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The 5th Session, Latin American Forestry Commission, met in Caracas, Venezuela, Oct. 4-15, 1955, and was attended by representatives of 14 Latin American countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela) and 4 countries having territorial interests in Latin America. The most outstanding accomplishment of the meeting was the launching of the Latin American Research and Training Institute, at Merida, Venezuela, to stimulate, assist, and coordinate regional research efforts, and to furnish special and post-graduate instruction in forestry. The Institute is not intended to replace or compete in any way with the development of strong national research and training centers. It is to be established as soon as possible for a 2-year period, in accordance with an agreement between FAO and Venezuela. Other activities of the Commission included review of national progress reports on forest policy; agreement to elaborate a long-term program for the whole region, with emphasis on coordination of national efforts with those of FAO, UN, and other international agencies; suggestion that, in view of the importance of forest statistics as a basis for the development of forest policy, FAO should organize a regional seminar on the subject; expression of interest in forestry terminology, particularly in the Spanish-English glossary of forestry terms prepared in Puerto Rico. A number of field trips were arranged, including a special tour to Merida, which enabled the delegates to study the work of the Forestry Faculty at the University of the Andes, site of the Latin American Research and Training Institute.

ISTF members who took part in the meeting were Messrs. Hernando de Irmay (Bolivia), Ricardo Lavagnino G. (Guatemala), A.F.A. Lamb (United Kingdom), V.L. Harper (Chief of USA delegation), L.J. Cummings (USA), Tom Gill (USA), and Frank H. Wadsworth (USA). Besides the foregoing delegates, several members participated as observers: For the USA, W.L. Bender, C. Ehelebe, J.H. Hardee, H. Haines, E.C. Reichard, E.E. Smith, F.H. Vogel; for the Organization of American States, J.A. Tosi, Jr.; for FAO, S.v.d. Recke, H. Recard, and E.-J. Schreuder; for Venezuela, J.M. Gonzalez Vale. Unofficial participants -- and it was good to see them -- were Lyall Peterson and Hugh M. Curran.

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Eighth Conference of FAO. The creation of the Latin American Forest Research and Training Institute was enthusiastically approved by the 8th Session of the FAO Conference, held in Rome, Nov. 4-26, 1955, and appreciation was expressed by many delegates to the Venezuelan Government for its generous support of this Institute, and to FAO for its leadership in facilitating negotiations. Among other actions, the Conference voiced the hope that FAO would be able to play a more active part in forestry development in Africa south of the Sahara, with intensified collaboration with the Commission for Technical Cooperation in Africa South of the Sahara. It fully endorsed the emphasis given in the Director-General's program to forest influences, range management, and watershed management, hoping that this work might be even further strengthened, and drew the attention of Governments particularly to the need for more intensive study of forest influences in the tropics, where many countries were embarking on large river-valley development projects. Endorsement was given to the emphasis placed in the forestry program of FAO on improving forest production, especially the work in tropical forestry and planting techniques. The proposal to convene a world technical conference on eucalypts in the autumn of 1956 was approved, and satisfaction was expressed at the progress achieved in many countries in raising the standard of forestry and forest products statistics.

The Conference authorized the Director-General to take appropriate action toward the holding of a Fifth World Forestry Congress in 1960.

In view of the anticipated increase in world timber requirements, and the consequent interest in establishment of man-made forests, sometimes of exotic species, the Conference requested that attention be given to technical studies on methods for natural or artificial regeneration and development of the tropical evergreen forest, and the silvicultural systems and management methods to be applied. It asked further for technical, technological, and industrial research, and the dissemination of results, to enable as complete use as possible of the produce of tropical forests of all categories. It also requested comparative economic studies on the silviculture and utilization of the various types of tropical forests. Finally, it strongly supported the proposal to convene a special meeting, preferably in 1956, of experts on various aspects of tropical forestry and the utilization of forest products, to consider the foregoing problems.

Thirty-three countries were represented on the Conference's Forestry Committee, which held 7 meetings, one of them jointly with the Agricultural Committee, and 3 given over to an examination of the program of work for 1956 and 1957.

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The 5th General Assembly of the International Union for the Protection of Nature, together with the 6th Technical Meeting, will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 20-28, 1956. The four themes of the technical meeting will be (1) management of nature reserves on the basis of modern scientific knowledge, (2) biological effects of the recent spread of myxomatosis among rabbits, (3) rehabilitation of areas biologically devastated by human disturbance, (4) relationship of ecology to landscape planning. In addition, a few more specialized discussions will be arranged on such aspects as methods of biological recording and the use and interpretation of aerial photographs. An information circular describing tours in connection with this meeting, and other details, is available from the Secretariat of the Union, 42 Montover, Brussels, Belgium.

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Dr. Wm. A. Dayton was honored by a reception on his retirement, last fall, after 49 years with the U.S. Forest Service. Plans are under way to name him an official Cooperator of the Forest Service, so that he may complete a handbook on western range plants of the USA. Part I is already finished and will probably go to press shortly, but completion of the rest will be Dr. Dayton's task as Cooperator. He also has an agreement with the National Geographic Society, of Washington, D.C., to complete a series of compilations of trees of the different states of the USA, and has undertaken a manuscript (to be illustrated) on the oaks of the District of Columbia, including the region extending as far as the Blue Ridge Mountains and down to the Chesapeake Bay area. The last work has been undertaken for the Conference on District of Columbia Flora. Needless to say, there is an eagerly waiting band of readers for each of these projects.

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Proceedings of the Fourth World Forestry Congress are now in process of printing, and probably will become available within the next few weeks. Members of the Congress who paid the full registration fee will receive copies in due course. All others who wish to obtain copies should write to the Rapporteur-

General of the Congress, Mr. K.L. Aggarwal, President, Forest Research Institute and Colleges, P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun, India. Mr. Aggarwal will be able to give details of the price, which will be based on actual printing costs.

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L.R. Holdridge's article, "Agriculture and Forestry - Competition or Coexistence," in the International Journal of Agrarian Affairs, Vol. II, No. 2, June, 1955, discusses the ways in which forests and agriculture have been in competition in Costa Rica's history, and describes a very satisfactory combination of agriculture and forestry that has been worked out by dairy farmers in the Costa Rican highlands. This development from competition between the uses to a combination of them has seemed quite normal and logical in Costa Rica. But the article points out that there are probably two basic conditions which must be fulfilled before any such development can be assured: There must be a generally educated populace, and the basis for living levels must be high enough to supply today's needs without cutting down tomorrow's possibilities. Costa Rica is, of course, fortunate in that it has been able to meet both these conditions.

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The 12th Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations is to be held in July 1956 in Oxford, England, on the invitation of the United Kingdom.

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Two research pamphlets from the Forest Research Institute, Forest Department, Federation of Malaya, have been received in the Society office and read with keenest interest. The first (No. 14, Aug. 1954) is "A Manual of Malayan Silviculture for Inland Lowland Forests," by R.C. Barnard. It contains a brief history of the development of silviculture in Malaya from 1900 to 1935, and sections on natural regeneration and on artificial regeneration. The two latter sections embody detailed instructions for all the operations so far worked out for Malayan silviculture. The second pamphlet, with an introduction by F. H. Landon, is a revised "Research Program," including progress reports for 1953 on the various programs of forestry research. Projects are arranged under six research branches: Forest Botany and Ecology, Silviculture, Forest Mensuration, Entomology, Chemistry, and Timber Research (including wood preservation, composite wood, and wood structure). For each project listed, data are given on the purpose of the work, review of past work, accomplishments during the year, plans for 1954, and date of completion.

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Back to the Halls of Learning: Graduate studies are being pursued this year by two ISTF members. Gerardo Budowski is at the Yale School of Forestry, and Ivan Petriceks is enrolled in the graduate course recently inaugurated by the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, at Turrialba, Costa Rica.

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Some recent appointments: H.G. Keith to serve on the Pacific Science Congress Subcommittee on Common Names of Pacific Plants. Dr. Richard Howard elected chairman of the nomenclature section of the 9th International Botanical Congress. Dr. Aaron J. Sharp appointed to the Board of Governors of the Nature Conservancy. Dr. V.L. Harper appointed chairman of the SAF Committee on International Relations. Dr. James S. Bethel chairman of exhibit for 10th meeting of Forest Products Research Society. And Dr. Elbert Little, Jr., has been on a 3-month assignment as botanist-ecologist for an ICA mission to British Guiana.

The year 1955 was a notable one for forestry training courses. A most successful course was held in Quito in June, under the joint sponsorship of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, FAO, and the Ecuador Department of Forestry, to give intensive short training in tropical forestry for last-year students of agronomy in the universities, and to the employes of the Departamento Forestal in the Ministerio de Economia. The field training camp was on the Rio Pastazzo in the Oriente, a very interesting and little known forest area with more than 6 meters of rainfall, according to Joe Tosi, who was one of the two managers on the course, in which 30 students participated. In July the Institute conducted another training course, this one in Medellin, Colombia, in cooperation with the Instituto Forestal of the Facultad de Agronomia. The 24 selected students for this course were all employees of the national and departmental forestry organizations, and among the faculty conducting the course were L.R. Holdridge and E.C. Reichard. Another training course for Ecuadorean students is planned for 1956.

Earlier in the year a 3-month (March-May) training course in tropical silviculture was held in Puerto Rico under the auspices of the U.S. Forest Service and Foreign Operations Administration, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Commerce of Puerto Rico. The course was organized both to give intensive study of tropical silviculture and, in the last month, to afford discussions of forest policy, legislation, management, etc., with field trips to see demonstrations of management and other activities. Among the 26 participants from 14 countries were five men from India. ISTF members who were active in putting over the course were Messrs. Cummings, Ehelebe, Hernandez Agosto, de Rosayro, Schreuder, and Wadsworth.

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Changes of address:

Brown, J. Willcox, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 7 State Street, Concord, N.H., USA  
Carson, G.L., Conservator of Forests, P.O. Box 311, Sandakan, North Borneo  
Cermak, F., c/o Oficina FAO, Casilla 719, Asuncion, Paraguay  
Chandler, Dean B., Madereras Laminadas, S.A., Aptdo 88, Merida, Yuc., Mexico  
Donaldson, H.B. (0310552), Hq IX Corps, G3, APO 14, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif., USA  
Ferguson, J.H.A., Nassauweg, Wageningen, Netherlands  
Fuentes, Juan M., 418 W. Chicasaw St., Brookhaven, Mississippi, USA  
Gonzalez Vale, Manuel A., Av. Jardines, Qta. Sonia, La Florida, Caracas, Venezuela  
Grant, Donald F. Bruntshielbog, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire, Scotland  
Gustin, H.E., c/o Goodyear, Caixa Postal 446, Belem, Para, Brazil  
Heidema, E.J., Stichting Houtvoorlichtingsinstitute, Postbus 937, Amsterdam C, Netherlands  
Hellinga, G., Sleedoornplantsoen 7, Wageningen, Netherlands  
Huberman, M.A., Via di Vigna Stelluti 23, Rome, Italy  
Keith, H.G., FAO of UN, c/o Barclay's Bank, Tripoli, Libya, North Africa  
Kowal, R.J., Chief, Division of Forest Insect Research, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, P.O. Box 2570, Asheville, N.C., USA  
Landon, F.H., Chief Research Officer, Forest Research Institute, Kepong, Malaya  
Osborne, R.L., Dist. Engineer, American Wood Preservers Institute, 333 Candler Bldg., Atlanta 3, Ga., USA  
Pomeroy, K.B., Chief, Div. of Forest Management Research, N.E. Forest Experiment Station, Upper Darby, Penna., USA  
Strugnell, E.J., High Croft, Mittagong Road, Bowral, N.S.W., Australia

New Members:

- Alviar, Jairo, Calle 45, No. 70-117, Medellin, Colombia  
Bazan, Flavio, Arzobispo Tovar 120, Magdalena del Mar, Lima, Peru  
Berenos, Albert A.M., Lands Bosbeheer, Paramaribo, Surinam  
Bhathena, B.S., Divisional Forest Officer, Vyara, via Surat, Western Railway, Bombay State, India  
Brunig, E.F., Forest Department, Kuching, Sarawak, British Borneo  
Garduno G., Roberto, Norte 87-A, No. 12, Col. Claveria, Atzacapotzalco, D.F., Mexico  
Grant, John S., c/o Forest Research Institute, Kepong, Selangor, Malaya  
Hohnen, John H., Gen. Manager, New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd., Wau, Territory of Papua, New Guinea  
Iyppu, A.I., Silviculturist, Kodanad P.O., T-C State, India  
Kaushik, R.C., Principal, Forest Ranger College, P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun, India  
Macias Arellano, Luis, Francisco Ayala No. 180, Mexico 8, D.F., Mexico  
Madriz Vargas, Arnoldo, Calle 5 bis, Avenida 28, Casa No. 2839, Barrio San Cayetano, San Jose, Costa Rica  
Mathur, C.M., Divisional Forest Officer, Ladpura St., Kota (Rajasthan), India  
Pinillos Roldan, Alfredo, 9a, Ave. 0-63, Zona 4, Guatemala  
Rogers, Earl J., 2333 Holmes Run Drive, Falls Church, Va., USA  
Schreuder, E.J., Aptdo 4359, San Jose, Costa Rica  
Watkins, G., Principal, Forest Ranger School, Olmotonyi, P.O. Box 106, Arusha, Tanganyika  
Winters, Robert R., 5400 Moorland Lane, Bethesda, Md., USA

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EUCALYPTS FOR PLANTING. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO Forestry and Forest Products Studies No. 11. Rome, Italy, 1955. 403 pp., ill., \$350 or 17s 6d. The introduction to this bulletin states that the study "cannot claim to deal exhaustively with such a vast and complicated subject as the genus Eucalyptus. Its sole object is to collect and simplify hitherto scattered data and observations and to make available to planters in the world's Mediterranean and subtropical climatic zones information which hitherto has been lacking to many of them." This object is surely well worth while, and the resulting compilation will be most welcome to many sorts of users. The bulletin is divided into three parts. Part I deals with the eucalypts in Australia and in areas where they have been planted as exotics; Part II has sections dealing with adaptability of the eucalypts, planting techniques, pathology, stand treatment, and utilization. Part III, beginning with a discussion of the botanical systematics of the genus, and containing a list of synonyms, is devoted to detailed descriptions of the 60-odd species most used for planting. Besides botanical characters, these descriptions include data on geographical distribution, climate, habitat, and general observations. It was interesting to note, in the bibliography of some 300 titles, the names of a number of ISTF members, among them U Aung Din, R.C. Barnard, A.J. Fors, J. Marrero, E. Meijer Drees, and L.C. Scarramuzza.

Of special interest to those who are thinking of growing eucalyptus is FAO's 1955 FOREST SEED DIRECTORY (Price \$1 or 5s), which contains, as a special appendix, a list of eucalyptus species, classified by broad climatic zones, for which the Commonwealth Forestry and Timber Bureau, at Canberra, Australia, can supply small quantities of seed.

WOOD HANDBOOK - Basic Information on Wood as a Material of Construction, With Data for its Use in Design and Specification. Forest Products Laboratory, US Department of Agriculture, 1955. 528 pp., ill., US Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., \$2 per copy (paper cover) (Agriculture Handbook No. 72). This book, which begins with a short general chapter on the structure of wood, is practically an encyclopedia of the knowledge of wood use gained in 40 years of research at the Forest Products Laboratory. Perhaps the best way to indicate briefly the coverage is to list the chapter headings: Physical properties of wood; strength values of clear wood and related factors; grades and sizes of lumber; stress grades and working stresses; timber fastenings; solid and built-up structural members; gluing of wood; glued structural members; plywood and other crossbanded products; structural sandwich construction; bent wood members; control of moisture content and shrinkage of wood; fire resistance of wood construction; painting and finishing wood; protection from wood-destroying organisms; wood preservation; poles, piling and ties; thermal insulation; building fiberboards; modified woods and paper-base laminates. Each one of these chapters concludes with a list of literature cited, and practically all are illustrated with very clear photos or drawings that put across important features. Also included is a glossary of wood utilization terms.

SURINAM TIMBER - A Summary with Brief Descriptions of the Main Timber Species of Surinam. 2nd edition. Surinam Forest Service, Paramaribo, 1955. 93 pp. This 2nd edition contains information on 40 additional woods, and more precise scientific identification of species than was possible in the first edition. It gives for each of the timber species listed both the trade and botanical names, the range, description of the wood, physical properties, mechanical properties, working qualities, and material on preservation, uses, and availability. The ISTF has no information concerning price, but those wishing to acquire copies may write the Surinam Forest Service, P.O.B. 436, Paramaribo, Surinam.

THE FORESTS IN INDONESIA. Society of Foresters of Indonesia, Bogor, 1955. 96 pp. This profusely illustrated booklet tells the story of the forests and forest administration in Indonesia chiefly through pictures, though there are several pages of text concerning forest ownership and area, organization of management, and forestry activities. A chart showing the organization of the Forest Service of the Republic of Indonesia is also included.

WORLD PULP AND PAPER RESOURCES AND PROSPECTS - A Survey Prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization in cooperation with the Secretariats of UNESCO, ECE, and ECLA. New York, 1954. 102 pp. Price \$1.25. This report is divided into two parts, the first covering discussions of the economic background of pulp and paper production and consumption, potential demand, past world pulp and paper production (as a whole and then by regions), and prospects for future developments in deficit regions. The second part is composed of appendices, including fairly detailed discussions of Resources (App. I) and Recent Technical Advances (App. II), and summaries of surveys made by FAO Pulp and Paper Survey Missions in 24 countries (App. IV). Tropical countries covered in this last section include Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand, and Venezuela. Information on each of these countries is summarized under five headings: Consumption and consumption trends, production and production trends, raw material situation, industrial aspects, prospects for future development. Conclusions of the report are that more capacity will be needed than is now contemplated. The resource base and technical knowledge needed for expansion already exist. But the point is strongly emphasized that in less developed regions the pulp and paper problem is as much economic and financial as it is technical.