

FOREST ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER

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Colloquium

The next meeting will be at 2.30 p.m. on 26th October in the
conference room. David Cope and Aarne Reunala will discuss their
research plans for 1970-71.

PROJECT 2.13 CHANGES IN FOREST OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE AARNE REUNALA

(Summary of Aarne Reunala's article in Metsä ja Puu,
no. 9, 1970)

Privately-owned forests, which make up 65 % of Finland's forest
area, are of great importance for the forest industry and therefore
for the whole national economy.

Two major problems of private forestry are:

1. How can private forest owners be persuaded to practise the
silviculture needed to maximize Finland's timber-producing
capacity?
2. How can private forest owners be persuaded to sell sufficient
timber?

Changes in the structure of forest ownership are putting these
problems in a new perspective. An important factor is rural-urban
migration: the proportion of the population living in towns has
increased from 8.4 % in 1880 to 48.8 % in 1969, and is forecast
at 64.4 % for 1990. This means that an increasing proportion
of private forest owners live in towns distant from their forest
holdings, and the traditional links between forestry and agriculture
are weakening.

Precise statistics on the proportion of private forest owners
who are not farmers are lacking. In 1959, about 15 % were non-

farmers (i.e. owned less than 2 ha of arable land). In 1968, about 20 % of the area of private forests was owned by non-farmers. It is expected that the trend towards non-farmer ownership will continue.

Although no detailed surveys have been made, the general opinion (as indicated by newspaper articles, for example) is that these changes affect both silvicultural practice and timber sales.

It is evident that non-farming forest owners do not form a clearly defined group. Private forest owners can be broadly grouped into two types on the basis of professional criteria:

1. Forest owners whose main occupation is agriculture (farmer forest owners);
2. Forest owners whose main income comes from non-agricultural occupations (non-farmer forest owners).

The trend towards an increasing proportion of non-farmer forest owners may cause new problems in forest policy. As a group, it has been claimed that non-farmer forest owners are not carrying out as good silviculture as farmers. It is also suspected that they do not cut their timber so readily as they are not dependent on its income.

New forest-policy considerations have both negative and positive aspects. Problems arise because non-farmer forest owners living in towns are not getting advice from the rural forest management associations. The strength of private forest owners as pressure group (aiming for better terms, higher prices, etc.) is weakened since the non-farmer group do not have the same interest. On the other hand, non-farmer forest owners are in a position to hand over management of their forest holdings to technicians of the forest management associations, and may be more willing to combine their holdings into larger management areas.

Research is needed into the factors influencing the silvicultural and timber-selling behaviour of both farmer and non-farmer forest owners. Research is also required into the nature of the changes occurring in the structure of forest ownership. The prediction of future trends will allow forest policy to be altered to bring about the desired results.

PROJECT 2.14 LAND USE IN PALLASTUNTURI DAVID COPE

I I n t r o d u c t i o n - initial statement of the problem and factors relating to its cause; definition of terms and concepts; provision of a philosophy of approach since intangible factors do represent an important segment of the overall problem and therefore must be dealt with, but in such a way that they do not interfere with the rational consideration and analysis of the question which forms the main body of the study.

II R e s o u r c e s - general physical description of the area in question, the rest of the park, the contiguous regions and the nearby towns; deal with the special resource problems of Lapland, including here information gathered from reading and from interviews with experts in government, industry and science; consider the effect of the presence of different types of state-owned land contiguous to the park.

- III B a c k r o u n d - based primarily on reading and archive work but with some information coming from discussions with people at Metsäntutkimuslaitos, Matkaravinto Oy, Suomen Matkailuliitto, and Lapin teollisuustoimikunta; deal with: legal status of park land and related state-owned areas, purpose of establishment, management plans and guidelines; history of private development scheme, reasons behind it, expectations of developers, basis for the plans; attitudes of people in the area to their present situation, future prospects, and the proposed development (from interviews with owners of services and selected residents).
- IV R e c r e a t i o n a l u s e - general analysis of past, present and future use of the region, especially for recreation (from interviews with owners of services in the area); discover the nature of use; use to check against what the developers put forward in their forecasts and plans; deal with the effects of use now and projected.
- V E v a l u a t i o n - outline several alternatives selected from the broad spectrum of choices; evaluate each in both positive and negative aspects and in relation to the whole region from Enontekiö to Ylläsjärvi and from Kittilä to Muonio; try to predict consequences for each alternative and also the potential for the future; present in a form devoid of emotionalism concentrating on effective rational evaluation of each selected alternative so that those requiring a factual basis for an actual decision will have it.

Recent Publications

- Ervasti, Seppo, Lauri Heikinheimo, Kullervo Kuusela & Veikko O. Mäkinen: Forestry and forest industry production alternatives in Finland, 1970 - 2015. FF 88, 1970.
- Keipi, Kari: Metsän lannoituksen edullisuus (Advantages of forest fertilization). Metsä ja Puu, no. 9, 1970.
- Osara, N.A.: Pohjoismaiden metsä- ja puutalouden erikoispiirteitä (Characteristics of Nordic forestry). Sahamies, 22:6, 1970.
- Reunala, Aarne: Metsänomistusrakenne muuttuu - uusia ongelmia metsäpolitiikalle (Changes in the structure of forest ownership - new problems for forest policy). Metsä ja Puu, no. 9, 1970.

Personnel

Jan Heino returned to work in the department at the beginning of October. He is at present completing his laudatur project for the MH (Bachelor of forestry) degree, and will be starting a research project on conservation (multiple use) and forestry after Christmas.

Heikki Peltonen, a student of forestry, is at present assisting Esko Salo and Pertti Mikkola in their investigation of wood consumption on real estates.

Marja Parviainen joined the department on 1st October to assist Matti Heikinheimo and Aarne Reunala in their study of the standard of living of forest workers. She is a student of forestry, specializing in wood marketing.

Liisa Kekäläinen is the department's new messenger now that Erkki Berg has been transferred to the main building.

International visits

Visitors to the department at present include S. Damnjanović, a forest economist from the Forestry and Forest Industry Research Institute at Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

V. Bartov, from the School of Forestry at Sverdlovsk, U.S.S.R., who has also been visiting the department, is in Finland for three months to collect material for a study of the role of forestry in the Finnish economy. He is based at the Department of Social Economics of Forestry at Helsinki University.

Professor Heikinheimo was in Sofia, Bulgaria, for a week from 28th September as a specialist of the forestry and forest industry working group of the joint technical-economic commission for Finland and Bulgaria.

Departmental news

Professor Heikinheimo will be absent from the department on sick leave for about 3 weeks from 20th October. Professor Osara will be acting as Head of Department.

Sampsa Sivonen gave a lecture on 23rd September to the Society of Forestry in Finland on the relative profitability of forest regeneration in different regions of Finland.

Matti Heikinheimo participated in the National Forestry Competition on 19th September at Joensuu. The competition tested knowledge of silviculture, forest mensuration and orientation. The three-man team of Helsinki Foresters Association, including Matti, won the group event.

Congratulations to Antero Liimatainen, who completed his MH degree in September.

Land tenure in Finland

Michael Jones will be giving a series of six lectures on land tenure in Finland, looked at from a historical-geographical viewpoint. They will be held on Thursday mornings from 9 to 11 in the Geography Department, Helsinki University (Porthania, Room 6 B 11).

Help for research

Viikkosanomat ("Apua tutkimukseen", 24.9.1970) may have thought it was being facetious when it commented that, from the drawing of Ruotsinkylä research station which appeared in FF 87, it looked as if the institute needed an increased budget. But: the Forest Economics Department has only 7 typewriters for 30 people; calculating machines are equally few; there is difficulty in finding money for the publication of research results, the main purpose of the institute; we do not have funds to purchase dictionaries; the mailing-list money has run out; and, as a minor example, there is only one staple remover in the whole department. Does all research in Finland suffer from such limited funds?

Corrections

It was Matti Heikinheimo who cycled with Terho Huttunen to Koivula and back on 31st August, not Matti Palo as incorrectly reported in the last number of the newsletter. It was also wrongly stated that Terho had clocked up 4,500 km cycling so far this year. The total at the end of August was a mere 3,500 km, although he has now cycled 4,300 km, and aims to complete 5,000 km by the end of the year.

No rude comments, please!

Dave and Mike have started a regular 1 weekly Finnish conversation lesson with Helena and Raili. This does not mean that there is no need to speak English to them any more.

Spotted from the office window

H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was seen strolling up Kaisaniemenkatu on 25th September on his way to the Pukeva department store. The traffic was stopped, the red carpet was out and Scottish pipers were playing on a traffic island opposite. Was the prince buying a new pair of socks?

Back at work

Brita Sjöstrand, who of the girls has been third longest in the department, returned to work this week after three days sick leave. She decided that being in the office was much better than lying in bed doing nothing.

News wanted

All contributions, serious, semi-serious or unserious, are welcomed for the newsletter. If you hear any relevant news, let the editors know. If you don't, create some news and let us know. (All contributions unpaid).

Vocabulary page

This issue of the Newsletter marks the inception of a new feature: a page designed to stimulate the learning of vocabulary. Much of its success will depend on voluntary efforts, but Mike and Dave will be glad to try and help with any difficulties in comprehension. Good luck!

1. Water trickled closure
leapt from a crevice in the rock.
fled summit
2. When the dam burst the stream became a calm pool
arose expired raging torrent.
placid current
3. The pitfall antagonized
puzzle enlightened even the best police inspectors.
delusion baffled
4. He was convicted of breaking a(n) oblivious
offended retarded law.
suspended obscure
5. The obese gnawed
gaunt rat gorged hungrily at the cheese.
complacent sipped
6. The boring painter dropped a bucket
clumsy cage of paint.
mundane patch
7. Your tidy decision may have some ecstatic
shy blunt consequences.
rash dire
8. The sun blushed through a trench
peeked gap in the clouds.
growled ridge
9. The obsolete machine had to be scuttled
reckless scrapped.
lame eradicated
10. We filtered the air, enjoying the aroma
pawed stench from the bakery.
sniffed stain

BONUS (for those who are good guessers!)

- A. The withering compressed
feeble artillery barrage scattered the infantry assault
dynamic bewildered
- despite the impotent attempts by the lieutenant to restore
valiant propagate
poignant smother
- order in his troops.
- B. The frivolous boldly
paltry student proceeded nervously along the corridor
timid dreadfully
- dreading encounter
musng the approaching scuffle with his professor.
agonizing junction