

The Knothole

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The Knothole, April 24, 1963

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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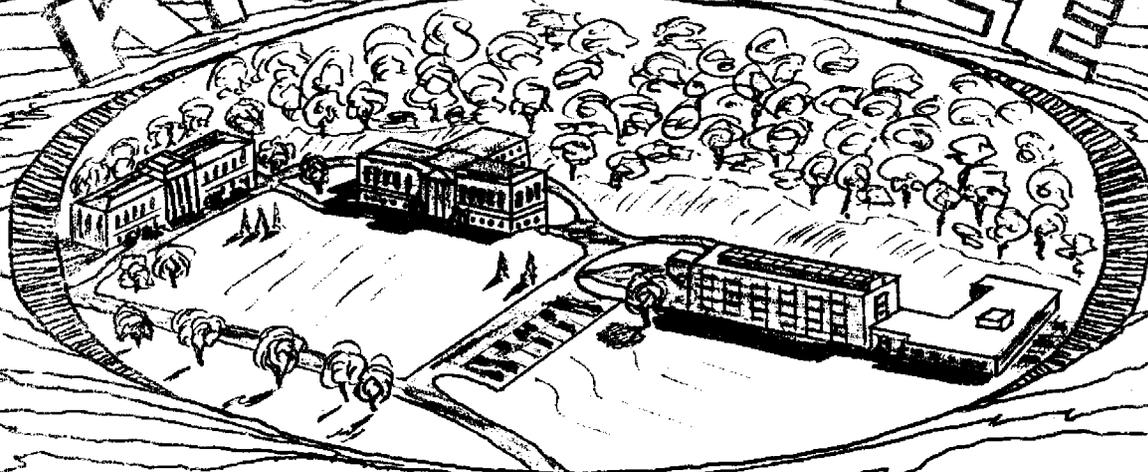
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OUR CAMPUS AS SEEN THROUGH THE

KNOTHOLE



Editors: R. Bathrich, G. Davis, J. Dwyer, M. Kelly, R. Kutty, H. Rupp, R. Sena

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TIME AND THE PENDULUM

Time perhaps is the greatest factor in the fate of the world. There was a grandfather clock in the library of an organization with which I was once associated. In retrospect, it now reminds me of the bewildered thinking, especially on the part of those who plan the economy of the world.

If it is advocated that we speak out vigorously for the betterment of mankind in our society; for Medicare, more social security for the aged, or more compensation for those unable to find employment, etc.; we are told that we are going too far to the left and advocating Socialism. There is another group with very opposite selfish thinking which we like to brand as "extreme rightist". Then, there is another group in our political setup which we refer to as "middle of the roaders". This group knows right from wrong, but plays the role of a fox to ascertain which way the wind will blow.

Thinking back to that old grandfather clock in the library which I referred to, I notice that as long as the pendulum keeps swinging from right to left and left to right, the time is always correct. The clock goes completely out of whack, however, when the tick tock stops completely and the pendulum hangs in the middle of the road.

I may give credit to those who follow the pendulum of human relationships to the right. I will not damn those who follow the pendulum to the left. I have grave doubt, however, that the middle of the roader contributes anything towards our society.

The next time you see a pendulum on a grandfather clock, take a good look and you will probably agree with me, that as long as the clock keeps ticking, in time

the evils which beset the world may be corrected.

J. Colby.

DEAR DISAPPOINTED SENIOR

I have been a Forest Land Manager for two and one-half years and I disagree with your article in last week's Knothole.

You stated that very little education is needed for a career in Forestry, and only with a good deal of experience will Forestry ever make any sense. I do not agree at all with your idea that very little education is needed. This past summer I had the privilege of working with the Forest Service, and worked with several men who had very little education and a lot of experience, an ideal combination for a Forester according to your views. They were stagnated at the GS-5 level (\$4,800/annum in parts unknown) and admitted that they had a bleak future due to their lack of education. The positions immediately above them were being filled by college men who were drawing on the experience of these men and then moving on to better things. On innumerable occasions I was told how lucky I was to have the privilege of getting a Forestry education.

Yes; our field demands a great deal of experience, and is in part an art, however, an education is a necessary background to learn that art.

You also implied that a Land Manager was a "Jack of all trades and master of none". I agree with this 100%; but feel that this is an asset rather than the liability that you stated it to be. There are actually two distinct reasons for studying Forestry with this broad "Liberal Arts" approach. The first is to prepare men for the less specialized positions in forestry such as in Management or Extension work. The second goal of this approach is to provide a foundation for more intensive training in a specialized field either in graduate study or on the job.

Certainly one must feel frustrated in trying to coordinate all of the many phases of Forestry upon graduation, and you can easily feel quite inadequate. However, graduation is not an end to your education but a beginning. If you liken knowledge to a high skyscraper, after four years of college we have only built the basement. Some will never go beyond this point, while others will strive on to higher things either with future formal education or job training. In order to go on to much higher things, you must have a broad foundation in Forestry, and our Forest Land Management option gives you just that.

My "word to the wise" is just the opposite as was yours. I believe that it is possible for one to specialize too early in life and miss out on a broad background that will be invaluable in the future.

John Dwyer

MR. NOBEL AND HIS NOBEL PRIZES

The fame of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish scientist, rests primarily upon his invention of dynamite. In a secondary manner, his fame continues as a result of the awarding each year of Nobel Prizes, including one for literature.

We presume we have read all the infamous books of smut including "Lady Chatterly's

Lover," "Peyton Place," and even Persia's "The Perfumed Garden". We do not expect to receive any prizes as a result of admitting the sort of "ornery" side of our existence. From a literary standpoint, however, on more than one occasion those who pass out Nobel Prizes also were guilty of exposing their ornery side.

William Faulkner seldom wrote about interesting subjects unless he delved to some extent into a verbal garbage can for expression. Mr. Faulkner, God rest his soul, was awarded a Nobel Prize for literature. John Steinbeck is the latest novelist who is recently back from Sweden after accepting his award as a Nobel Prize winner for "The Winter of Our Discontent". It's a pretty corny novel in the matter of the use of indecent language. I am happy, however, that Mr. Steinbeck was selected because I remember his "Grapes of Wrath" as unwinding a tale in which he exposed the brutality that is used when it comes to gentlemen farmers having their crops harvested by wandering bindle stiffs. "The Winter of Our Discontent" however, to me, seems not only corny but disrobes a female character from the very tips of her polished toes to the hair crowning her beautiful head.

All this is well and good, but if the Nobel Prize in literature is to go to those who write about sex in its rawest form, I want to nominate next year's winner. I suggest that Henry Miller should be rolled before those who award the prizes in a golden chariot for his contribution to literature of "Tropic of Cancer" and "Tropic of Capricorn". These Nobel awards to novelists in reality are not so noble!

J. Colby

JUNIOR FOREST RANGER QUIZ

Circle the number of the correct answer. Only one answer to each question is correct. 17-20 correct = Official Junior Forest Ranger. 12-16 correct = Forester. 8-11 correct = Junior Forester. 0-7 correct - Study this handbook again.

1. Campfire permits are required for
 - (a) indoor fireplaces.
 - (b) outdoor areas, depending on local laws.
 - (c) lighting Halloween pumpkins.
2. The safest way to start a campfire is with
 - (a) a pile of leaves.
 - (b) gasoline.
 - (c) small pieces of kindling wood.
3. The best place to ask where forest campfires can be built is
 - (a) sheriff's office.
 - (b) sporting goods store.
 - (c) ranger or fire warden station.
4. When staying overnight in the forest, before going to bed you should
 - (a) place heavy logs on the fire.
 - (b) put out your campfire.
 - (c) arrange to get up every 2 hours to check the fire.
5. When you see a bear in a forest, park, or zoo, you should
 - (a) pull his fur.
 - (b) chase him with a stick.
 - (c) stay away from him. Do not pet or feed him. Bears are wild animals and considered dangerous at all times.

6. To cook properly over a campfire, you should.
 - (a) cook over the flames of a large fire.
 - (b) build a small compact fire and cook over the hot embers.
 - (c) burn a lot of paper to make the fire hot.
7. The best way to put out a campfire is
 - (a) spread out the embers and cool with dirt or water. Mix thoroughly and check for hot spots.
 - (b) cover it with rocks.
 - (c) let it alone and it will burn itself out.
8. The best spot for a campfire is
 - (a) inside a rotten log or stump.
 - (b) under a green tree.
 - (c) in a cleared open space away from trees.
9. For camping or burning trash, the following is the most important and practical tool to carry in a car
 - (a) shovel.
 - (b) bucket of water.
 - (c) wet blanket.
10. If a fire gets out of hand, you should
 - (a) get your parents and run to your car and drive away.
 - (b) report it immediately to a forest ranger.
 - (c) get other Junior Forest Rangers to fight the fire.
11. If your clothes ever happen to catch afire, you should
 - (a) keep calm--do not run--roll a blanket or other covering around you to smother the flames.
 - (b) run for help.
 - (c) jump up and down real fast.
12. Camp matches should be
 - (a) kept in a metal container.
 - (b) stored near outboard motor fuel.
 - (c) placed in the hot sun.
13. The safest way for adults to light cigarettes is
 - (a) use a cigarette lighter.
 - (b) strike match on nearby rock.
 - (c) use paper book matches and throw into grass when finished.
14. A person who is careless and starts a forest fire
 - (a) is made honorary fire chief.
 - (b) receives a fire prevention award.
 - (c) can be fined and sent to jail.
15. Well-managed forests give us
 - (a) Smokey Bear.
 - (b) wood, water, wildlife, grass, and outdoor fun.
 - (c) just lumber, paper, and walnuts.
16. A match or cigarette thrown from a car window
 - (a) is permissible if no one is looking.
 - (b) is permissible if it looks like it has gone out.
 - (c) is never safe.

17. A windy day is a good time
 (a) to burn trash.
 (b) to start a campfire.
 (c) not to start a fire.
18. A trash-burning incinerator should be
 (a) equipped with a good spark arrester.
 (b) placed under a tree for shade.
 (c) used only on windy days.
19. Before lighting an open fire
 (a) people should leave the neighborhood.
 (b) local fire laws should be checked and obeyed.
 (c) drink three glasses of water.
20. Junior Forest Rangers
 (a) put out forest fires.
 (b) start forest fires.
 (c) help prevent forest fires.

FORESTRY INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

The Forestry Intramural Basketball Championship has been won by this year's Senior class. The Seniors were matched against the Juniors in a best-of-three final playoff round. The Seniors won the first and third games, losing the second game by a slim margin, despite the fact only four men played the second half. Greater experience and better team play by the Seniors contributed greatly to their victory.

M. K.

ZOOLOGY CLUB BANQUET

On Sunday evening the Forest Zoology Club of the College held its annual banquet at Tubberts Inn. After a fine meal, election of next year's officers was held. The new officers are:

President -----	les Monostory
Vice President -----	Jim Colby
Recorder -----	Hal Marsh
Program Chairman -----	Jan Phinney
Publicity Chairman -----	Dick Cole

After the election, John Zarudsky, retiring president, and Dr. Alexander, faculty advisor for the club spoke briefly on the success and future of the club. John was given an ovation for his four years of service to the club and this year's active members received plaques.

INTERESTING SIDELIGHT

"The word to the wise", from our disappointed senior of last week, must have left some of the lower classmen wondering whether they are in the right field. Some of the freshmen, in particular, must have been left with this question: "Did I

choose the right curriculum?" I can reassure about 55% of the freshman class that they have nothing to worry about, because if your class is anything like the present senior class, that's the percentage of you which will not be around three years hence. So you see, only 45% of you need to be concerned about the availability of jobs upon graduation. But all is not lost for that entire 55%, because about 10% will probably return after dropping out for one or more years. As for the remaining 45%, well, as the old saying goes, "Into every life a little rain must fall". But maybe they are better off.

Ed Cleary

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Doesn't it seem strange that with the help of the United States the Japanese, who were our enemies in the last war, have rebuilt their nation into the greatest industrial power in the Far East? Isn't it equally strange that with the help of our government, Western Germany is without doubt the greatest industrial power in Europe?

J. Colby

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