

## SUMMER CAMP

by James T. Rice

Monday, June the sixteenth, 1952, marked the beginning of the well known and much talked about Forestry Summer Camp for the fourteen members of the sophomore class. We did not know then what lay ahead of us, yet we had heard rumors enough to make us rather dubious of our future. I came expecting the worst; sumac, snakes, mosquitoes, gallberry, titl, swamps, alligators, and sweltering heat. Much to my disappointment, I never did see an alligator.

Most of the motley crew arrived and set up housekeeping on Sunday, the fifteenth. Our period of codification into woods lore was delayed a couple of days because for the first time in two years the Alkin's man was late. However, camp officially began on the morning of Wednesday, June the eighteenth, with an introductory speech from that legendary character of summer camp, Cy Lawson. His first words were, "Ugh, four cutters, can't file."

From Cy we learned about saw filing etc., mostly etc. After playing with prospects for a few days, we were easily fascinated by the demonstration of the power saws.

Being fully adjusted to our new homes, we were prepared to meet Prof. Johnson and Forest Engineering. Prof. Johnson has one bit of advice for all instructors from now on, "Don't give a quiz until you are sure you can work out the key."

Forest Recreation, a most inspiring course, gave us a chance to show our artistic abilities. During the last hectic days of Recreation, on one of my frequent trips to the lake machine, I to

... wind brought in an old

Five feet long!



Ready for that boundary survey.

salt by the name of May. For the next two weeks we called trees un-numbered until at last I talked about tally sheets in my sleep. That lovely part of summer camp when each man launches out into the swamp all by his little self to tally all merchantable sumac and at the same time keeps a keen nose out for whiffs of perfume in a billygoat. Believe it or not, there was very little rash on the final day of mensuration, and Jack May left with a splash. During the dunking of May at the lake, visiting Profs. DeValt and Hodgkins were also baptized.

The next day Prof. Hodgkins and Mr. Brockeen of the Extension Service began the course in Ecology by a short course in geology and soil identification. I shall never forget that fateful day; better love bath no man than to jump off a moving truck after his hat. That geology final was really a rattler, five feet off it in fact.

After battling the wiles of nature for seven weeks, we at first welcomed the chance to ride the bus and go through some saw mills. Many mills and miles later we came to the conclusion of summer camp. We had finally made the grade.

Ma and Pa Robison of Little River and Evergreen both commented on the fact that we had been the quietest group that they had seen yet and left us all with a standing invitation to visit them.

Many things happened this past summer that will never be forgotten. We learned a great deal about how to get along with our fellow man, and all in all we had very few harsh words or ill feelings during the summer.

It would be impossible to recall all of the names and incidents that became attached to individuals. I have tried to arrive at a brief analysis of each member.

Jack Berroa "The Chimpanzee": Could not catch a ride to Atmore, because he was standing sideways.

John Crocker "That Ladies Man" or "Preacher": Frequently on the war path or at least painted like an Indian.

Neal Crosby "The Boy From Back Home": Often heard crying, "Where's my scooter", and eternally referring to past tragedies in Bay Minette.

Earl Darby "The Rutox Kid": Once seen running to a water hydrant in his birthday suit.

James Nipper "Georgia Boy": Always crying to go fishing and daily promising to write that letter to his wife.

Charlie Figg "Sleeping Beauty": In the sack most of the time and always avoiding salt tablets.

James Rice "The boy from the B.R.C.": Known to walk in his sleep and overly prone to leap from moving trucks.

Billy Rogers "Lead Foot alias The Machete Kid": Caught coming in A.W.O.L. on July 5th after spending the previous evening in the bastille at Brewton.

Eugene Sample "Bush Hook" or more officially "Bunny": Frequently seen trying to woo Lizzy with gifts of snakes and always ready to relieve the man on the bush book.

Guy Smith "B.C." or "Scratchy": Always on the run to the "Doc" for his shots. Also went nocturnal during the conventions.

Leon Thomas "The man that always had money": Late to breakfast every morning and on the dodge from flying machetes when in the field.

Beryl Toler "Party Chief": Just always heard. Also seen being frequently booted out of camp by Prof. Johnson.

Mayford Williams "The Boy from Tennessee": Often heard cursing his placardial friends and the Republican Party.

Forty years old?



## ALUMNI AT WORK

by D. V. Willett

I was asked by our Editor, R. I. Smith, to write an article about myself in particular and everything in general for the fall issue of the AUBURN FORESTER. I would like to express my appreciation for this opportunity to say hello to the faculty, students and fellow alumni.

As the old saying goes, "There's been a lot of water under the bridge". My first two years have taught me a great deal, namely, that there's a hell of a lot to learn. Not that I thought this business of learning would end with the presentation of a diploma from A.P.I., but it is impossible to realize the tremendous scope of the present activities much less visualize the future progress in the field of Forestry until you have worked for a while. As a word of encouragement to the students, I say the opportunities offered to you in the Forestry profession are unlimited.

The fact that I believe so firmly in the future of Forestry has caused me considerable concern in one respect; our Alumni Organization. I am taking this opportunity to express my views in this article in the hope that it will be met with some response. After considerable discussion with graduates of other Forestry schools, and several of our alumni and faculty members concerning the advantages of a well organized, active Alumni Organization, I feel we should definitely direct our attention to the improvement of this organization in the near future. This can only be accomplished with the whole-hearted support of everyone concerned. We have a school of which we may be justly proud. It is not only a duty, but an opportunity, through an active Alumni Organization to continually strive to maintain and progress the commendable reputation of the Auburn School of Forestry.

What are we going to do about it?

The Editor, another one of the Smith boys, said to write about what I've been doing since departing from the "Loveliest Village of the Plains" on December 15, 1950. (I don't care to start before that date - for obvious reasons - only to say that I graduated in June, 1950, and along with Frank Jones, Denton Cook, Roy Gamble and "Moose" Johnson spent the summer months employed by the Gulf States Paper Corporation on forest inventory of their Shelby County lands. On December 18 I was fortunate in receiving permanent employment, along with Frank Jones, Denton Cook, with Gulf States. I was assigned as Assistant District Ranger to Ted Nixon on the Sipsy District (Pickens, Greene and Merango Counties) and located in Carrollton. Frank was Assistant District Ranger to Bob "Uncle Fud" Fyase on the Coosa District (Shelby, Autauga and St. Clair Counties) and located in Columbiana. Denton was Assistant Forester - Land Acquisition and working out of Tuscaloosa.

The work on the 65,000 acres composing the Sipsy District included



This picture was taken during the Company's annual Fire Training School in September, 1952, and includes everyone except Ted Nixon who was recently promoted to Budget Control Director. Left to right: First row, Denton R. Cook - District Ranger, Coosa District; William R. Black - Forest Analyst; Robert H. Fress - Wood Control Supervisor; Norman C. Kent - Wood Control Inspector; George W. Wood, Jr. - Assistant Forester, Land Acquisition. Second row, Lewis H. Walker - Assistant District Ranger, Coosa District; Frank E. Jones - District Ranger, Sipsy District; Roy G. Gamble - Assistant District Ranger, Warrior District; Harry V. Dunn - Wood Control Inspector; James D. Haynes - Assistant Forester, Forest Survey; D. Virgil Willett - Conservation Forester.

many phases of forest management, such as fire control, planting, hardwood control, timber marking, road construction, acquisition, wild life management and perhaps most important of all - public relations. During this time I also found time to learn how to play "rook" and "dominoes" around a pot-bulled stove with some mighty fine folks. The hunting and fishing was the best to be found in Alabama.

In May, 1952, I was promoted to Conservation Forester and moved to Tuscaloosa where my wife and daughter and I now live. My work in this capacity is primarily to advise and assist landowners in practicing good forest management. This is done through both personal contact with individuals and demonstrations to large groups. Also of importance are the forestry programs conducted in cooperation with FFA and 4-H Clubs. During the past six months I have had the opportunity of attending several interesting meetings. I ran into Burt Carlson and Pal Patterson (both with Coosa River) at a meeting of the Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association held in Bogalusa, Louisiana, this past summer. Burt won a "rifle" guessing the height of a tree, I'd bet Professor DeVall didn't get a drop of it for teaching Burt that "similar triangles" method. At the annual meeting of the American Forestry Association held in Asheville, North Carolina, in October, I got acquainted with the five Auburn students attending. I couldn't get well acquainted, though, because I had the wife along on the trip.

We're getting quite a congregation, twelve to be exact, of Auburn Foresters here at Gulf States and we are all very proud to be a part of one of the finest organizations to be found in the United States.

With best wishes to everyone,

D. V. Willett

### AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOC. MEETING ATTENDED BY AUBURN STUDENTS

by D. J. Smith

On October the twelfth through the fifteenth, five seniors from each of the six forestry schools in the South were treated to an expense-paid trip to Asheville, North Carolina. The occasion was the joint meeting of the American Forestry Association and the North Carolina Forestry Association. Auburn students attending were D. R. Stallworth, Ed Gilson, Len Crain, C. N. Dale, and D. J. Smith.

The meeting consisted of three days of tours and lectures, climaxed by a banquet at which plaques were presented to individuals for distinguished work in forestry and conservation. The theme for the meeting was the relationship of water production and watershed management to forestry. Some of the topics discussed were "Forests and Water", by Dr. R. E. McArae, Chief of the United States Forest Service;

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by D. J. Smith



Ted Dillon receives Xi Sigma Pi Charter from Dean D. J. Weddell.

### XI SIGMA PI INSTALLS CHAPTER AT A.P.I.

On May 23, 1952 the Silvanus Honorary Forestry Society of Alabama Polytechnic Institute was installed as the Sigma Chapter of Xi Sigma Pi National Forestry Honor Fraternity. The Silvanus Honorary Forestry Society was organized in 1948 with the idea in mind that they might soon become a part of this great national organization, and many alumni of Silvanus Society were pleased to hear that their fine work had been rewarded.

Xi Sigma Pi was founded at the University of Washington on November 24, 1908. Since that time the organization has established seventeen chapters across the United States and is truly national in character. The aims and standards of Silvanus Society and Xi Sigma Pi were almost identical. The objects of Xi Sigma Pi, as stated in the constitution, are to secure and maintain a high standard of scholarship in forest education, to work for

the upbuilding of the profession of forestry, and to promote fraternal relations among earnest workers engaged in forest activities. The intention of the Fraternity is to honor the student who is doing good work in forestry, and who has a personality that would tend to make him successful in forestry work. The fraternity aims at stimulating scholarship in forestry and at bringing together in good fellowship, those students who have shown exceptional ability.

Dean D. J. Weddell of the Xi Chapter of the University of Georgia represented the National Fraternity at the installation ceremony. The ceremony was attended by eighteen active members of Silvanus and sixteen alumni. After a very impressive ceremony led by Dean Weddell the group retired to the Elks Club for dinner. Mr. DeVall showed some Kodachrome slides of past Silvanus banquets and activities, and the group was entertained by William B. Black who gave an interesting after-dinner talk.

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"Southern Forestry Today", by Captain L. F. Eldredge, Consulting Forester; "Water and Industrial Development of the South", by Norman A. Cocke, Vice-President of the Duke Power Company; and "A Banker Looks at Forestry", by Eric Cocke, President, Fulton National Bank, Atlanta.

Places of interest visited on the tour were the Coweela Hydrologic Laboratory of the United States Forest Service, the Pisgah National Forest, the Biltmore Plantations, and the Champion Paper and Fiber Company. Several hours were spent in each place, with guides to point out and explain interesting features. At the Hydrologic Laboratory basic research experiments on the relations of forests to water were being con-

ducted. One of the most interesting conclusions was that proper logging could directly benefit watershed management.

The Biltmore Plantations, established during the later part of the nineteenth century by George W. Vanderbilt, are the oldest White Pine plantations in the United States.

A tour was conducted through the Champion Paper and Fiber Company plant at Canton, North Carolina. This tour was of particular interest because the Canton plant utilizes hardwood pulp as well as pine.

The Pisgah National Forest, the Great Smokies, and the Blue Ridge Mountains were beautiful in early October. To those of us from the flatlands of South Alabama, the opportunity of seeing a mountain was

The latest statistics compiled by our news service, with the gracious cooperation of all the men listed, are presented to you in as short a form as possible. Ye Ol' Alumni Editor put off writing his column until the Saturday of the Homecoming game. Here goes....

#### Auburn Men and Meetings:

The A.F.P.A. meeting at Birmingham in May was attended by James H. Smith, W. L. (Cluney) Brown, Harry Maigs, Denton Cook, Ted Hixon, and Frank Stewart.

The Gulf Coasts Forestry Association meeting held on August 22, found Tom Culpepper, Kenneth Dumas, Aaron Jordan, R. H. Riggs, and James H. Smith on hand.

Virgil Wittel attended the American Forestry Association meeting at Asheville, North Carolina on October 12.

Auburn will be well represented in the State Forest Inventory to be carried on soon. Alumni who received instructions in inventory procedure were Norman Kent, John Ramage, Jack Haynes, M. D. Monk, and C. L. Bush.

#### New Alumni:

Recent graduates who have written us are as follows:

Al Pyle, with the Koppers Company in Pittsburgh; J. D. Sharp, with the Union Bag Company in Savannah, Georgia; Lewis Walker, with the Gulf States Paper Corporation in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Ted Dillon, who is working on his M. S. degree at the University of Wisconsin; Ned Gaut and Walt Zingelmann selected the Air Force, and Charlie Rollins the Army.

#### Job Changes:

Shuffled about but still with the same company are Ted Hixon, now in Budget Control; Bill Black, now in Research. Claude Swife has moved to Plantersville. Jack Haynes to Fubhope, and Les Frouty to Waynesboro, Mississippi.

Men with new jobs are John Guy, Consulting Forester at Grove Hill, Alabama; and Rufus Weeks, who is with F. T. Stimpson in Mobile.

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worth the trip.

We were also afforded an opportunity to meet some of the top men in the field of forestry. In addition to the speakers mentioned, dignitaries present were C. F. Korstain, Dean of the Duke University School of Forestry; Dr. Harry A. Curtis, Director, T.V.A.; Reuben E. Robertson, Chairman of the Board, Champion Paper and Fiber Company; Henry Clepper, Executive Secretary, Society of American Foresters; J. E. Veech, President, National Lumber Manufacturing Association; D. Virgil Wittel, Gulf States Paper Corporation; and many others.

Those of us who attended as student guests are indeed grateful to the American Forestry Association and to the North Carolina Forestry Association for inviting us to their annual meeting.

## DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

The Forestry Club officers for the Fall quarter are:

President - James Nipper  
Vice-President - Richard Holt  
Secretary - Eugene Sample  
Treasurer - Dalton Smith  
Reporter - John Meadams

The Woodchopper's Bull will be held on May twenty-ninth this year.

Mr. Devall attended the annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters in Montreal, Canada, November the seventeenth through the twentieth.

Forestry Club attendance has been very good this year. The first meeting was attended by forty-five boys. Of some interest was the fact that seven states were represented at that first meeting. There were thirty-one members from Alabama; six from Georgia; three from Mississippi; two from Tennessee; and one each from Florida, South Carolina, and Ohio. Attendance has continued to be good due to the fine work of James Nipper and the other officers, who have managed to have interesting programs and short, well-planned, business meetings. Recently the club has enjoyed interesting talks

by two very fine guest speakers: Mr. L. M. Ware, who is head of the Horticulture Department here at Auburn, and Mr. Ike Martin, who is the Extension Forester.

A fellowship consisting of a \$2,000 gift made available by the Gulf States Paper Corporation of Tuscaloosa, honoring its founder, H. E. Westervelt, will be offered each year to encourage students qualified for graduate study in forestry to pursue work toward the master's degree. Selection is made on the basis of scholarship, character, and all around ability of a student to undertake graduate study. James E. Monk of McComb, Mississippi, was selected to receive the first Westervelt Forestry Fellowship.

A \$1,000, in the form of four \$250 scholarships, will also be offered each year by the Gulf States Corporation to four high school graduates of high scholastic standing, who have shown an interest in forestry, and who desire to seek a forestry degree.

The St. Regis Paper Company of New York City has made available to the Forestry Department an undergraduate scholarship, which will be awarded to an outstanding Junior student at the beginning of the academic year of 1953-54. The scholarship amounts to \$800 a year for a period of two years. Similar scholarships are being offered at the

University of Georgia and the University of Florida. They are also offering a single graduate scholarship amounting to \$1,000 to a first degree holder planning to take graduate work at any accredited school of forestry in the United States.

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Recently discharged from the service are Quinton Barrington, Trendwell Gresham, William Lane, Alfred Van Cleave, C.S. Walsh, and Rufus Weeks.

### Personals:

Married: Jim Burnham, Noll Van Cleave, Robert Freese, and Bill Macke. Born: March 18, a girl to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jones.

Among our men who have done things worthy of note recently are Bill Black, who talked to the Alabama Bankers at a forestry demonstration sponsored by the Gulf States Paper Corporation; and Conro Olive, who was co-author of an article on hardwood growth in the February issue of the Southern Lumberman.

The winter issue of the Auburn Forester will be devoted almost entirely to the alumni, and we will need your cooperation to put it over. If you killed a rattlesnake, changed jobs, or got caught bootlegging, drop us a card. We would like to have a complete and up-to-date list for the winter issue.