THE

MICHIGAN TECH FORESTER

1953

Published annually by

the

FORESTRY CLUB

MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

at

Houghton, Michigan

Volume IV

May, 1953
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FOREWORD

Annuals traditionally summarize the events of the school year and those persons connected with them. We, the annual staff of the 1953 Michigan Tech Forester, sincerely hope that the following pages meet with those requirements. As in producing most publications where inexperienced personnel is involved, a considerable amount of difficulty was encountered in publishing this one. In spite of these difficulties, we have attempted, to the best of our abilities, to show in words and in pictures a summary of the year 1952-53.

The annual staff started out green this year. Not one person had ever worked on an annual before. But through a considerable amount of work, time, and thought, we have come up with an annual that is an improvement over annuals of past years, and which falls within the limits of our financial status. Changes have been made; some of which may not be the subject of approval by all those who are interested in the Michigan Tech Forester, but which we feel are only the result of progress toward a better annual.

To direct thanks and appreciation to everyone who was directly concerned in publishing this annual would be impossible. But I feel that several persons deserve the special thanks due them.

To Jack Lockwood, who did an outstanding job on advertising this year.

To Janet Steen, our secretary, who devoted time in advising us, on the basis of her experience in publishing annuals.

To John Barbieri, who participated whole heartedly in making this annual possible.

To the entire Forestry Club, the interest and aid of which made the Michigan Tech Forester a success, and we think, an example to be followed in years to come.

DENNIS E. TEEGUARDEN
Editor
DEDICATION

PROFESSOR U. J. NOBLET

PROF. U. J. NOBLET
—Head—
Department of Forestry

To Professor U. J. Noblet in honor of his 25th year of teaching at Michigan College of Mining and Technology.
PROGRESS REPORT 1952-1953

by

U. J. Noblet, Head, Department of Forestry

This is the 4th annual Forester to go through the publication stages, as well as the seventeenth year of operation of your forestry department. Greetings to all of you in this the 17th year of progress and activity from your department.

This year's class, numbering twenty-six forestry graduates, is one of the largest to graduate from M. C. M. & T. in quality of work, it rates with the best. Yes, on the J. F. it made the best showing of any graduating group since the graduates took to the field for the first time in 1940. Some of the boys have already been accepted from the results of the examination and will be located in the West; good luck in your new surroundings!

Private forestry employment still rates the highest in job call, the Lake States being the greater appeal with the Pacific Northwest a close second. Then, too, the employment status is becoming more substantial as the years go by, a gratifying situation to all of us.

The staff at long last is leveling off on the search for new and advance degrees. Gene Hesterberg is back from his leave of absence
and when Eric Bourdo returns after this coming year’s leave, it should complete the department’s needs for added degrees.

Several new courses have been added to the forestry curriculum to strengthen and broaden the department’s over-all forestry program. Probably the best additions are the courses in photogrammetry which, for the first time, are being taught in the department by Professor Steinhilb.

Our Summer Camp problem is still very liquid. We are not satisfied with present Camp Pori; it needs too much attention and repairs for a permanent set-up. We have looked over several very suitable sites and hope that one will materialize in the very near future. We can’t say where it will be at this time, but it should be of such scope and value as to reflect much favorable credit to the school and forestry department. It has been a case of searching for the most desirable spot among several valuable areas in the western end of the Peninsula.

All the annual events are still on and enjoyed equally as in the past. I might say that the smelt run was the greatest in history— the smelt didn’t miss a stream in the Copper Country.

We have now received our portable sawmill. It was a long time coming but it is here and should be operating by fall. It will be a great asset in the teaching of our various courses in utilization along with giving the upper classmen a chance to operate a top-rate mill. We have the timber available and adjacent to the mill for actual cutting operations and study. It will fill a great need, to say the least.

Student-wise we are growing at a very satisfactory rate. This fall we expect our best freshman enrollment— made up, of course, of a considerable number of Korean Veterans. Time marches on!

With very best wishes to all from everyone on the staff.

Sincerely,

Bert Noblet
THE FACULTY

PROFESSOR U. J. NOBLET
Head, Forestry Department
Assistant Professor
GENE A. HESTERBERG

ROBERT T. BROWN
Instructor
Low Grade Hardwood Lumber Utilization

By

CARL W. DANIELSON, JR. '40

This project was initiated in an attempt to find more profitable markets for the large volume of low grade hardwood lumber being produced in Michigan. Representative samples of typical #3 Common northern hardwood lumber were gathered from five widely scattered saw mills in the Upper Peninsula and yields in useable cuttings were determined by examination and measurement.

Samples of products were made up and evaluated, including thin block flooring, wainscoting, or wall panels, laminated industrial table tops and end-joined strip flooring. All of these products are adaptable to the use of cuttings from #3 Common hard maple and yellow birch and should offer fairly good volume markets. The thin block flooring, developed and patented by Elmendorf Research, Incorporated, Chicago, has been manufactured on a pilot plant scale and production costs have been computed. Designing and testing interior wall panels of birch has followed a basic public patent of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory. Refinement work in the design of both these products is continuing, particularly on the basis of improved moisture stability. The end-joined strip flooring and the industrial table tops, both show promise of immediate commercial application.

In the commercial production of any of the above mentioned products, one of the keys to success is maximum mechanization of the operation from the rough lumber through the various machine and lay-up operations, to the finished product. Automatic equipment for gang ripping and cross-cutting, assembling and gluing are essential, and commercial machines are available for all of these operations. Since there was no commercial equipment available for automatically end-joining short random length cuttings, a working model to do this job was developed. Development of a production model was undertaken as a design problem for a master's thesis in the Mechanical Engineering Department at the College.
THE SENIORS
SUMMER CAMP

Forewarned by those who had already completed the nine weeks of Forestry Summer Camp, the students who went to camp last summer reluctantly anticipated a terrible battle for life against an army of mosquitoes, vicious bears, and starvation. Fortunately, the tales were slightly exaggerated, except for the mosquitoes, which were underestimated.

Camp started with a bang... and a bite! Every student was deeply touched by the rousing cheer of the welcome he received from the countless thousands of mosquitoes, black flies, deer flies, and other such fans, upon his arrival at Camp Pori. As the days passed, the two learned to live in perfect unison, except for minor out-breaks of extreme and learned profanity. Except for one case when both bear and student took to their heels, the bear population failed to materialize. Starvation proved to be no threat either, and most of the men left camp with overloaded belt lines.

The students who attended the 1952 camp will well remember "the night the skunk got in." Sometime during the night of July 18th, this skunk, affectionately referred to as Petunia, wandered through a hole under the bunkhouse and proceeded to make herself at home, unmindful of the 26 sleeping beauties above. This incident in itself was not apparent, nor significant, until early morning when some soul, answering an early call to the wash house, stamped hard on the floor above Petunia's head. Petunia, having pride and respect for herself, promptly replied in the traditional skunk fashion.

It was only the more daring foresters, who, in the morning light, searched through the stink for the culprit, later located under the barracks. By the way, it was never formally established that Petunia, the skunk, ever left her advantageous position, since from time to time during the remaining weeks, the barracks was refreshed to some extent by her fragrance.

Other than the episode of Petunia, the summer passed quickly and quietly, with the usual storms, volley ball and baseball conflicts, and hilarious bull sessions. Instructor "Hammer" Steinhib was especially remembered for his humorous anecdotes; "Vern" Johnson for his lack of cigarettes when he wanted one; and Eric Bourdo for his $13.00 refund at the end of camp.

All in all, the summer was a profitable one. The students left well versed in practical field forestry techniques, and as better trained and qualified foresters. And for sure, they will remember their summer days at dear ole Camp Pori; for it is indeed an experience.
OUR

ACTIVITIES
Old time gambling

Delta Sigs 3rd place
CARNIVAL

Portraying the Snow Ball
Dancing Co-eds

Queen Janey Kaiser

Wolf bait
THE ANNUAL STAFF


ANNUAL STAFF

EDITOR .................................................. Dennis E. Teeguarden
ASSOCIATE EDITOR ...................................... John Barbieri
FEATURE EDITOR ......................................... Robert Mayuela
SPORTS EDITOR .......................................... Fritz Ahlole
ADVERTISING MANAGER ................................. Jack Lockwood
PHOTOGRAPHY .......................................... Edgar Robinson
ADVISER .................................................. Janet Steen

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As in the past years, the Foresters again entered into the college intramurals program, which was originated to provide a recreational outlet for the students. Though not too successful this year, the Foresters still benefited from the program, developing through the year a spirit of friendship that tended to draw the Forestry Club into a closer bond of competitiveness. The men who participated enjoyed the many games in the different sports, and are looking forward to a more successful record next year.

The team that suffered most at the hands of their rivals was the basketball team. The team tried hard, putting on a fine show and hard battle each game, but still bowed to each team it met during the season, finally ending up with not one win. Many of the games were close, lost by very close margins that provided conversation for many bull-sessions afterwards.

In contrast, the bowling team did quite well, finishing the season just four games under the .500 mark. The team got off to a bad start, but a late season surge brought them into a tie for eighth place with the ASME.

All in all, the Foresters didn’t enjoy a very good year, but with the experience gained and strengthening in weak places, expect to do much better next year.
INTRAMURALS

BOWLING STANDINGS

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<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
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<td>40</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>AIEE</td>
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Basketball Team  Bowling Team  Handball Team

Baily  Farbo  Daniels
Gustafson  Gottwald  Kisabeth
Fozza  Shepherd
Parsinen  Frankenstein
Ahalo  Clark
Dungey
Guernsey

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FORESTRY CLUB OFFICERS

Chief Forester
G. Frankenstein

Secretary-Treasurer
E. Robinson

Assistant Forester
E. Lambrecht
SOCIAL OUTINGS

The annual Venison Feed was disbanded last fall due to a lack of venison. In its place we substituted a herring feed. Choice of location was a problem and we finally decided to hold the outing at the Boy Scout camp at Rice Lake. This camp seems to be a jinx for us. Twenty-five foresters braved a blizzard and the lack of light and heat at the camp. The temperature twenty feet from the fireplace was well below freezing. The food and refreshments prepared by chief chef Clegg however, offset the adverse conditions. Robbie was the only casualty. Along about midnight he was so stiff that someone mistook him for a log and threw him in the fire.

Our second outing was held this spring at the Ripley Fire Hall. This time we enjoyed both heat and light. Food and beverages were abundant and everybody left with a full stomach. Once again Hammer came out with his vast repertoire of jokes and entertained us for hours. When the food gave out the meeting broke up.

SMELT RUN

Perhaps the most enjoyable experience of the year for the forester comes in the spring when the smelt start running. All that is needed for the festivities is a net, a pair of hipboots or waders, a frying pan with plenty of grease and flour, and something to wash the salt out of your mouth. There are several good smelt streams in the vicinity of the campus but the most popular one is the Silver River near L’Anse. When the smelt start their journey upstream to spawn in the spring something happens in the Forestry Department. Whispers start
going around “. . . he caught two pails last night down on the Silver.” Soon the word has traveled throughout the school. That night we forget our books and tests, throw our gear into the car, and head for the Silver. When we reach the river we split up into two groups. One group starts dipping while the other starts a fire. Soon the smelt are coming so fast that everyone helps dip. After we catch enough for a party we quit and return to the fire. Already a couple of pounds have been cleaned and the rest of the evening is spent eating and swapping stories.

LUMBERJACK BALL

Last fall the Lumberjack Ball again proved to be the most popular dance of the year. The dance was held in the Memorial Union Ballroom. Music for dancing was furnished by the Starliners. One of the more unusual features of the dance was the abundance of stag women. Chief Forester Frankenstein came up with an idea that helped make the dance a bigger success. He suggested that corsages be made and sold at the door for a nominal sum. The colorful corsages were made of maple leaves, wintergreen leaves and berries, ground pine, and mountain ash berries. The demand proved to be so great that these corsages will be a permanent fixture at the Lumberjack Ball.
OUR

ADVERTISERS

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