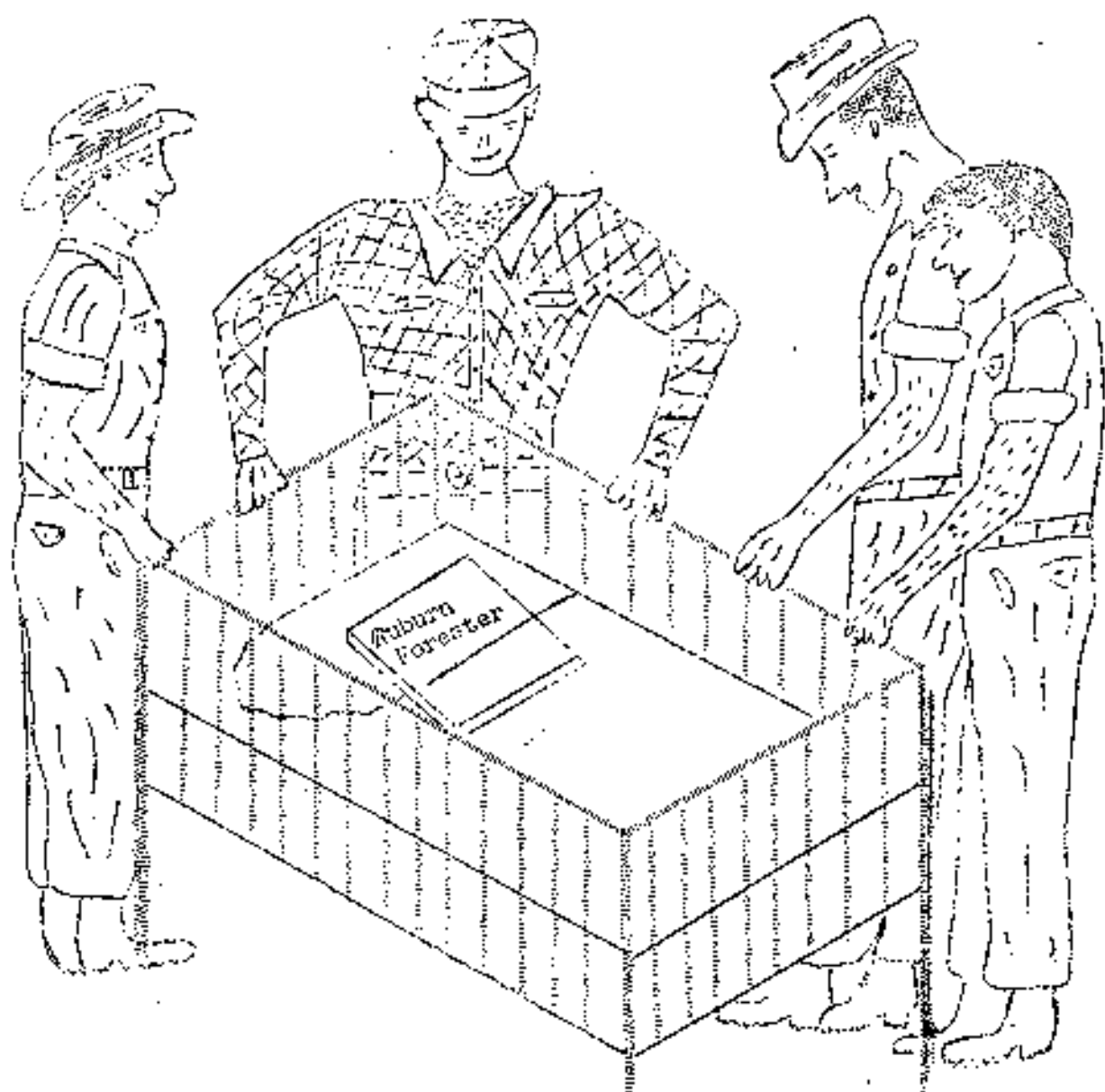


AUBURN FORESTER

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Well Folks, It May Not Be A Very Pretty Thing, But It Is Our First And We Are Proud Of It.

THE AUBURN FORESTER

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THE INITIAL JOURNEY

With this initial Forestry News Sheet, the Forestry Club is attempting to put before all forestry students a means of getting better acquainted, and of increasing the value and interest of forestry instruction. An attempt will be made to publish current forestry items that will be of interest to all forestry students.

The AUBURN FORESTER should be considered the personal expression of all forestry students, a paper for the foresters about the foresters. This is the forestry student's baby; let us all do a good job in making it survive and grow.

The AUBURN FORESTER should be an organ used for the recognition of meritorious work, no matter how small. It should establish and keep itself on a high journalistic plane without need of official censorship. To fulfill its purpose, it must be handled and run by the Forestry Club without profit. It should maintain a spirit of friendship and fun, but should keep clear of low humor and near-libel that so often appears in small and informal papers.

Restating an old adage "A chain is no stronger than its weakest link,"

this paper will be no better than support that forestry students give. IT MUST HAVE YOUR FULL SUPPORT. The paper is not for a minority, but for all forestry students. Articles from you will be welcome, and will be published.

If, after reading this first issue, you like it, let us know; if you do not like it, help us to improve the next issue.

FORESTRY CLUB MEETING

Date - February 9, 1948 - 7 P.M.
 Place - Green Room, Pitts Hotel.
 Program - Mr. P. F. W. Prater, Assistant Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Atlanta, Georgia, will speak before the Club on some phase of forest management. Afterwards coffee and doughnuts will be served.

All forestry students are urged to be present.

DID YOU KNOW ?

That more than \$27,000,000 was paid to Alabama tree growers for their forest products in 1946.

That there are 18,800,000 acres of forest lands in Alabama.

That farmers and small land owners own 70 percent of Alabama's woodland.

That there are over 2,000 sawmills, 5 pulp and paper mills, and 1,000 other wood using plants in Alabama.

Mr. Stevens: Well Phillips, so you want to leave the woods. Are your wages too low?"

Phillips: "The wages are O. K. Dr., but I'm afraid I'm doing a horse out of a job."

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CLUB DUES?

In this, the first issue of the AUBURN FORESTER, it is fitting that the growth of forestry at A.P.I. should be briefly reviewed and a sincere tribute paid to the men who are principally responsible for our progress. These men are Dean M.J. Funchess and Professor L.M. Ware.

The growth of our forestry research program is shown by its rise from a humble 1926 fund of \$80 (which was used primarily to produce a small planting of several pine species) to its present-day status of more than \$30,000 annually. We now have a good physical plant, fairly adequate funds, and an excellent staff — all of these deserving a more detailed account than we can present in these few pages.

Educationally speaking, the first material attempts to broaden forestry, faltering though they were, came in 1935. While the college had offered a course in forestry since 1897 as a service course to agricultural students, it had undergone little change or expansion since its instigation.

With the general plan of building toward a degree course in forestry, Professor O.J. Weddell, Auburn's first trained forester, was added to the staff and a number of students enrolled for the course. Unfortunately, at this period there was considerable professional concern over the number of students enrolling for forestry in the U.S.A. and the consequent potential over-crowding in this field. A committee from the Society of American Foresters was at the time investigating established forestry schools as to their adequacy and efficiency. As Auburn could meet none of the minimum requirements set up by the Society of American Foresters, and as no funds appeared in prospect for improving the situation, the forestry course was dropped. After this abortive effort to go forward, few courses were offered in forestry until 1940.

It was in this year that Professor W.L. Lear was added to the staff and charged with the responsibility of developing a course leading to a degree in agriculture with a major in forestry. The course was received enthusiastically until it was suspended in 1943 when the war reduced the number of students to too small a point to justify continuation of teaching in this specialized field.

It was not until 1944 that any real progress was made in the then ten-year-old fight for a degree course in forestry. Feeling that the time was ripe for another major push, a brief entitled "Forestry Presents Its Own Case" was presented first to a number of outstanding foresters who were opposed in the beginning to the idea of "just another forestry school in the South" but who reacted favorably after reading the brief.

Auburn's need for a four-year professional forestry course was later presented to the Alabama Farm Bureau, the Alabama section of the Forest Farmers Cooperative, the executive committee of the State Chamber of Commerce, and the Alabama Forestry Council. All of these organizations went on record as recommending that the Alabama Legislature authorize and provide funds for a forestry degree course at Auburn and for expansion of research in forestry.

At the request of the Alabama Farm Bureau and the Alabama Chamber of Commerce, a Bill was prepared and after a number of delays and obstacles were overcome, the Bill was passed and became a law on July 9, 1945. It provided \$25,000 annually for research and made provision for a forestry building, equipment, and a degree course in forestry.

It was not, however, until February 20, 1946, that actual release of funds (contingent upon the approval of the Building Commission) for the forestry building and equipment was assured and authorization given to the now deceased President Duncan, to proceed with the school. The official vote of approval from the Building Commission for funds for a forestry building did not come, however, until May 18, 1946.

HISTORY (continued)

With funds now in hand for a building and a staff, no effort was spared to obtain the best available men in the field. Dr. R.H. Westveld was chosen Head of the new Forestry Department, and he reported for duty in June of 1946.

Work was started immediately on new building plans and the revision of the new Forestry curriculum. (This revised curriculum is now recognized by the Society of American Foresters as giving complete professional training in forestry.) Construction on the forestry building actually began in February of 1947. On July 1, 1947, all responsibility in forestry was passed to Dr. Westveld and he became the first official head of the Department of Forestry at Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

In August, 1947, Dr. Westveld left to accept a position of Head of the Forestry Department at the University of Missouri. Another thorough search was made to locate the best available administrator in the field of forestry education, whereupon we were fortunate in securing the services of Dr. Terrill D. Stevens who assumed the responsibility of Head of our Department on September 18, 1947.

At the present time there are over 200 students enrolled in courses leading to a degree in Forestry at A.P.I. The teaching staff has increased to six members, with a diligent search in progress for other qualified personnel.

Due to a shortage of construction material, the new building is not yet complete, but it is a good guess that we will be able to sit in the lounge of the new building and listen to next fall's football games.

We students in Forestry at Auburn are thankful to Dean Funchess and Prof. Ware for their foresight and diligence in making their dream of a forestry school become an actuality, and to all the organizations and individuals who gave freely of their time and effort that we might have what we are sure is to become the best school of forestry in the SOUTH. Our new building, our equipment, our staff and our curriculum compare favorably with the best forestry schools in the country. Auburn marches forward!

PERSONALITY SKETCH - HAROLD "PHIL" PHILLIPS

BORN - Yes; in 1920. Decidedly not a girl.

EARLY EDUCATION - Primary school in B'Ham; managed to get through high school, too.

COLLEGE - Auburn 1939 still here yet, with a slight interruption of four years donated to Uncle You-know-Who. During the war years Phil was employed by Pan American Airways in Central Africa and Trans-Continental Western Airways of Washington, D.C., then received the now-famous "greetings" next, basic training in the Air Force three consecutive years with the same. After his release, he was permanently tied to the former Miss Mary Tillery of Lengdale, Ala., who is now employed as a nurse at the Auburn Infirmary.

Since his return to Auburn in '46, Phil has become a junior in Forestry he still walks, talks and is slightly more than somewhat human. After graduation, states desire to be employed outside the U.S.A. with whoever will take the chance.

FAVORITE COMIC STRIP - JOE PALOOKA

HOBBY - Fishing

DETESTS - Exams of the unannounced type

REMEMBER !! FORESTRY CLUB MEETING, Pitts Hotel, Monday Night, February 9, 7:00 p.m.
All Forestry Students be there. TREAT IN STORE !! (Bring your own 15¢).



"JAKE, ARE YOU NOW CONVINCED THAT THIS TREE SHOULD BE CUT?"

SPORT SCOOP

Our basket-ball team was organized too late to enter the independent basket-ball league; but we have challenged the faculty of the far straggling school to a friendly game. They offer the worn out excuse of too old and too busy.

Our prospects for the spring quarter in soft ball are very good. We have established stars as "Ace" Live, "Scott" Cook, the "Becks" boys, "Lumber" Surcin, and numerous other stars who are itching to get back on the diamond.

Auburn varsity sports are tops—In other words we're hot! Coach Darryl Boyle and Coach Umback are over due for congratulations—lets howl it to them boys!

Coach Earl Brown, the young dapper with the effervescent personality and his assistants Marshall and Hewlett are just what Auburn has needed for a long time.

Fellow foresters, lets support them and the team and observe the results.

JOKES

Prof. Vogel: "VanCleave, what does dressed lumber mean?"

VanCleave: "Charlie McCarthy."

Examiner: "Who was your mother before she was married?"

Applicant: "I didn't have any mother before she was married."

She: "How about giving me a diamond?"

He: "My dear, extenuating circumstances preforce me to preclude you from such a bauble of extravagance."

She: "I don't get it."

He: "That's what I just said."

NO JOKE.... FORESTRY CLUB MEETING
TONIGHT... why not come???