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Forester On Good Things . . .

Ordinarily, I am a grumbler. A nothing-pleases type. A sort of "Woe is Me" fellow. I grumble about my courses. I thrive on cursing the weather. My razor blades always go dull one day before they should. But there comes now and then a brilliant flash across my gloom of grumbles, and by the glare I see that some things are fine and good after all. I want to talk about them.

Have you ever owned a venerable old pipe—a good briar, a battered relic that more than once you darkly swore to drop into the furnace? One that bit like a muskrat trap on the first few puffs and gurgled like an underground stream on the last? If you have, then you remember those glorious clouds of contentment between, and you have known one Good Thing.

Have you worked in a simmering summer heat with salt sweat stinging your eyes and 6 o'clock a long way off? And afterward come home to a frosty glass of foam-topped beer winking with amber lights on the table? That is another Good Thing.

Consider: A hayfield shimmers greenly under an August sun. You stand spraddle-legged in the grass, swinging a scythe in smooth, clean circles. You are naked to the waist and your sweat is cool in the breeze. And you have a month left before fall term. That is a Good Thing, too.

When the humor is on me, even simple things like these seem worthy of praise:

A good, keen axe—an easy-swinging, deep-biting, companionable sort of axe—one that will help you fish smelt through the ice, peel a rail, build a camp, hammer a spike, sharpen a pencil, or even open a stubborn sardine can, and one that will not shiver into shards when you attack a frozen birch on a bitter February morning.

A sleek, intelligent, lively obedient dog (not of elegant pedigree, necessarily—he may as well be a mongrel) but one that knows what you are thinking, who shares your joy in the hunt, and who asks only

a pat and a morsel for unflinching friendship.

On a cold night alone in the woods—what comforts better than a small, bright fire and a mug of pungent tea? And perhaps that other friend, that pipe?

A good book, a good rifle, a good pair of boots—these are but a few of the things that sometimes in his brighter glimpses this grumbler sees as valuable beyond money.

One, however, he is at a loss to classify. She wears long hair and a skirt and is known as Woman. She brings both peace and confusion. What to do? How to release? The pipe is comforting, the axe is dependable, the dog is a companion. Likewise, they say, is Woman all these. But the pipe never needs a new hat, the axe never smashes into Reverend Brown's car, and the dog never has to go to the hair dressers. Woman, they say, does.

The problem is that lemon pie with golden droplets of sugar bursting through tender merangue is a Good Thing too.

Damn! Another busted shoe lace!

She'd have worn her mother's girdle but she didn't have the guts.

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A FORESTER DOES?

Many people ask the question "What, exactly, does a forester do?" and, after being answered with a flabbergasted silence, promptly conclude that they don't do anything at all. While this may be true in some cases, I hasten to assure you that the silence generally ensues because the question is practically unanswerable. The forestry profession is divided into so many facets that a generalized answer, which must be either a forty minute recital or something like "Looks after trees", is no more informative than no answer at all. The following is an attempt to outline three very general fields of forestry, giving the uninformed reader some idea of the probable activities of a forester within each field.

The general forester in the management aspect of forestry is usually concerned with integrating the efforts of a group of specialists towards achieving a particular management aim.

Specialists concerned with actual forest management are silviculture, mensuration, and forest economics. In the large organization specialists are hired to perform the duties involved within each of these phases of forestry.

The forest economist is concerned with costs, with the prediction of future demands as to type and quantity of forest product, and in general with ensuring that forest management practice is economically sound.

The silviculturalist is directly concerned with the methods and cutting practices used in growing and tending the forest crop. Silviculture has been defined as "the art of producing and tending a forest." Silviculture, then, is the tool which is used to achieve the aims of forest management.

The third specialization is forest mensuration or measurement. The mensurationist is concerned with determining the amount of wood standing in the forest, as well as the amount cut. He determines inventory.

Trees must be protected against fire, insects and disease. The financial loss alone is serious if they are not, particularly where money has been expended on man-



GARY SAUNDERS and FRED McDOUGALL

The hard work, cooperation, and high spirit of the foresters has been evident throughout this most recent and successful forestry week. Although the organization and planning of the varied activities can be attributed to a fairly small group, success was only possible with the enthusiastic support of the entire faculty.

Nevertheless, before too much praise is heaped upon our efforts, it would be wise to realize that other faculties make little or no real attempt in the direction of a faculty week. Therefore we have no real basis for comparison. Other faculties could probably do as well; they have done better in past Winter Carnivals. The success achieved in those Carnivals attests to their capabilities. What they lack is spirit. Last year's Wassail, and this year's attendance at meetings of the Arts Union, are glaring examples.

One feeble attempt at some semblance of faculty unity was made last year by the Artsmen when they bedecked themselves with specially made neckties. The Engineers likewise had a faculty jacket made. Both ideas are good, but something more is needed. A genuine desire to set up an organization, one formed as a means toward creating interesting activities, and not as an end in itself, may be that something.

It is true that talking is easier than doing, and that a faculty such as ours is already at an advantage, by reason of its professional unity. Therein, perhaps, is the secret. If the "faculties - within - faculties" (especially characteristic of Engineering) could get together, it might become evident that several small organizations are better than no organization at all.

Such organizations would, by reason of their creative nature, be more concerned with constructive than with destructive undertakings. Perhaps, when these organizations are formed, all-night vigils to protect advertising such as Paul will not be needed.

"May I have this dance?"
"I'm sorry, but I never dance with a child," she said with an amused smile.
"Oh, a thousand pardons," he said, "I didn't know your condition."

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