a result of traumatic injury.

- B. O. Young, R.O.

"You can never have a greater or a less dominion than that over yourself."
- Leonardo da Vinci (Reg. 9 "Library Accessions")

SHELTERBELTS IN RUSSIA

"Within the past few years we have heard a great deal of discussion in this country on 'shelterbelts' which are merely strips of trees running across the country. It is my understanding that Russia was really the originator of that idea. This practice was followed to some extent during the old regime but within recent years it has been greatly increased. They now have rows of these trees running everywhere. They have been planted along the railroads to such an extent that within a few years it will be impossible to see much of the countryside.

These forest strips are arranged in various ways. In some instances I noticed that the tallest trees were planted in the middle with the shorter species towards the outside, thus giving the whole thing an oval shape when looking at it endways. In other cases, the various species were mixed up, apparently because they had run out of planting stock. Some of the strips had only a half-dozen rows while others were fifty yards or more wide. In some instances they weren't even planted in rows at all, but apparently were just set out in any manner. Some of the species that I was able to identify, were elm, boxelder, green ash, mulberry, cottonwood, catalpa, Russian olive, black locust and occasionally pine and spruce. They also had various shrubs that they planted along the outside rows of the trees. They are getting so many of these shelter belt plantings in certain sections that, looking at them from a considerable distance, the country appears to be rather heavily forested.

Russia has never taken the interest in forestry that other European countries, such as Germany and France have. Most of southern Russia is prairie and over most of that country the use of wood is practically unknown. The buildings are constructed of dirt or stone, and fuel consists principally of animal dung and weeds, grass and other vegetative matter. Sunflower stalks are one of the principal sources of fuel. After the sunflowers are harvested the stalks are tied into neat bundles for fuel. However, this great increase in the planting of shelter belts should be of great help in furnishing fuel to the rural homes."

Extracted by Ernest Wright from
"An American Grazer Goes Abroad"
(by Marvin Klemme)

I&E AS A GOOD WORK TOOL

In the work load analyses started in May 1940, recommendation was made in every case that the amount of time spent on I&E work be practically doubled and that it approach 8 to 11 percent of total time. This recommendation was based on the philosophy that an effective I&E program would tend to reduce the amount of time necessary to get farmers convinced that they needed to plant a shelterbelt. Also increased emphasis on I&E would reduce the time necessary to get good cultivation in the summer and likewise would reduce the time for other activities.

I believe that this logic is correct and there is some evidence all over the Project that the field man is trying to use I&E as a tool for aid in accomplishing his objectives.

Two elements of I&E work must be kept in mind as we make our efforts in this field. The first one is that there must be a real determination

to let nothing interfere with our I&E program for a given jurisdiction. The second point is that advantage of every opportunity must be taken to do effective I&E work.

To carry effective I&E work, the forest officer must not set it up as something to do when everything else is done. It must be done first and without fail every week if we are to really use it to our advantage. This means that the schedule for work in every week must allow for the timely news release, the presentation of material to the group that should have a talk, the special article which someone else will write and distribute for us, and full use of all other I&E tools must have high priority in our program of work.

Some time ago I heard a district extension agent make the statement that some of us go along on the basis that we are "opportunists" and that we take advantage of opportunity as it comes along. He contrasted that individual to the one who makes opportunity and takes advantage of not only the opportunity that comes along naturally as the opportunist does, but goes farther to produce new opportunities. It is important that we be more than the ordinary opportunist; we must plan so that opportunities will present themselves.

There have been some illustrations of this "opportunists plus" action. Mr. Griswold, subdistrict officer, through his township tree committees, found in Barton County that a certain number of schoolhouses had less than a dozen trees on the school grounds. Griswold called this fact to the attention of his people in Barton county through the newspapers of that county. The story was so good that it was picked up in papers all over the state. This is what I would call "making opportunities" to tell our tree-planting story.

The final test of I&E effort is the result and action obtained. To a far greater extent than we may want to admit, our I&E efforts seem to stop short of the ACTION point. We want to keep this in mind as we face the future with our educational work. We must have volume of effort and must even dig up ideas and make opportunities, and we must handle our I&E efforts to prompt action.

- T. Russell Reitz, Kans.

A WINDFALL OF EXHIBIT SPACE

Only a glance at the first page of the Information and Education handbook is needed to tell us that "As foresters and as public servants, we are interested in establishing in the public mind the fact that forestry offers a solution for some of the grave economic and social ills which afflict the Plains region, and in implementing any inspiration thus generated with our knowledge of forestry science", and "As members of the Prairie States Forestry Project we are interested in: (a) securing such recognition of the public welfare values of our Project planting program that facilities will be provided for its continuation, and (b) convincing landowners of the value of the program to the individual farm so that competition among prospective cooperators for the privilege of participating in it will result in the farmer assuming a greater share of the cost, in a higher degree of concentration of plantations, and in lessened cost of negotiations work."

The job of making 130,000,000 Americans conscious of the work of the Prairie States Forestry Project has taken many angles and turns, and from the depths of my office in the basement of the Post Office Building, and from the heights of my ancient but willing pickup, I have on occasions tried without very startling success to add new wrinkles to this assignment.

One night at a meeting of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce, I was given the job of "doing something about" the exhibit house near the Great Northern depot. The depot agent had asked that some organization or office assume the responsibility of changing the mouse-eaten grain samples and the dust-covered pictures oftener than once every 5 to 20 years.

Slowly it dawned on me that this would be an excellent place for some PSFP pictures and posters concerning shelterbelts. New Rockford is a 20-minute fueling stop on the main line of the Great Northern, and even in subzero weather passengers get out to walk and to get fresh air. Now to cite a specific example: I had occasion one noon to go to the depot (to get a report on the train), and I counted 22 persons who were walking in the vicinity of the exhibit house.

With this source of contact available here at New Rockford, and assuming that the depot agent's statement that "about 50 persons a day stop to look at the exhibit house" is correct, we can tell 18,250 people a year a short story about shelterbelts.

The problem now is what theme can be placed in this exhibit house that has punch enough to interest travelers weary of counting hundreds of miles of telegraph poles.

- Charles B. Waldron, N. Dak.

(Brother, you got yourself something there! I don't know the details of this exhibit space, but whatever its size or character, there are a thousand industrialists in these United States who would gladly pay money for the privilege of displaying their wares there. If you get an interesting exhibit set up there (and do not allow it, too, to become mouse-eaten and dust-covered) you can spread the shelterbelt gospel unbelievably far and fast.
- E.L.P.)

WHAT THE COOPERATORS THINK

From returned Forms 232-0 sent to cooperators in his Subdistrict, Ted Raide, of Oklahoma, gleans the following gratuitous comments:

A cooperator near Roosevelt, writes: "Cultivated trees four times during the season. Hoed them once. I did most of the hoeing myself. I got one of my hips broken 20 months ago. I am not able to walk without the use of a cane. I hopped on my hoe handle and got over my tree plot, but it took about all summer. My trees needed more cultivation than was given them, but I hope to do better next year."

Then, a lady from the Hobart area, says: "We are very proud of our trees; they have made a wonderful growth in spite of the drought of the last two summers, some being seven (7) feet high. Our worst enemy has been rabbits cutting them down."

Alonza Poling, who gave an address in Oklahoma City but apparently lives on his farm, has this to say about his belt: "This is a sandy covered farm, and last year it had a clean cultivation; then it blew so a ridge of sand the full half-mile was raised in some places almost to the tops of the fence posts on the north side of trees. That is why we did not hoe and cultivate more often this year. However, the trees have made a fine growth this year, except the acres on the south set too close to the old row of Catalpas that have been there many years. That row should have been set at least twenty (20) feet farther away from the old trees. However, we all make mistakes."

HE WORKS - AND EATS - WHILE HE SERENADES

On a recent inspection trip with a member of the State Office staff in my subdistrict, we came across a condition very interesting to me. The Cottonwoods in a 1937 belt had been attacked by borers and as we walked along through the belt we noticed that nearly all of the borer holes had recently been neatly cleaned out and on the ground were what appeared to be bird tracks. This looked like a big job well done, and as there were no birds in evidence that afternoon, I decided to return some nice sunshiny morning and spend a little time in hiding to see if I could discover which member of our feathered friends was so nicely getting rid of our enemy, the borer. The morning on which I returned was warm and bright and I didn't have long to wait before I heard their loud chirrup as they flew from tree to tree down the Cottonwood rows. My position was good but, alas, no camera to record what I saw as one wary little fellow perched on the trunk of the tree next to me then hopped to the ground and, zip, drilled out a hole and obtained a nice morsel for his breakfast. I would identify him as "Dryobates Villosus Villosus," otherwise Hairy or Guinea woodpecker. His efforts were untiring and his appetite to match as he went on with his work and song.

On further inspection I have noticed that the work of these woodpeckers is progressing nicely and I am waiting with interest to see what effect it will have on the borer damage in this belt. Perhaps too much stress cannot be put on the importance of creating the best possible conditions in our shelterbelts for the care of birds.

- G. W. Hargadine, Kans.

ANOTHER TEXAS JAMBOREE

With a whoop and a holler, some 36 Texas Shelterbelters assembled for their Annual Jamboree at Childress, Texas, on February 22. Celebrants quickly forgot their inhibitions and ate, drank, sang, danced and stunted. Max, Kitty, and George Pfaender of Oklahoma represented the out-of-staters, spicing the party in their own inimitable manner.

From the little "reception" room on the second floor, where strangers became friends, to the main ballroom, happy voices, laughter, and dancing feet resounded. The song fest with CMA's new Shelterbelt Song was a knock-out. "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" by the Childress District in realistic fashion brought tears and shudders to the assembled onlookers. "A Day at the State Office" caused naught but wonderment, while the stunts by the Shamrock District and Oklahoma's Maxey brought down hilarity galore.

Truly a noble time was had by all.

- Hy Goldberg, Tex.