

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

NEWS NOTES NO. 27

October 1969

The International Union of Societies of Foresters was officially launched at its Organizing Congress held in Washington, D. C., August 18-19, 1969. Delegates and observers representing professional forestry societies from Europe, Asia, North and South America and the U. K. met to adopt a constitution and by-laws for the Union and to outline its future activities.

Under its constitution, the Union is comprised of national forestry societies whose membership is composed primarily of professionals who have obtained a university or college degree in forestry or related fields. Created in response to a long-felt need, the Union is the only organization representing professional forestry on a global basis. Prior to its creation, professional forestry societies lacked the means for direct communication among themselves or any machinery for concerted action in advancing the progress of forestry. The stated purpose of the Union is to promote international cooperation for the advancement of the practice and profession of forestry and of professional foresters throughout the world. To this end, the Union will explore methods by which national societies may increase their effectiveness in securing professional advancement and recognition of their members. One of its early activities will be to compile a catalog of the world's forestry societies with names and addresses of their officers and a statement of their objectives. Societies in the tropics, where each year forestry problems become more critical, should especially benefit by membership in the Union. Information regarding membership admission may be obtained by writing the Executive Director, Apt. 841, 1500 Massachusetts Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. 20005.

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January 1970 will mark the establishment of a Department of Forestry in FAO, an elevation in organizational rank from the present Division of Forestry and Forest Industries. The new Department will be headed by Dr. Steenberg, with title of Assistant Director-General. Under him will be two divisions -- a Division of Forest Resources, and a Division of Forest Industries and Trade.

The newly-elevated status of forestry in FAO should enable the Department to operate even more effectively than in the past and to better integrate its programs and policies with the organization as a whole. The forestry profession will applaud this recognition of forestry's importance and of the impressive record of the FAO forestry staff.

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The Second World Consultation on Forest Tree Breeding was held in Washington, D. C., August 7-16, 1969, under the auspices of FAO and IUFRO. Scientists from 50 nations and seven international organizations attended.

The Consultation itself was essentially a summary of the scientific and practical progress made in forest tree breeding during the past 5-6 years. A number of recommendations were made in a wide range of activities, including planting, training of staff, and international cooperation. Technical recommendations covered the introduction and testing of species, ecological studies, techniques, and interpretation of data. Various channels for research of especial interest to tropical foresters included developing trees highly resistant to insects and disease, and trees genetically tailored for specific uses.

Especial attention was given to plantation problems in Africa, where the savanna vegetation is insufficient to meet local requirements and reliance must be placed on introduced tree species. It was the consensus that lack of adequate information has been one of the chief obstacles to progress. Dr. Burley of U.K. said, in addressing the Consultation, "Most tropical countries would benefit themselves and others by cooperating regionally and with international and bilateral agencies or institutions. Such cooperation is required in taxonomic studies, seed collection, disposition, and the analysis of international trials."

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Personnel Training and Manpower Development is part of the Nasipit Lumber Company's program in the Philippines. A continuing year-round series of group discussions and open forums have been scheduled. Topics, usually on leadership and management, are assigned to resource speakers for discussion at designated dates.

To up-grade the quality of its working force, the Company has opened a school for forest workers, believed to be the only one of its kind in the Philippines. Children of Company employees who are at least high school graduates are admitted free to be trained as forest technicians. Now in its third year of operation, the school has turned out a total of 30 trained technicians, most of whom have already been absorbed in the Company's working force.

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A World Consultation on Forestry Education and Training may be held in 1971, in response to a proposal made by the ad hoc Committee on Forestry in FAO.

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The Organization for Tropical Studies, Inc., a consortium of 25 leading United States and Latin American educational and research institutions, announces that a total of ten graduate courses will be offered in the American tropics and Caribbean region during 1970. All interested should write to the North American Office, Organization for Tropical Studies, P. O. Box 8092, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124.

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A potential threat to the pine plantations of East Africa is the first occurrence of the woolly aphids (adelges pineus spp.) south of the Sahara. The aphids have also been accidentally introduced into Australia, New Zealand and South America. Pineus is known to attack more than 26 species of pine, including radiata and patula. Severity of the attack varies widely. Reports from New Zealand and Australia suggest that losses may be up to 10% of natural regeneration.

-- Commonwealth Forestry Review

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The Nigerian Department of Forestry announces that its Forestry School is approaching its objective to turn out 20 graduate foresters a year. The primary object of the School is to train graduates for the State Forest Services, but plans are now being made to specialize in two other branches: (1) forest utilization and engineering and (2) wildlife management. Neither of these subjects has professional training facilities in West Africa.

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Tenth FAO Regional Conference for Latin America held in Jamaica covered a number of questions in forestry development and trade in connection with colonization and land reform. During the Conference, Mr. Jack Westoby, Deputy Director of FAO's Forestry and Forest Industries Division, emphasized the rapidly-rising trend of forest products consumption. He stated that so far the largest portion of this expansion has gone to Asia; a somewhat smaller share to Africa; while the Latin American share is practically nil. Although Latin America has the greatest potential forest wealth in the world, she had to cover a deficit on the forest products accounts and her imports reached \$300,000,000.00 annually. -- Boletin Forestal y de Industrias Forestales Para America Latina

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Publications

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEMINARY ON UTILIZATION OF TROPICAL FORESTS IN LATIN AMERICA, held in Bogota, have now been published in Spanish, under the title "Utilizacion de Bosques tropicales en Latino-America". This publication, covering more than 180 pages, treats the major phases of tropical wood utilization and forest management. The Seminar was held under the auspices of the German Foundation for Developing Countries, which also issued the excellent publication "Planning of Forestry and Forest Industries in Tropical Regions". These publications may be received free of charge by writing Deutsche Stiftung fur Entwicklungsländer, 5300 Bonn, Blucherstr. 16, Germany.

WORLD TIMBERS, VOLUME I, EUROPE AND AFRICA, compiled by B. J. Rendle. This is the first of three volumes designed to cover the world's commercial timbers. The present volume deals with 26 European and 53 African timbers. Each timber is described under the headings: Distribution and Supply; General Description; Technical Properties and Uses. E. W. March, in reviewing the book, describes it as a "superb example of a deluxe publication". Publisher - Ernest Benn, Ltd., London. Price - 104 shillings.

The VI WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS has now published VOLUME I of the PROCEEDINGS. Two more volumes will follow, making three volumes in all, totalling 3500 pages. The Proceedings are fundamentally tri-lingual. General and special papers have been reproduced in full in their original versions. A list of authors of papers is also included. Alphabetical keys of equivalents in three official languages, general alphabetical indices and other auxiliary elements facilitate the location of material. Volume I includes an Introduction; Organs of the Congress; Rules of Procedure; List of Participants and Speakers; and an account of the First, Second, Third and Fourth Plenary Sessions. This Volume may be obtained by writing to Secto Congreso Forestal Mundial, Direccion General de Montes, Ministerio de Agricultura, Paseo de Infanta Isabel, 1, Madrid - 16, Spain. The cost of the three volumes is \$50.00, plus mailing (please indicate whether surface or air mail).