

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.
1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Apt. 841
Washington, D. C. 20005

NEWS NOTES NO. 26

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The Old Order Changes: For decades, Oxford foresters have demonstrated a competence and dedication that the profession may well be proud of. Both hemispheres bear witness to their high level of academic training.

But changing times and conditions have decreed a re-organization. The present four-year honour school in forestry is to be replaced by a three-year honour undergraduate course of plant science, agriculture, botany and forest science. The Professorship of Forestry becomes the Professorship of Forest Science, and the Chair filled by the appointment not of a forester but of a "distinguished biological scientist".

Inevitably, these changes have evoked varying responses. The Commonwealth Forestry Association questions whether a non-forester can instill such forestry precepts as the sanctity of forest reserves, the increasing importance of economics or the social benefits of forestry into his pupils. Others point out that the professor-designate is a biologist whose life work has been devoted to the forest ecosystem and that the curriculum changes will eliminate much of the existing wasteful duplication in the basic sciences.

One thing is certain. Today, tropical forestry suffers acutely from lack of trained personnel and foresters everywhere will hope that the Oxford changes bring increased strength to an institution that over the years has upheld so rich a tradition. -- T. G.

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The International Union of Societies of Foresters holds its first Congress in Washington, D. C., August 18-19, 1969. The Society of American Foresters will act as host and the proceedings of the Congress will be conducted in Spanish, French and English.

The tentative agenda includes two half-day Plenary Sessions, open to all delegates, and two meetings of the International Council and of the Governing Committee. The Congress will be largely organizational and, in addition to the election of officers and members of the Governing Committee for the ensuing quinquennium, it will consider and if necessary modify the provisional constitution and by-laws and lay plans for the future activities of the Union.

Membership in the Union consists of national societies composed of professional foresters. Its objectives, as stated in the constitution, are, "To advance the status, progress and effectiveness of professional foresters throughout the world." The Executive Director of the Union may be addressed at Apt. 841, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20005.

FAO Committee on Forestry Development in the Tropics will hold its second meeting in Rome, October 21-24, 1969. The Final Report of the First Session, which was held in Rome, in October 1967, has been distributed to member countries of FAO in three languages.

In pursuance with recommendations approved at the First Session, a questionnaire for the collection of technical data on losses in forest production contributable to shifting agriculture has been distributed to member countries.

The Provisional Agenda includes follow-up recommendations made by the First Session regarding shifting agriculture, natural forests, plantations, and education and research. Additional agenda items include a study of the role of tree plantations in savanna development and the role of utilization research in expanding tropical timber markets.

U. Aung Din, member of ISTF and formerly FAO Regional Forestry Officer for Asia and the Far East, has now been designated Secretary of the Committee.

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The latest Schlich Memorial Award was given to India, at the meeting of the Commonwealth Forestry Association held in Delhi. The presentation was made by Professor M. V. Laurie and received on behalf of India by Inspector General of Forests for India, Hari Singh.

Each year an annual award is made to a country in the Commonwealth and to the U.S.A., in rotation.

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Following the World Symposium on Man-made Forests, held in 1967 in Canberra, Australia, the FAO publication, UNASYLVA, published in English the important recommendations of this meeting. These recommendations are now made available to Spanish readers through an article in the "Boletin Forestal y de Industrias Forestales para America Latina" in its March 1968 issue. Edited in the Regional Forest Office of FAO, Casilla 10095, Santiago, Chile, this excellent bulletin is today the best source of forestry activities in Latin America. It is published in both English and Spanish and contains timely information not only with regard to FAO activities but to all important forestry events in Latin America.

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Through the incentive of the Mexican Forestry Society, four cypress trees (ahuehetes), the symbolic tree of the Mexican nation, were planted on the grounds of the Olympic Village.

The Organization for Tropical Studies offers; during 1969, seven graduate courses and provides limited support and services for faculty and graduate research in the American Tropics. The courses will be taught in English and include two courses in "Tropical Biology - an Ecological Approach", the first to be held February 1 to March 31, and the second July 1 to August 31. A course entitled, "An Introduction to Tropical Forestry", will be held April 15 to June 15, in Honduras, Costa Rica.

Further information may be obtained by writing The Organization for Tropical Studies, Inc., Aptdo. 16, Universidad de Costa Rica, Costa Rica, C. A.

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A brochure issued by the Forestry School of the University of the Andes, Merida, Venezuela, lists post-graduate courses in Forest Management and Technology of Forest Products. The courses are divided into two parts, the first directed to the increase of theoretical and practical knowledge following the regular studies in the program of Forest Management and Technology of Forest Products. The second is directed toward the preparation of the thesis.

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Publications

FOREST TREE PLANTING IN ARID ZONES, by A. Y. Goor and C. W. Barney. The most complete and authoritative work to date on tree planting in arid zones. Based largely on Goor's previous publication, "Tree Planting Practices for Arid Zones", the present volume includes theoretical and practical results obtained by the combined efforts of many foresters, ecologists, soil scientists, plant physiologists, and specialists in other allied sciences. The book's purpose is "to help reduce failures by describing techniques and species used in afforestation under differing conditions of heredity and soil, and as they are influenced by the purpose of the plantation". The book will also serve to guide the increasing number of foresters practicing in arid and semi-arid zones. Each major division of the book is followed by a bibliography and the book's utility is increased by a number of appendices and copious illustrations. A thoroughly scholarly and comprehensive contribution to a field that is finding increasing importance in forestry. Published by The Ronald Press Company, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016. Price - \$15.00 (U.S.).

THE ECOLOGICAL BASIS OF RAINFOREST MANAGEMENT, by George N. Baur. Foresters familiar with P. W. Richards' monumental work, "The Tropical Rainforest," will find particular interest in this publication, the first part of which follows closely the structure used by Richards.

This report deals first with the ecological factors determining the nature and occurrence of rainforests around the world, then considers the utilization of rainforest sites and proceeds to the question of rainforest silviculture, paying particular attention to techniques involving the use of natural regeneration. The theme of the report is that any techniques to bring rainforest under scientific management must ultimately rest upon a sound understanding of the ecology of the community. The report covers almost 500 pages, 14 chapters, and a list of Tables. There is an exhaustive bibliography. Copies may be obtained from the Forestry Commission of N.S.W., Box 267, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001, Australia. Price - \$10.00 (Australian) including postage.

TERMINOLOGIA FORESTAL: A spanish-English forestry terminology just published by the Madrid Forest Research Institute under an agreement with the U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service. This book culminates five years of work by its authors. The first part is devoted to an alphabetical list of 7,000 English terms followed by the Spanish equivalent. The second is an alphabetical list of the Spanish terms followed in sequence by the Spanish or Portuguese equivalent used in different Latin-American countries, then the English equivalent, then the definition in Spanish. The third part is an alphabetical list of the Latin-American terms, the country in which used, and the Spanish equivalent used in Spain. Forty-three figures illustrate various utilization and engineering terms. A limited supply is available to ISTF members through the Forest Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

ARBOLES TROPICALES DE MEXICO, by T.D. Pennington and Jose Sarukhan. A manual for the field identification of the principal tropical species of the Mexican Republic. The result of collaboration by the National Center of Education, Investigation and Extension of Chapingo, and of the National Institute of Forest Research, the excellent and much-needed book contains more than 400 pages, and includes a number of excellent line drawings illustrating the species considered. Copies may be obtained from Mrs. Myriam C. Troop, Aptdo. Postal M-10778, Mexico 1, D.F., Mexico. Price - \$5.00 (U.S.) plus postage.

DASONOMIA INTERAMERICANA, a quarterly publication of the Forestry Department of the Teaching and Training Center of the Interamerican Institute of Agricultural Sciences of the OAS. Issues contain articles on tropical forestry abstracted from the magazine "Turrialba".