

FOREST ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER

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The new name of the newsletter reverts to the "old" name of the department. It looks as if the "Forest Economics Research Institute" will remain simply as the Forest Economics Department, since the proposed reorganization of the Forest Research Institute as the Forest Research Centre has not been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture. Perhaps we will have to wait until it becomes the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (or Forestry and Agriculture ?) before we become equivalent to the Agricultural Research Centre!

Colloquium

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 2nd, at 14.00 in the conference room. Dr. Antti Haapanen, of the institute's Nature Conservation Office, will introduce for discussion the topic "Nature Conservation and Forestry". He will begin by dealing with the general philosophy of nature conservation, the wise use of natural resources in the long term. Then concept of multiple use will be discussed and related to forestry. From this base the conflicts between conservation and forestry and the problems of adequately integrating the two fields will be examined and discussed.

Departmental booklet and bulletin

The manuscript of the booklet, to be entitled "The Department of Forest Economics, Finnish Forest Research Institute, 1969-1971", is almost completed. The booklet describes briefly each research project in the current departmental programme and provides short biographical notes on the research personnel at present working here. The object is to provide information and publicity for people in Finland and outside on the research work being undertaken in forest economics. The booklet will be sent to other institutes, in Scandinavia, Britain, North America and elsewhere, which have

an interest in forestry and economics, as well as to individuals and institutes with an interest in Finland.

As a supplement both to the booklet and to this newsletter, the first of the department's periodic bulletins will soon be issued. This will contain the most important items of news concerning the department, a comprehensive list of new publications and summaries in English of reports and other research work which is unpublished or only published in Finnish. By printing details of new research projects and personnel, the bulletin will be a means of keeping the information contained in the booklet up to date. At the same time, by taking the form of an expanded newsletter it will give wider circulation to the news of the most important developments in the department. The bulletin will be issued at periodic intervals as the need arises.

New projects and changes of personnel

Jouko Virta returned to the department in February for 6 or 7 months to work on an investigation into the propensity of private forest owners in western Finland to sell timber in 1970 (Project no. 4.10). His earlier project, a time series analysis of printing and writing paper sales in Finland, was undertaken in 1967 and is due to be published this year in Folia Forestalia. Jouko has been an assistant in the Wood Marketing Department of the University since 1969. He is currently studying for the degree of Candidate of Law (OTK), which he will complete this spring. He will be handling to Berkeley, California in the autumn on a Kellogg-Foundation Fellowship.

Some changes have been made in project numbers. Terho Huttunen's annual statistical study of wood consumption, drain and forest balance in Finland will have a new number each year. For this year it is 1.10, and for 1971 it will be 1.11. Michael Jones' project on land tenure is now no. 2.11. The new no. 2.13 is Aarne Reunala's project on changes in forest ownership structure, which is planned as his doctoral thesis.

Pertti Veckman left the department to take up a new job on 16th February with the City of Helsinki Planning Department, where he will be assisting with compiling a register of all firms and organizations which have offices in Helsinki. Later in the year he will be undertaking planning research.

New Publications

Michael Jones, Landhöjningen i Vasatrakten (Land uplift in the Vasa area). Nordenskiöld-Samfundets Tidskrift, XXIX. Helsingfors, 1969.

Department news

Congratulations to Juhani Numminen, who has now become MMK (Master of Agriculture and Forestry).

The colloquium on 9th February took the form of a lecture and discussion in Finnish on the topic "Is futurology anything more than 'pop'?" Kari Eloranta, licentiate in social sciences, was invited from Tampere University by Veli-Pekka Järveläinen to introduce the subject, and concluded that futurology had a future. From the discussion, however, it appeared that the predictions

of Finnish forestry to 2015 were not entirely in accordance with futurological principles.

The institute's ski-ing day was held on Thursday, 12th February at Ruotsinkylä experimental station. The choice was to ski, walk or work. The sun shone and despite the low temperature (minus 25° C. in the early morning) the department was strangely deserted, which suggests that the third alternative was not very seriously considered.

Ski-ing teams to represent the institute were chosen as a result of trials held at Ruotsinkylä. Each team consists of an older forester, a woman and two young foresters. The institute selected four teams. The following members of the department were selected:

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| First team (MTL I) | Matti Heikinheimo, Pertti Mikkola |
| Second team (MTL II) | Pirkko Velling |
| Fourth team (MTL IV) | Lauri Heikinheimo, Kari Keipi, Aarne Reunala |

Opposing teams are chosen by Central Forestry Board Tapio, State Board of Forestry. Metsäliitto (Organization of Forest Owners) and Helsinki University Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry.

A tobogganing party will be held on Tuesday, 10th March, starting at 16.30 and lasting all evening in Kaisaniemi Park and in the Forest Economics Department.

Definitions

Definition of a forest fire:

"Every fire which, for a known or unknown reason, has burnt forest or forest land is entered in the statistics as a forest fire". (Yearbook of Forest Statistics 1968).

The newsletter editors went on a journey to search for the mythical land of forestry, which they had heard was somewhere in Finland. They searched in the deep, dark corridors under Metsätalo; they searched in Latvus; in Kaisaniemenkatu they found the octopus garden, of international song fame; they even did a sample survey along the road - but you can prove anything by statistics.

As a result of our travels, we would like to announce that the land of forestry has ceased to exist (if it ever did exist)! As a result of a coup in Forest Mensuration, it has been renamed "forestry land" - which everyone knows is in Finland (C.I.F.F. 69:4). Was the waste land of forestry the result of a civil war?