The Knothole, February 24, 1955

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body
CABINET MEETING

Treasurer Danny Meyers gives the following report: We have an income of $6065.26 out of which we have spent $1423.68, leaving a balance of $4641.58, out of which still has to come our banquet and the EMPIRE FORESTER... The EMPIRE FORESTER puts in a plea for interested juniors to work on the EF staff and take over the key positions next year. It requires little know-how and is highly profitable experience... Due to poor results on the group pictures taken on picture night last semester, they will have to be taken again. The night has been set for Mar. 3 in the lounge, and don't forget the ties and coats. Refreshments will be served.... April 27 has been set for the awards convocation.... March 16 convos have been set aside for student elections.... The spring Blood Drive has gotten under way and class presidents are urged to support this College function by encouraging their classmates to participate.... At the Sweethearts' Ball there were 123 couples and 139 tickets were sold, and from this excellent attendance there was a gross profit of $37,000.... Editor Colassard of the EF would like the classes of the College to buy a 2 page ad....

MEMO TO: EDITOR OF KNOTHOLE

Moosewood '25 has taken note of the "come on" sentence by "an interested soph" in the February 16 KNOTHOLE. M. is not sure whether (1) he is gently spoofed, (2) the interested soph is really serious or (3) there is no soph at all but only a sly editor trying to pry loose some more copy!

Anyway, except for one or two (mostly one, you know what lousy practice by some), M. is convinced that over the last 30 years he has been associated with just about the finest body of "students" (some really are) that could be found anywhere in the world. His only regret is that due to large classes he has been able to know so few of them!

DEAR MOOSEWOOD: We, the editors, are sure that your third (3) conclusion is incorrect; however we surely appreciate the many notes and comments you have given us. We also hear, via the vine (Vitis sp.), that you are going to retire following this academic year. We were wondering if you cared to substantiate this rumor and if it is true, a few choice comments in parting would be greatly enjoyed by the student body. Maybe some passages from your famous book Little Known Facts About Completely Uninteresting Things, or some quotes from your renowned "little black book" where you retain all those good jokes and miscellaneous material like making rope from basswood bark!

PROF HEIBERG TO TELL OF EUROPEAN TRIP: On Wednesday at eight, in 326 Marshall, Prof Heiberg will give a talk on his recently completed trip to Europe. Slides will be shown and the subject matter will include matters other than strictly forestry. Wives and girl-friends are invited. The program is being sponsored jointly by the Ento Club and Orbis Silva.
NIFKIN BALL: That fabulous dance in the honor of our renowned patron saint, Justice B. Nifkin will be held March 19, according to chairman Geo Namkoong. This is the moonshiners' and forester's special event of the year, so let's all give it the great support that was shown at the Sweetheart's Ball!!

FORESTRY CAMERA CLUB: Invites all students and faculty to room 326 Marshall at 8 P.M. on Monday, 20 Feb. The club is sponsoring a talk by Mr. Warren Everote, director of Research and Production for Encyclopedia Brittanica Films, Inc. Mr. Everote will also show a couple of his firm's recent films.

JOBS: (see Jack Barrett for details)
(1) Northeast Forestry Service - a young forester to carry out FM, timber production, silvi, and marketing in the Chesapeake Bay area (permanent).
(2) Watershed Management - Laconia, N.H., Northeast Forest Exp Station (Sum.)

OUR SYMPATHY: To Deane Brink whose father died recently.

NOTICE TO SENIORS: Any members of the senior class having suggestions for the class gift, get in touch with the Carpetbagger. THANK YOU!!

BUFFALO OR BISON

A buffalo is not a bison. I mean a bison is not a buffalo. That is to say, not infrequently do we refer to bison as buffalo which in actuality are bison. Perchance we forget we must be cognizant of the fact that there are, that is to say, three types or kinds of bison: northern bison western bison, and eastern bison; the northern bison coming from the north, the western bison coming from the west, and the eastern bison coming from the east.

The bison lived on the range. Range is defined as any large area of grass-covered soil which is capable or incapable of supporting animal life. In other words we have three types of land area: forests which are composed of trees; deserts which do not support any type of plant growth; and crop-land on which crops such as cucumbers and rudbekias are grown.

When the white man started to go to California before California was even there, the prairie was a solid sea of bison. Because the grass which covered this soil was very intolerant to shade, it soon died off because the bison's bodies created so much shade. This loss of grassland soon caused the bison to decrease in numbers. The lack of buffalo grass in their diet made them sterile thus making it impossible to reproduce the species. The final blow to the bison which once roamed the plains in tremendous numbers was the mass westward movement of the Mormons to Utah. The remaining buffalo grass disappeared because the soil's structure was destroyed by the weight of the prairie schooners. This upset the natural balance of water relations and had a terrible effect on the bison.

At one time the bison were thought to be extinct but artificial insemination by trappers and prospectors soon brought the bison up to their present population, the greatest part of which is found in the Bronx Zoo.

THE EDITOR'S DILEMMA

Getting out a publication is fun, but it's no picnic.
If we print jokes, people say we are silly;
If we don't they say we are too serious.
If we copy things from other magazines, we are too lazy to write ourselves.
If we don't we are too fond of our own stuff.
If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate true genius.
If we do print them, the pages are filled with junk.
Now very likely, someone will say we swiped this from some other magazine - We did!