

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.

NEWS NOTES NO. 34

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.
c/o State University of New York College of
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Syracuse, N.Y. 13210

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The Seventh World Forestry Congress met in Buenos Aires, Argentina from October 4 to 18, 1972, the first such event to be held in Latin America. Upwards of 2,200 individuals representing some 90 countries and several international organizations attended the Congress which had selected as its theme, "Forests and Socio-Economic Development."

The Congress noted with concern that the gap between developed and developing nations continues to widen. Since some of the largest forest resource areas of the world are located in regions where social and economic development is lagging, the Congress emphasized particularly the need for greatly intensified efforts to further proper management and use of forest resources within developing countries. Attention was called specifically to the need for greatly expanded research in areas such as the utilization of heterogeneous forests; the regeneration and treatment of natural tropical forests; species selection and planting techniques for man-made forests under a wide variety of ecological conditions; the adaptation of technologies to accelerate domestic processing and use; the role of forests in rehabilitating marginal lands and halting desertifications; the global and local environmental influences of forests; and the contribution of wildlife management.

The need for greatly strengthened programs to transmit new knowledge and research findings to policy makers, managers and professional practitioners was also stressed. Finally, the Congress recognized that improved conditions of trade such as will assure a greater share of the international trade in forest products for developing countries will be required if the contributions of forests to socioeconomic development are to be increased significantly.

In examining the responsibility of the forestry profession, the Congress emphasized the fact that forestry is concerned not with trees, but with how trees can serve people. The forester, both as professional and citizen, was declared to have the duty and responsibility to ensure that his informed judgment is heard and understood at all levels of society. Accordingly, the need was stressed for broadening forestry education so as to place greater emphasis on those disciplines that contribute to the understanding and exercise of the foresters' social responsibility.

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An ad hoc meeting dealing with the future of tropical forests was held during the Congress with Dr. Frank H. Wadsworth of the United States serving as Chairman. Plans for this meeting had been initiated by Tom Gill prior to his death and were later carried on to completion largely through the efforts of Professor Domingo Cozzo of Argentina. Listed below are selected titles from among the 500 or more papers that were presented at the Congress that should be of particular interest to tropical foresters.

- Baidoe, Joseph F. (Ghana) The management of the natural forests of Ghana.
- Booth, H.E. (Australia) Secondary species development.
- Cardenas, Pablo R. (Columbia) Practical Experiences in Pulp-
ing Mixed Hardwoods.
- Catinot, Rene J. (France) Biological and Economic Opportuni-
ties and Limitations to the Manipulations of the Tropical
Forest Ecosystem.
- Gonzales Flores, Raul; David Barrios, Emilio; Mera Pandura,
Fernando (Peru) Utilization of Tropical Forest Products;
Trends and Prospects.
- Gregon, E.W. (Fiji) Integration of Grazing in Tropical Forestry.
- Higgins, H.G.; Philips, F.H.; Logan, A.F. & Balodis, V. (Aus-
tralia) Pulping of Tropical Hardwoods.
- Kauman, Walter G. & Kloot, N.H. (Australia) A Strategy for
Utilizing the Potential of Multi-Specific Forests.
- Kemp, R.H.; Burley, J.;¹ Keiding, H.;² Nickles, D.G.³ (Eng-
land¹), (Denmark²), (Australia³) International Coopera-
tion in the Exploration, Conservation and Development of
Tropical and Sub-tropical Forest Gene Resources.
- Lamb, A.F.A. (England) Tropical Pulp and Timber Plantations.
- Lamprecht, Hans (Deutschland) Importance of the Tropical
Forest from the Viewpoint of Forest Ecological Environ-
mental Relationships.
- La Pitre, C. (France) Logging Operations in the Tropical
Forests of Africa.
- Page, W.; Zuyn, W. (Australia) Hardwood Sawmilling: An
Economic Means of Assisting Social Development in Tropical
Forests of Africa.
- Preston, Steven B. (United States) Information Requirements
for Expanding Markets for Tropical Woods.
- Rajkoma (India) The Present and Future of the Tropical/Rain
Forests, with Special Reference to India.
- Vervette Fuentes, Jesus (Mexico) Present and Future of Tropi-
cal Rain Forests.

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The Second Congress of the International Union of Societies of Foresters (IUSF) is scheduled to be held in Helsinki, Finland, August 19-24, 1974. Focusing on the theme, "Forestry for People," the one-week Congress will feature field tour discussions in lieu of the traditional meeting-room discussions. Plans call for two days of plenary sessions, three days of discussion tours, and one day of open committee and commission deliberations. In addition, arrangements are being made for two special consultations to be held in Helsinki a day or two preceding the opening of the Congress. They are: an International Consultation of Executive Officers of Societies of Foresters and an International Consultation of Executive Officers of Forestry Schools.

The Consultation of Executive Officers of Forestry Schools will consider current issues in professional education for forestry and related fields from both the international and world regional points of view. Particular attention will be given to educational programs

designed to harmonize forest resources production and the maintenance of environmental quality. Further attention will be given to education in a plenary session during the Congress which will consider the general theme: "Meeting the Continuing Education Needs of Forestry Professionals with Particular Reference to Developing Countries." The IUSF Congress should be of particular interest to foresters everywhere, and it is hoped that professional representatives from all nations will be able to attend.

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A final decision regarding the future of the International Society of Tropical Foresters still has not been reached. The subject was discussed in a special meeting of tropical foresters held during the VII World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires. The general consensus seemed to be that while IUSF had served a most useful purpose in the past, it probably should be terminated because several other organizations are now active in similar areas of activity; namely, FAO and its Committee for Forestry Development in the Tropics, and the International Union of Societies of Foresters. The future of ISIF is still under study, however, and the membership will be informed of developments in our next NEWS NOTE scheduled for issuance in August or September. Any suggestions you may have with reference to the future of our Society would be greatly appreciated.

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