

Excursions, Fourth World Forestry Congress. The Fourth World Forestry Congress will be held not December 4-17, as originally announced (and reported in the last issue of ISTF news notes), but December 11-22. It will be preceded by excursions, details of which have just been received. There will be ten excursions, and all except No. 8, to Agra (by bus), will be by air, in order to make the most of the short time available. Starting dates, places, and costs of the excursions are listed below.

<u>Excursion number</u>	<u>Starting date</u> (Dec.)	<u>Starting place</u>	<u>Excursion to</u>	<u>Cost</u> (Ruppees)
1	5	Delhi	Western Himalayas, Kashmir	600
2	6	Hyderabad	Deccan Plateau, Hyderabad	600
3	6	Delhi	Rajasthan	350
4	6	Calcutta	Eastern Himalayas, Assam	650
5	6	Nagpur	Central India	500
6	5	Coimbatore	Nilgiris	600
7	6	Bangalore	Mysore Plateau	700
8	7	Delhi	Agra	400
9	8	Lahore	West Pakistan	300
10	7	Chittagong	East Pakistan	500

All excursions will end at Delhi on December 10, and participants will be transported by rail to Dehra Dun for the opening of the Congress on December 11. The cost of excursions covers lodging, board (in most cases), and transportation from the starting point of the trip back to Delhi and Dehra Dun.

Those wishing to register for the excursions are requested to get in touch with the Inspector-General of Forests, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Mansingh Road, New Delhi, India, before October 15.

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Once again the journal Tropical Woods will be published on a regular basis -- at least semiannually to start -- at the Yale University School of Forestry. This journal, established back in 1925 by the late Samuel J. Record, and carried on after his death by our fellow ISTF member, Dr. Robert T. Hess, originally put major emphasis on tropical woods of the Western Hemisphere, but later extended its interest to tropical woods of the world.

Tropical Woods, devoted to the promotion of forestry in the tropics, will contain articles on tropical woods and woody plants, and wood anatomy. The editor would like to encourage the submission of articles of a scholarly nature on all branches of tropical forestry, including wood anatomy, ecology, pathology, and similar studies.

The subscription rate will be \$1.50 per annum, or \$1 per single copy. The editor is William L. Stern, and further information regarding subscriptions may be obtained from the Assistant to the Editor, Tropical Woods, 205 Prospect Street, New Haven 11, Conn., USA.

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Congratulations are being tendered to Felipe Amos, who has become Director of the Philippine Bureau of Forestry on the retirement of Florencio Tamesis.

Prior to his departure for Bogota, Colombia, where he is now working in the Operations Mission for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Gene Reichard was the surprised guest at a farewell luncheon, complete with speeches and a parting gift (an automatic pistol), tendered by a group of his friends in Washington, among them several members of the ISTF.

Gene has been happy to learn that the recommendations for forestry and forest industry which he made as forestry adviser on the International Bank's mission to British Guiana have been accepted by the British Government. The recommendations are included in the chapters which Gene contributed to THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA, published for the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development by Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, Md., USA (1953, 366 pp., \$6 per copy).

Gene feels that a good many of the presently unutilized tropical timber species might be added to timber commerce, or at least be of some local use, if machinery could be adapted for working the difficult species. He also thinks that too much emphasis can be put on abstract research, feeling that the present need, in Latin America especially, is for forest land managers, forest engineers, good extraction men, and above all good forest foremen.

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Publication of a new nontechnical version of Rimba Indonesia has been announced by R. Soekarpi Soedibja. Title of the new publication will be Rimba Indonesia Penerbitan Populer, and articles will deal with practical forestry matters for nonprofessional personnel in Indonesia.

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Earl E. Smith, whose study, THE FORESTS OF CUBA, is noted below, is now in Afghanistan on a several months' plant exploration visit.

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The 1954 course in tropical forestry of the Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agricolas will begin on 20 September at the Escuela Nacional de Agricultura de Chapingo, Mexico, and will last four weeks, to October 21. The first week of the course will be devoted to round-table discussions of various forestry aspects. The second week and part of the third will be dedicated to field trips and visits to coniferous forests in the region around Mexico City, with special emphasis on forest development and protection, national parks, paper manufacturing, and wildlife.

The rest of the course will be concerned with tropical forestry in the Peninsula of Yucatan, where large stands of cedar and mahogany are now being exploited. During this part of the course the main emphasis will be on the silviculture of several tropical species of this warm climate. Participants in the course will leave Mexico from Merida, Yucatan.

Grants to cover food, lodging, and air transportation to and from Mexico as well as within that country are available for technicians from Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. Other candidates who can pay their own expenses will also be welcome at the course.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. Olen E. Leonard, Director, Zona Norte, Proyecto 39, Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agricolas, c/o Ministerio de Agricultura, 5to piso, Vedado, Havana, Cuba.

No. 16 (March 1954) of Tree Planters Notes, a bulletin issued at intervals by the U.S. Forest Service for the information of nurserymen and planters of forests and shelterbelts, lists its contents as "Nursery Machinery." And all of its 23 processed pages do deal with machinery of one kind or another, mostly individually contrived mechanisms for carrying out nursery or planting operations. One of the simplest diagrams in this issue accompanies a discussion of a method of unloading straw from a truck. Unloading straw from a truck would certainly seem an obvious and uncomplicated task, yet this diagram could save much labor in an operation involving similar unloading operations.

Another set of drawings illustrates the "Use of Overhead Irrigation Lines to Apply Liquid Fertilizers and Weedicides to Nursery Beds," and another article, with photos and drawings, describes methods of potting transplants in square pots. Two more articles deal with a 6-row transplanter and with a seedling harvester.

Any ISTF members concerned with nursery practice would find this bulletin of exceptional interest. The Society office has obtained a small supply of this issue of Tree Planters Notes, and will mail a free copy to any member sending in a postcard request. Those members who wish to receive Tree Planters Notes regularly (without charge) may either notify the Society office or write to the Chief, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C., USA, asking to be put on the list to receive future issues.

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The January-February 1954 issue of the review Bois et Forets des Tropiques (No. 33) contains two very good articles (in French). The first, by A. Aubreville, "Forets sauvages ou silviculture," presents a series of reasons for tropical silviculture, designed to provide arguments against those who, through ignorance, doubt, or indifference to forestry, might jeopardize the funds, admittedly not great when compared with appropriations available for other activities, that are at present devoted to silvicultural work in French Africa. The second paper, by P. Allouard, "La route forestiere en pays tropical," is a long, thorough, and very well illustrated account of the construction, maintenance, and use of tropical forest roads. Points brought out in this article are that no road should have a gradient above 6 percent; hollow ground should be filled; the road should not be opened until a year after completion; slope should facilitate water run-off; loaded trucks should not be allowed on wet roads; and that a motor-grader is essential for the construction and maintenance of roads.

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Those of us faced with problems of soil conservation, especially problems resulting from shifting cultivation, will find of interest Part I of a paper by Sir H.M. Glover in the March 1954 issue (Vol. 33, No. 1) of the Empire Forestry Review. The paper is entitled "Soil Conservation in Parts of Africa and The Middle East," and it discusses, among other things, the well-known taungya system which, as applied to areas in the highlands of Kenya, has resulted in the establishment of thousands of acres of pine plantations at a cost of less than two pounds per acre.

H.B. Donaldson, now commanding the 19th Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army, participated in a ceremony, June 4, inaugurating a joint program of re-forestation between the Eighth Army and the Korean Government. The first step in the program was the scattering by helicopter of quick-germinating mustard seeds over two barren hillsides southwest of Uijonbu. The seed, expected to germinate in 10 days, was part of a special 500-lb. shipment bought and flown to Korea by the American-Korean Foundation. Object of the seeding is to achieve a quick cover to prevent soil erosion caused by heavy summer rains, and also to develop a better medium for the planting of more than a million seedlings in the spring of 1955.

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Hugh M. Curran was asked to contribute a paper to the Fourth World Forestry Congress, but is too busy devoting 24 hours a day to the promotion of Latin American forestry.

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FORESTRY, by H.G. Champion. London, New York, Toronto, The Oxford University Press, 1954. 230 pp., 4-1/4 by 6-3/4 inches, \$1.

Probably no forester breathes who has not been asked at some time just what his work covers. The least painful answer is to recommend a book on the subject, but the difficulty has often been which book to recommend. Some are too technical, and many of the less technical ones are incomplete or inaccurate. So Professor Champion's book is welcome indeed. His aim, stated in the preface, is "to give a comprehensive but simple survey of my subject for those who feel some interest in it and wish to obtain a clearer idea of the part forests and forestry play in the general picture of human activities and welfare." This aim is admirably achieved; not only is the treatment kept simple, but it is also general enough -- except for one short chapter dealing with the United Kingdom -- to make it understandable any place in the world. The writing, as all of Professor Champion's writing, is clear and direct. And in this day of ten and twelve dollar volumes, it is pleasant to be able to recommend so inexpensive a book. At several times its price, FORESTRY would be a bargain.

THE FORESTS OF CUBA, by Earl E. Smith. Maria Moors Cabot Foundation Publication No. 2, in cooperation with the Harvard Forest, Petersham, Mass., USA, and Atkins Garden and Research Laboratory, Cienfuegos, Cuba. 1954. 98 pp., ill.

This report deals primarily -- and very interestingly -- with the geographic distribution of forests in Cuba, and devotes special attention to the soils on which they occur, since soils and bedrock exert considerable effect on the distribution of forest stands. It also discusses Cuba's supply situation, and points out the three possibilities for obtaining a wood supply large enough to support the present economy: importation, plantations, and rehabilitation of remaining forests (together with technological advances in the utilization and preservation of woods not now used). Among the recommendations are one concerning the establishment of plantations of rapid-growth exotics, and another suggesting that the pinelands be brought under management, at least to the extent of protecting them from fire and planting where seed trees have been destroyed. Appendices present recent forest production, export, import, and use statistics, classifications of species by use, descriptive summaries of important commercial species, and a systematic list of plants referred to in the text.

CLAVE Y DESCRIPCION DE LA FAMILIA DE LOS ARBOLES DE VENEZUELA, by Leandro Aristeguieta. Caracas, Venezuela. Ministerio de Agricultura y Cria. Direccion Forestal, Instituto Botanico. 1954.

Though prepared for the trees of Venezuela, this key with family descriptions will be useful to foresters in other parts of tropical America because the same families of tropical trees are widely distributed. The book includes an introduction, listing 100 plant families of trees in Venezuela, with numbers of genera and species in each; key for identification of the families of trees of Venezuela; descriptions of these families, with notes on importance, lists of tree genera and common names for these genera, and usually keys to genera (lacking for large families and some others); glossary of botanical terms used; alphabetical list of common names of the trees with their genera and families; and alphabetical list of the genera of trees with numbers of tree species in Venezuela and common names for each genus.

The trees of Venezuela are grouped into 100 plant families of trees and 570 genera containing 2,045 species (not listed). As the number of kinds of trees depends partly upon the minimum size limits accepted, a definition of a tree would have been helpful. The reviewer would add eight or more families as trees, foremost of which is Palmae, and including Cactaceae, Caricaceae, Cyatheaceae, Ericaceae, Papaveraceae, Passifloraceae, and Urticaceae.. In preparing a key, the author has emphasized leaf and other vegetative characters, though in some cases has resorted to floral characters to separate related families. (Reviewed by Elbert L. Little, Jr.)

THE OXFORD SYSTEM OF DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION FOR FORESTRY. 1954, Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, Farnham Royal, England. 115 pp., 10s.

This definitive English version of a system of bibliographical classification is based on many years of abstracting experience at the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, and is a complete revision of the Flury System, originally worked out and published (1933) by the Bibliographic Committee of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations. Primary heads for subject classification under the Oxford system are: 0 Forests, forestry and the utilization of forest products; 1 Factors of the environment. Biology; 2 Silviculture; 3 Work science (work studies). Harvesting of wood -- logging and transport. Forest engineering; 4 Forest injuries and protection; 5 Forest mensuration. Increment - development and structure of stands. Surveying and mapping; 6 Forest management. Business economics of forestry. Administration and organization of forest enterprises; 7 Marketing of forest products. Economics of forest transport and the wood industries; 8 Forest products and their utilization; 9 Forests and forestry from the national point of view. Social economics of forestry.

At its seventh session, November 1953, the FAO Conference commended this system for adoption by forestry libraries, institutes and documentation centers in member countries. It seems unlikely that many large, well-established libraries will be interested in making the changes necessary to install the Oxford system, but for new libraries to be established in the future, especially those concerned with research, the Oxford system should be quite valuable. And since the system is not limited to books only, it should be of particular interest to those who contemplate the cataloguing of photographs and other unbound material.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

- / AMOS, Felipe, Director, Bureau of Forestry, Manila, Philippines
/ BELL, Craig T., 313 West G Street, Newton, N.C., USA
/ BREHME, Klaus, c/o Prof. A. Koehn, Central P.O. Box 251, Tokyo, Japan
/ BUDOWSKI, Gerardo, Programa de Cooperacion Tecnica, Proyecto 39, c/o
Ministerio Agricultura, Vedado, Havana, Cuba
/ CASTRO ACOSTA, Eduardo, c/o F.E. al Pacifico, San Jose, Costa Rica
/ CUMMINGS, L.J., IIAA, P.O. Box J, Balboa, Canal Zone, Panama
/ DONALDSON, Col. H.B., 0310552, HQ 19th Inf.Regt., APO 24, c/o Postmaster,
San Francisco, Calif., USA
/ EBNER, Adalbert, Makartstrasse 3, Muenchen-Solln, Germany (13b)
/ ELIAN, Arthur J., 31 Summer St., Claremont, N.H., USA
/ FERGUSON, J.H.A., Dj. Djakarta 17, Bogor, Indonesia
/ GONZALEZ VALE, Manuel A., Urbanizacion San Antonio, Avenida Roosevelt,
Quinta Milagros, Caracas, Venezuela
/ GRAY, E., Dept. of Forests, Bulolo, Territory of New Guinea
/ GUSTIN, Harold E., Goodyear Crude Rubber Division, Akron, Ohio
/ HARRISON, David B., 144 Lafayette Blvd., Williamsville 21, N.Y., USA
/ HOWARD, Richard H., Director, Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain 30,
Mass., USA
/ de IRMAY, Hernando, General Director, Direccion Forestal, de Caza y
Conservacion de Suelos, P.O. Box 874, La Paz, Bolivia
/ KAIKINI, N.S., c/o Dr. V.M. Kaikini, F.R.C.S., Radhakant Mansion,
Hughes Road, Bombay 7, India
/ KEITH, H.G., 785 Island Road, Oak Bay, Victoria, B.C., Canada
/ KHAN, Mohammad Ihsan-ur-Rahman, 24 Cooper Road, Lahore, Pakistan
/ LAMB, F. Bruce, Carrera 19 39B-65, Bogota, Colombia
/ LITTLE, Elbert L., 924 20th St., South, Arlington, Va., USA
/ MORINI, Guillermo R., Calle 2, No. 30, Repto Miramar, Havana, Cuba
/ MORRIS, Robert C, Forest Insect Investigations, U.S. Dept. of Agri-
culture, P.O. Box 151, Gulfport, Miss., USA
/ MYERS, George T., 104 5th St., Scotia 2, N.Y., USA
/ REICHARD, E.C., ANR-OM, c/o American Embassy, Bogota, Colombia
/ SMITH, Earl E., Plant Industry Station, Section of Plant Introduction,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md., USA
/ STADELMAN, Russell, 3631 Kenwood, Memphis, Tenn.
/ THOMAS, A.V., Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough,
Bucks, England

NEW MEMBERS SINCE FEBRUARY 1954:

- / BELTRAN, Enrique, Malaga 44, Mexico 19, D.F., Mexico
/ DIAZ SERRANO, Candido Vicente, Minas de Matahambre, Pinar del Rio, Cuba
/ HOMBERT, Jean Marcel, 51 rue J. Plateau, Gand, Belgium
/ LEON ALFONSO, Gilberto, Apartado No. 15, Rancho Boyeros, Cuba
/ HALLEWAS, Pieter Hans, Bos en Duinplein 12, Bloemendaal, Netherlands
/ SOEDARMA, Mas Hatin, Djl. Pengadilan 13 (pav), Bogor, Indonesia
/ SUDIBJA, R. Sukarpi, c/o Forest Research Institute, Gn Batu Bogor,
Indonesia
/ VERKUYL, Adolf Herman, Djalan Belitung 12, Bogor, Indonesia
/ ZAHIRUDDIN, A.S.M., Chief Forest Officer, Karnaphuli Paper Mills, Ltd.,
Chandraghona P.O. Dist., Chittagong Hill Tracts, East Pakistan