



Summer Camp

Forestry Summer Camp—1958

MARION J. FRANCIS

A group of 35 foresters headed for the University of Maine's Robert I. Ashman Summer Camp at Princeton, Maine on June 9, 1958. To many boys, it was a long-awaited day which would begin eight weeks of forestry work on Indian Township in Washington County.

The first day at camp began at 6:30 a.m., when a loud gong was sounded by the kitchen crew to wake up the entire camp. About a half hour later, the gong rang a second time and a stampede began for the chow hall. After a hearty breakfast, the boys were introduced to the faculty and instructors. This was followed by directions for the remainder of the day.

On the second day, the camp was organized into divisions according to the cabins. The foresters by cabins were listed as follows:

Cabin 1
Ned Hogan
Pete Hannah
Don Polanski
George Darling

Cabin 3
Bruce Probert
Bob Solari
Jack Lindsay
Bucky Walter
Paul Duffy
Bob Kratz

Cabin 5
Chow Hall

Cabin 2
Don Chauvey
Cliff Foster
Don Wood
Bruce Dubov
Terry Ritz
Jim Francis

Cabin 4 Faculty
Arthur Randall
Henry Plummer
Luther Zai
Lee Wetzel

Cabin 6
Sid Baker
Steve Hardy
Ray DeSandre
Dick Smith
Les Decoster

Cabin 8
Bernie Pellerin
Vaughn Anthony
Ed Briggs
Rudy Stocek

Cabin 7
Stony Jackson
Andy Borgeson
Charlie Stansel
Dave Campeau
Dave Colclough

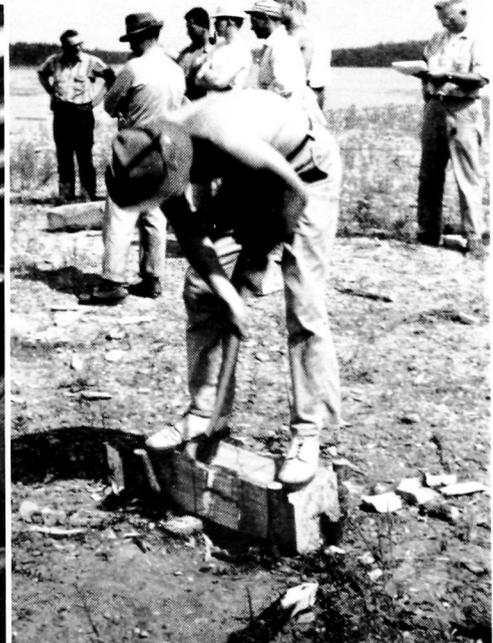
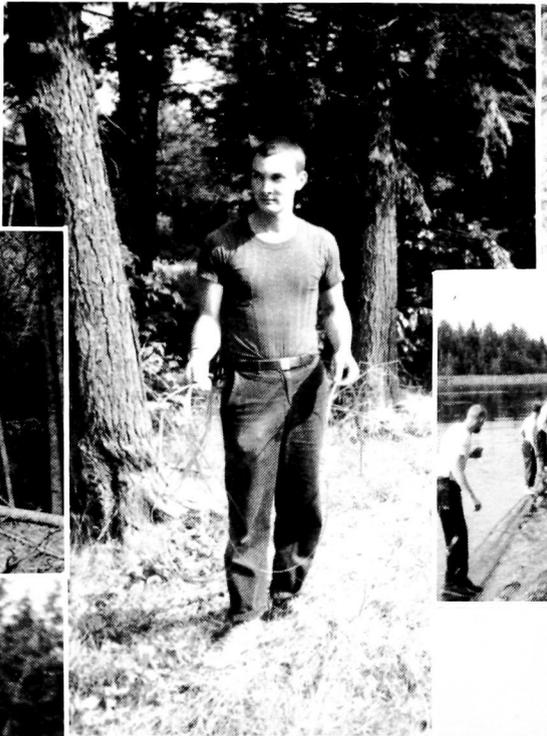
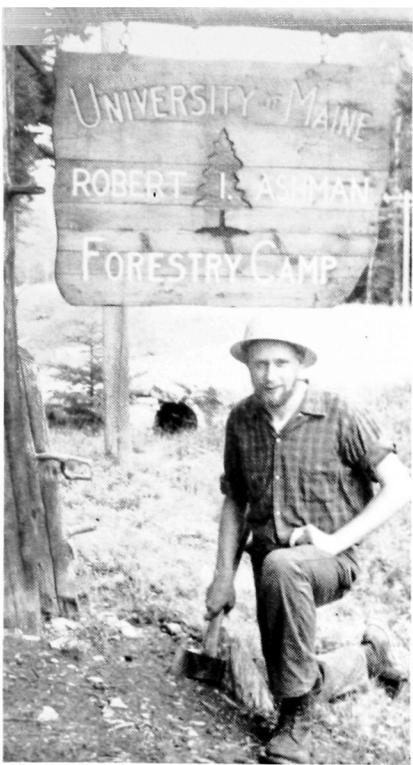
Cabin 9
Fred Kurrle
Jack Schlotter
Lee Hall
Hank Hosking
Bob Chase
Joe Cuccaro

Starting on the second day of summer camp, the actual forestry field work began. Each division worked at different projects, although all the divisions completed the entire program of work. Numerous surveys were conducted during the summer including staff compass and chaining surveys, hand compass surveys, and a plane table survey of a local campsite. The plane table survey was extremely interesting, as all of the data was drawn on the map in the field.

Various sample plots were laid out and measured in preparation for the cruising of Indian Township.

A number of cruising methods were practiced on the township. Experience was obtained in the line plot, strip cruise, rapid cruise, ocular estimate, selected plots, and variable plot sampling methods.

The program in spruce-fir management began along with the swarms of black flies



and mosquitoes. The crews all carried bottles of "Off" to combat the tiny pests. Before long the talk in camp became centered around the number of flies killed with one blow, or about how dry our feet were at the end of the day. In most cases, our feet were wet from morning to night.

Before long the Fourth of July weekend arrived, and the entire camp headed for places unknown to Princeton. Tires squealed and gravel flew as the cars roared off in all directions. The time passed quickly and before long it was "back to work we go".

The remainder of the time at camp was spent in cruising and mapping each section of Indian Township assigned to the two-man cruising parties. Now the fun began. As the summer progressed, the mosquitoes and black flies grew thicker, so it was not uncommon for a stranger to see cruising partners eating their lunch while chaining. Numerous techniques were tried for combating the flies. Dave Campeau wore a white pair of overalls, looking like a dog-catcher, while George Darling decked himself out in fern. Others wore white handkerchiefs around their necks making them look like members of the French Foreign Legion. Even though we fought the bugs, the field data obtained was accurate as proved by the check cruises.

Since all of the divisions began cruising at different times, the first two divisions finished cruising and started other work. This included laying out permanent sample plots, cut and leave tallies, and a day of logging and marking.

The day of logging proved very exciting. We began the morning with a long and interesting lecture on chain saws by Professor Plummer. Essential points were emphasized by "Prof" and maintenance guides were pointed out and discussed. Next the crew was checked out on the large John Deere crawler.

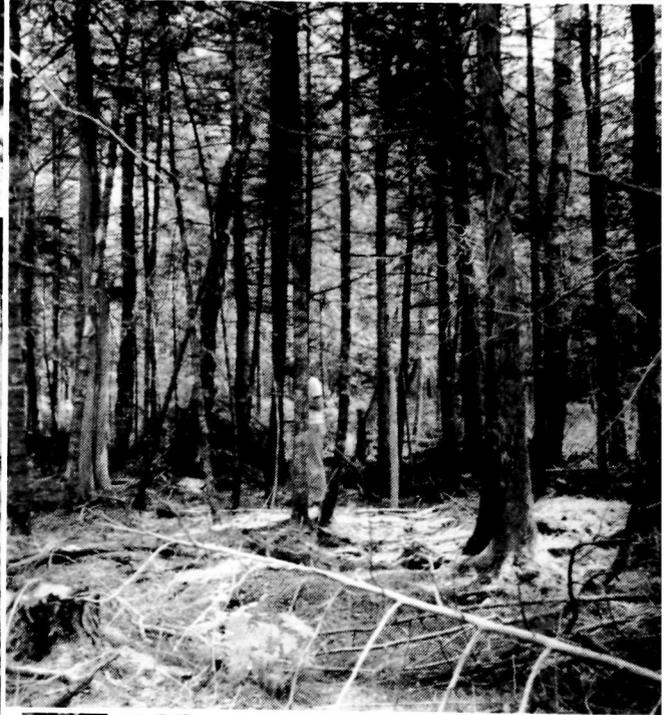
The felling crew began cutting the marked spruce and fir, while the tractor crew snaked the limbed trees to the landing. At the land-

ing the bucking crew cut the trees into four foot bolts and made several large piles of pulpwood. The various jobs were rotated among the crews, so that all would be familiar with each operation.

Of course a few difficulties arose with the tractor. First, Jack Lindsay, pulling a load of logs over a high root, found himself out of the tractor seat while his fist broke off the right clutch lever and bent the key in the ignition. Jack didn't get hurt, although his surprised look will never be forgotten. Another time, a couple of the boys managed to get the cat mired in a mud hole, but before long Professor Plummer had it out and running again.

Now that all of the cruising was completed, the job of arranging and analyzing the data began. Approximately one week was allowed for this work with the construction of present and future stand tables, future volumes, graphs of height-diameter relationships, growth-diameter relationships, and local volume tables. All of this information was to be included in the management plan of Indian Township. Aside from the management plan, a large forest-type map of Indian Township at a scale of four inches to a mile was drawn by each forester as part of the work program. Many of these maps turned out to be excellent, although they were completed in the last few weeks of summer camp.

Throughout the summer camp program, several trips were made to the wood-using industries in the Princeton area. The first of such trips was made to the St. Croix Paper Company mill in Woodland. A complete tour of the mill was made including the steps in the groundwood and sulphite paper process. The next stop was at the St. Croix drum debarker, a mile upstream from the mill. This operation removed the bark from the pulpwood sticks used by the mill. From here the crew went 10 miles north to Grand Falls. Here was located the St. Croix Dam and Power Plant. This dam, at the fork of the East and West branches of the St. Croix River, backs water three miles to Princeton. The dam is 1100 feet



in width with a normal head of water of 198 feet. As part of the trip, a walk beneath the dam was made through a tunnel leading from the United States into Canada.

The next trip was made to the North-eastern Construction Company sawmill in Princeton. At this sawmill 98 percent of the wood sawed was white pine, although a few red pine were mixed in the booms. The entire operation was observed from the mill pond to the drying yard. Of course it happened – the crew decided to run the logs in the log pond. Just about everyone tried his skill at it, but Pete Hannah and Steve Hardy proved to be tops. By the time it was ready to return to camp, most of the crew had either wet feet or a complete dunking in the clean log pond. The payoff came when a little chap, about 10 years old, ran the entire length of the log pond without getting his little toe wet.

The last of our trips was made to an operation of the Eastern Pulpwood Company on fourth Machias Lake. Most of the morning was spent observing the modern camp layout, and a detailed sketch was made from a horse hovel to the chain saw lockers. During the afternoon, the crew visited the cutting operation where Canadian, Indian, and American crews were working. It was very interesting to watch the various crews and the horses they used for skidding.

The boys found time for relaxation in the evenings and especially during the weekends. For the married boys, all cars headed in the direction of Old Town or Stillwater. Cliff Foster and Sam Chauvey topped the list, while a couple of likely suspects, Bruce Dubov and Don Polanski, rode to see their girls every weekend. In the bachelor department, the road to Bellandy's in Woodland became known by everyone, especially Ned Hogan and Andy Borgeson. Ned could be identified everywhere by his yellow hard-hat and that old curved pipe.

Some of the fellows found a few eligible females in Princeton, although their folks kept them out of sight while the foresters were at camp. A few of the boys felt

rugged and cut pulpwood on their own in back of the camp. The pulpwood cut was mainly spruce and fir with an occasional hemlock, which had to be peeled. The timber cut was marked by the students using a diameter limit as specified in the management plan for Indian Township. The boys who cut pulpwood earned a little extra spending money, but let me tell you they worked hard for it. The rugged pulp-cutters were Bruce Dubov, Ned Hogan, Don Wood, George Darling, Jim Francis, Bruce Probert, Bucky Walter, Bob Solari, Steve Hardy, Sid Baker, Andy Borgeson, Dave Colclough, Stony Jackson, and occasional cutters Lee Hall and Jack Schlotter. By the end of camp, these boys were built like true Paul Bunyans.

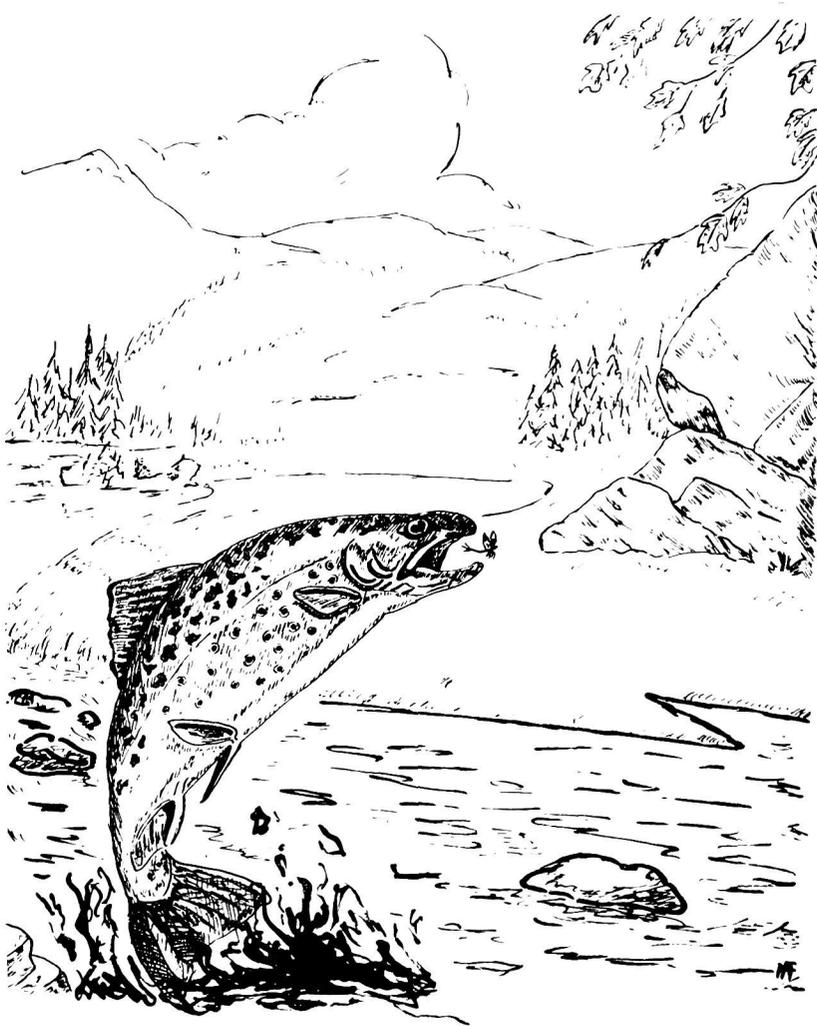
To many people, the life of a forester is comprised entirely of hunting and fishing. This is not so, although a great deal of fishing was done by Joe Cuccaro, Ed Briggs, Vaughn Anthony, and Hank Hosking, all wildlife conservation majors.

The climax of the 1958 summer camp was a field day under the supervision of Professors Plummer and Randall assisted by Luther Zai and Lee Wetzel. There were crosscut and bucksaw contests, speed chopping contests, compass accuracy contests, chain throwing events, and, to complete the affair, tobacco spitting and a log rolling contest. Each cabin entered a team and the competition was keen. By the end of the afternoon it looked as if cabin 1 was in the lead and sure enough the cabin with only four men won the trophy. A number of guests were on hand for the contests including personnel of the St. Regis Paper Company, Eastern Pulpwood Company, Maine Forest Service, Faculty of the School of Forestry, and Director Albert Nutting of the School of Forestry. A lobster dinner was prepared under the direction of Mrs. Phena Roach and Mrs. Edna Mallory, the excellent cooks who prepared our meals for the entire summer camp, with the aid of the kitchen crew, Fred Kurrle and Bob Chase. This dinner was enjoyed by everyone as the 1958 summer camp was coming to a close.

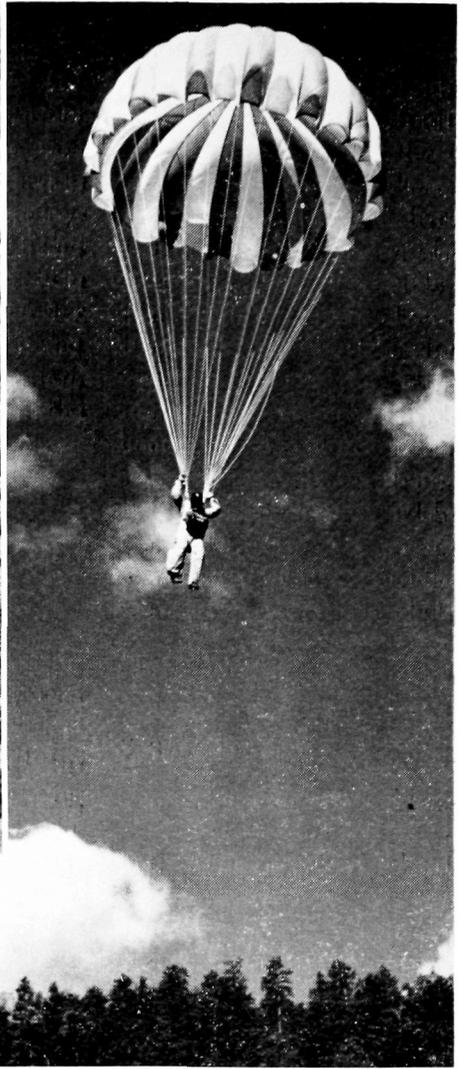
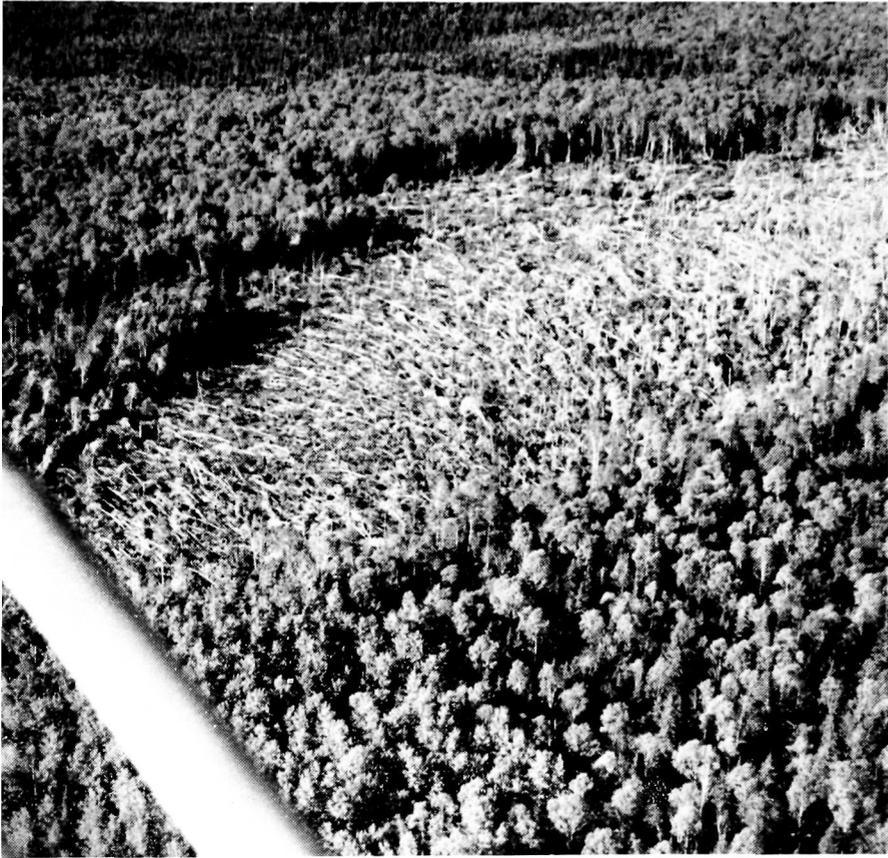


Looking back to the eight weeks at summer camp, the boys realize that they gained a great amount of experience and spent many enjoyable moments. In the future it is expected that a few needed improvements will be carried out to make the Robert I. Ashman

Forestry Summer Camp an even better place for experience in the field of forestry. I'm sure the future foresters will enjoy and gain as much from the summer camp as did the group of 1958. "Experience is the best teacher."







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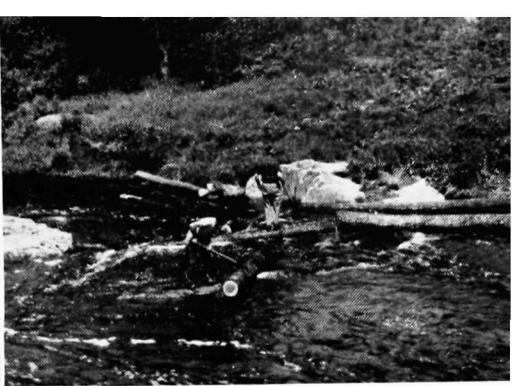
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FOREST PRODUCTS

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the needs and problems of forest industries and work closely with them so that he may gain the greatest return and reach the highest possible level of management. The student of forestry therefore should consider their study a vital part of his preparation for land management. He may also find in these industries opportunities for employment satisfying and profitable to himself and of service to mankind. The industries in their turn, must look to the practicing forester for a suitable supply of raw materials; and to well-trained and energetic young men from our forestry schools to help them meet the challenge of the future.

FOREST MENSURATION

(Continued from Page 16)

sampling design. A new concept in tree measurement called "height accumulation" may someday replace volume tables. Instruments are now available for estimating tree diameters at any point on the tree bole.

The mensuration specialist should anticipate the needs of forest managers and manufacturers utilizing forest products. The mensurationists should experiment with a variety of techniques and instruments which might refine present practices. The forester, regardless of his field of specialization, should keep abreast of recent developments by studying current technical and professional journals.

GAME MANAGEMENT

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corporations, whose business is based on growing trees, have found it desirable to employ game biologists as have European forestry enterprises. It was recently pointed out by Paul M. Dunn of the St. Regis Paper Company that in the future role of the forester as a land manager he "may harvest timber,

TIMBER HARVESTING

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of many phases and this will lead to less and less dependence on the "Paul Bunyans" of the logging days of old.

In addition, the present substantial wood-waste of more than one-fourth the volume of the tree lost during the logging phase should be further reduced.

Full mechanization of harvesting operations will eliminate many of the risks and reduce the hazards now inherent wherever manual labor is employed in the cutting of trees and transporting of forest products. The need to expedite reduction of the waste in human effort and useable wood is a challenge to every forester.

In the harvesting operations of the future, there will be a definite need for more foresters to fill the key positions of supervisors and administrators of "wood procurement," and as managers of our timberland resources.

SILVICULTURE

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tion represent revolutionary advancements in the management of certain forest types. Recent research in forest genetics indicates strongly that through the selection and breeding of superior individuals both yield and quality can be improved considerably. The feasibility of increasing the productivity of forest sites through the application of commercial fertilizers is currently being investigated. Considerable progress has been made in silviculture; however, variations in climate, soil, vegetation, and economics necessitate a never ending search for undiscovered basic truths, appropriate intensities of practice, and more suitable techniques of application.

process it, manage herds of domestic animals; lease recreational privileges and shooting rights." This is the horizon in the modern scheme of multiple land use in which forestry and game management, together with other land uses, are compatible practices.

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THE ORIGIN AND FUTURE OF TRAINED WILDLIFE MANAGERS

(Continued from Page 29)

2. The human population of this country is growing rapidly.

3. Regional planners have produced evidence to show that the trend in population movement is toward concentration in several large urban centers. The largest is a huge metropolis beginning at southern Maine and extending south into at least the mid-Atlantic states. We in Maine, located as we are at the back door to this human beehive, can expect that our lakes, rivers, forests and coastal bays will be in great demand for all types of outdoor recreation.

In view of what we can foresee of the future, wildlife managers, foresters, soil technicians, and specialists in water conservation, recreation and similar fields, will need more of the same type of determination and vision that was typical of those who initiated scientific training and research in wildlife, if needs are to be met. Multiple use of forest land, carefully planned, will be the key to success. Effecting prudent multiple use will require men to conduct well-planned research, trained land managers, aggressive but tactful extension specialists, each with a thorough knowledge of his field, but, as important, an interest and knowledge of the broad land use problem. As the representative of twenty-five million sportsmen the wildlife manager will have to accept his responsibility in helping to solve the problem. It is in this area — the widespread development of intensive multiple use — that the needs assure opportunity to those who seek a challenging future.

MAINE'S UNIVERSITY FOREST

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have been dug in several locations to show root penetration, soil type and drainage conditions.

The University Forest, because of its proximity to the campus, and its wide range of activities, is a most important and desirable adjunct to the School of Forestry.

FOREST PATHOLOGY

(Continued from Page 24)

ways be able to differentiate between healthy and diseased plant tissue, to separate superficial troubles from those truly serious, and to anticipate the physiological implications posed by specific symptoms of disease. He is also acutely aware of the significance of insect activity in relation to the transmission or the incidence of plant disease. Because of the intimate relationship of insects with fungal, bacterial, or viral pathogens, it is often extremely difficult to determine the primary cause of disease. It is important to realize that either insects or infectious agents of disease may require weakening of plant tissue by the other, before they can become established. More recently the pathologist has become aware of the real or potential role of those primitive, microscopic animals known as nematodes, either as a direct cause of root damage, as a weakening agent making possible invasion of plants by weak parasites, or as agents of transmission or introduction of primary parasites.

Within the coming decades it is anticipated that the forest pathologist will be concerned increasingly with more intensive research not only as related to forest management but also with the pathology of individual trees and on methods for disease control in individual trees. Development and use of radioactive materials and techniques in study of tree disease, and effective control of stem infections with antibiotics are but two examples of the prospects ahead. With more intensive culture of forest trees under artificial conditions, control practices heretofore economically prohibitive, should become possible under forest conditions. This prospect has become more likely than ever with the development of new chemicals for disease control and new techniques for application, plus a realization that the nutritional content of forest soils is neither inexhaustible nor necessarily easily renewable. Whatever the future may bring it is clear that the forest pathologist will be challenged on a variety of fronts to add to our knowledge of an ever widening number of complex problems.