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THUNDER BAY TIMBER OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

LOG BOOK

SPECIAL
ISSUE

1950 FIRE SEASON DATES

April 1st - October 31st,

THE BEST FIRE CONTROL IS TO PREVENT FIRES FROM STARTING

But

FIRES DO START

THE TASK IS

RETURN TO
FORESTRY LIBRARY
Woods Division
Marathon Corp. of Canada Ltd.
Port Arthur, Ontario

- (1) Early Discovery of Every Fire
- (2) To Attack Every Fire With Speed and Strength

TO DO THIS

Organization Is Necessary

7 DAY LOAN

This leaflet is issued to the key personnel of the woods industry in North-western Ontario by the Thunder Bay Timber Operators' Association and approved by the Department of Lands and Forests' Regional and District Foresters with the earnest hope that it will be of assistance in the prevention, detection and suppression of forest fires.

Mr. W. E. Mair,
General Superintendent,
Marathon Paper Mills,
CARAMAT, Ontario.

Co-operation

IS THE

Key-Note



BUILDING A FIRE ORGANIZATION

Northwestern Ontario is divided into two Department of Lands and Forests' Regions — the Mid-Western Region with two districts, Port Arthur and Geraldton; and the Western Region with three districts, Kenora, Fort Frances and Sioux Lookout. The prevention detection and suppression of forest fires is a prime responsibility of the Department.

On this area licences have been issued granting certain rights to licence holders. Licence holders pay, in addition to ground rent and dues on timber cut, a fire tax. In addition to paying the tax, each licence holder has a responsibility to protect the timber from fire, first by prevention and, secondly, by immediate action to suppress fires as soon as detected. By law, **you** and every other employee in the woods must assist in the controlling and extinguishing of any fire.

PREVENTION OF FOREST FIRES

The best fire control is to prevent fires from starting.

The Department of Lands and Forests by means of the press, radio, posters, fire weather forecasts, visits of officers and rangers, etc., do their job in constantly reminding the general public of the danger and huge costs of forest fires. Department regulations lessen the probability of fires starting by eliminating or reducing the amount of inflammable material around camps and along roads, etc.

Industry, likewise, by the use of posters, by fire weather forecasts, by organizing employees into fire crews, by being conscious of the cost of lost timber and lost wages to employees is constantly reminding all employees to BE CAREFUL and PREVENT FIRES.

Key personnel in the woods each year are appointed Honorary Fire Wardens by the Department of Lands and Forests and this Honorary position is a very important one, particularly in the prevention of fires. **Honorary Fire Wardens who notice any person violating the safety measures which are supposed to be taken in any area, should warn that person immediately and if the results are not satisfactory, strict action should be taken. In addition, such regulations as:**

- (1) No lunch fires in the bush;
- (2) No smoking while walking or working in the bush;
- (3) No smoking of tailor-made cigarettes, are aimed at the prevention of fires.

BUT

Fires do occur and details of Forest Fires in Northwestern Ontario for 1949 were as follows:

Fires by Months		Means of Detection	
April	89	Rangers	45
May	88	Towers	137
June	85	Air Patrol	151
July	110	Public	191
August	132	Total	524
September	19		
October	1		
November	—		
Total	524		

Fires by Origin

Settlers	46	Logging Operations	18
Campers	125	Mining Operations	3
Railway	54	Prospectors	1
Lightning	176	Incendiary	11
Road Construction	6	Miscellaneous	24
Smokers	59	Unknown	1
Total	524		

Area Burnt: 23,445 acres

(See March Log Book for statistics for each Department of Lands and Forests District in Northwestern Ontario).

Fires by Origin—66 per cent man-caused. (Better than the over-all average of 80 - 90 per cent — still much too high). Employees on logging operations were directly responsible for only 18 fires (3.4%) but these could probably have been prevented.

Fires by Month—The weather and amount of rain has a lot to do with this break-down. Last Spring was a dry one and the Summer dry and the Fall wet. The weather is always a good warning.

Detection of Fires—The public, which includes many employees of timber companies, detected and reported first 36 per cent of the fires.

Detection is a responsibility of everyone. The Department of Lands and Forests' tower system with radio and telephone communications and the air patrols are on the job and full use should be made of these services. Each camp should have communication with the nearest tower and Ranger Headquarters to ensure no loss of time in giving or securing information.

Vigilance must be eternal—Time is all-important.

Check on ways and means of communicating with towers, ranger headquarters, etc., to ensure that **YOU** can instantly report a fire and likewise, the Department can notify **YOU**. When reporting a fire, be sure and give the proper location and stay on the telephone long



A Fire Danger Sign should be in every camp.

allow the person at the

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger and Kip Koenig

es and detecting fires, woods employees have a very special responsibility taking action to put out fires.

The Forest Fires Prevention Act states:

19 - (1) For the purpose of controlling and extinguishing any fire an officer may use any privately-owned equipment and may employ or summon the assistance of any male person between the ages of eighteen and sixty years, excepting only trainmen, boat crews, local telephone operators, telegraphers and despatchers on duty, doctors and persons physically unfit.

(2) Every person who refuses or neglects to render assistance when required under this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

In addition, the Forest Fires Prevention Act requires that a work permit be obtained for any work in the woods at any time of the year. Section 12 of the Act outlines the general requirements in so far as supplying equipment and other special precautions.

As the work permit must be taken out well in advance of the starting of the work, the permittee has the opportunity of reviewing with the District Officer, requirements as to the amount of fire protection equipment, etc., that is to be on hand.

In order to fight and suppress fires, we must BE PREPARED AND ORGANIZED.

LET'S ORGANIZE NOW — HERE'S HOW !

1. All supervisory personnel should know the following factors relating to the forest fire problem about the area they are working in:

- (a) Major causes of fires in area.
- (b) Past occurrence of fires - location, seasonal period, time of day, etc.
- (c) Forest type - kinds, density.
- (d) Topography - flat, rolling, steepness of slopes, etc.
- (e) Accessibility - how to get to a fire; transportation available, etc.
- (f) Visibility.
- (g) Meteorological Factors - wind, temperature, relative humidity, deepness of forest, precipitation, thunderstorm activity, length of fire season, etc. (The Department of Lands and Forests' Fire Weather Forecast takes into consideration these factors).
- (h) Fire control equipment in area.
- (i) Number of men available.

Being aware of the above (most of the information should be on a map) and knowing that fires will be detected and reported the next important step is to have fire crews organized and trained.

2. FIRE CREW ORGANIZATION

- (a) Pump unit crews.
- (b) Hand tool crews.
- (c) Specialists - Clerks, cooks, truck drivers, tractor and bulldozer drivers, mechanics and others whose special skills will be needed.

(A) Pump Unit Crews will be made up of:

- 1 Pump Unit Foreman.
- 1 Pump Unit Sub-Foreman.
- 2 Pump Unit Operators (to run pump or pumps).
- 11 Hose Handlers (equipped with 5 axes to clear out trails for hose lines).

The foreman of this crew will be responsible for ar-



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"Some people just have to be educated by law enforcement."

ranging the transport of the pump or pumps to the nearest water supply at the fire line, setting up of the units, and getting them into action as soon as the necessary hose lines have been laid. It is expected that the subforeman will tend to the matter of utilizing the water at the nozzle end of the hose lines to the best advantage.

Pump Unit Sub-Foreman — The Sub - Foreman will act as alternate to the pump unit foreman and will assume authority when the pump unit foreman is absent, or, when the unit is operating on two shifts he will be in charge of one shift.

Pump Unit Operators — The duties of the operators will be to operate the unit efficiently at all times.

Hose Handlers — These men will report immediately to their pump unit foreman at first notice of a fire and will carry out his instructions.

(B) Hand Tool Crews will be made up of:

- 1 Unit Foreman.
- 4 men with hand pumps.
- 4 men with shovels and axes.

Hand tool crews will usually comprise all those men in the camp not assigned to the pump crews and skilled men assigned to special duties.

The general foreman will supervise the work of the hand tool crews so that they will work in conjunction

with the pump crews if necessary, or will work on their own sections of the fire line if the pump crews are not able to cover enough of the line at the start of the fire to gain control in short order.

(C) Men With Special Duties:

Cooks, clerks, mechanics, truck drivers, tractor and bulldozer drivers will be assigned to duties as instructed by the foreman of the crew.

3. FIRE CREW TRAINING

After your crews are organized, training is a necessity.

Several reference booklets are readily available and foremen and other leaders should be familiar with these. Two suggested are:

"Forest Fire Fighters' Guide" published by Canadian Pulp & Paper Association.

"Hand Book, Forest Fire Pump Unit" published by the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers. (If you haven't a copy of these, ask your Company Head Office to get a copy for you. They are very instructing.)

The Department of Lands and Forests should be requested to send an officer to the camps to lecture to and to test the efficiency of fire crews.

QUICK ACTION IS NECESSARY IN APPLYING CONTROL MEASURES AFTER A FIRE HAS BEEN OBSERVED AND REPORTED. ACTION TOO LATE AND TOO LITTLE OFTEN MEANS LARGE FIRES.

Everyone should be aware of the necessity of quick action and crew training should be carried out to ensure that each man knows the task he is to carry out.

Fire fighting equipment should be always ready and available in good working order.

Our Aim in 1950--

NO FIRES STARTED BY COMPANY EMPLOYEES !

A FIRE FIGHTING PLAN FOR EACH AREA !

**ALL EMPLOYEES ORGANIZED INTO FIRE CREWS
—TRAINED AND READY !**

QUICK ACTION TO PUT OUT FIRES !



*...and please make
people careful, amen*

Remember - Only you can

**PREVENT
FOREST FIRES**

KNOW THE DEPARTMENT FIRE ORGANIZATION IN YOUR AREA

MID-WESTERN REGION

Regional Forester - P. Addison, Port Arthur, Ont.

PORT ARTHUR DISTRICT

District Forester - R. Boulton, Port Arthur, Ont. Phone 5-6543

District Fire Supervisor - M. Sauerbrei, Port Arthur, Ont. Ph. 5-6543

Chief Fire Rangers

Port Arthur Division - T. Guerard, Port Arthur, Ont. Phone 5-6543

MacDiarmid Division - H. Reynolds, MacDiarmid, Ont. Beardmore 17r3

Shebandowan District - J. H. Stirrett, Shebandowan, Ont. Call Forest Ranger Shebandowan

Kab Lake Division - H. B. Lewis. Call by Department Radio - 5-6122, Port Arthur, Ontario.

GERALDTON DISTRICT

District Forester - U. W. Fiskar, Geraldton, Ont

Forest Protection Specialist - G. D. MacAdam, Geraldton, Ont.

Chief Forest Rangers

Pays Plat Division - J. E. Anderson

Longlac Division - R. V. Brady

Geraldton Division - L. G. Ridsdill

Nakina Division - G. Grasser.

WESTERN REGION

Regional Forester - K. Acheson, Kenora, Ontario.

KENORA DISTRICT

Forest Protection Specialist - F. R. Parmeter, Kenora, Ont.

Chief Rangers

Kenora - Jas. MacKay.

Dryden - D. G. Turner.

Ignace - F. R. Nicoll.

Minaki - A. Cleaveley.

FORT FRANCES DISTRICT

District Forester - G. W. Delahey.

Forest Protection Specialist - Wm. Darby.

Chief Rangers

Fort Frances - S. V. Ryan.

Quetico Division - A. F. Parker.

SIOUX LOOKOUT DISTRICT

District Forester - H. N. Middleton.

Chief Rangers

Sioux Lookout - J. B. Rorke.

Armstrong - W. A. Fayle.

Red Lake - F. Dodds.

Pickle Lake - E. Guertin.

(Space does not permit printing names of company personnel in charge of fire fighting and Honourary Fire Wardens. These will be printed in an issue of the Log Book.)

CO-OPERATION IS THE KEY-NOTE!