



These two young "cow-pokes" are David, age 8½, and Ronnie, 4½, sons of Mr. and Mrs. R. Glenn Hoxit of Route 2, Brevard. Glenn is employed in the Refining Room (Ecusta Paper Div.). The boys' granddad, Charlie L. Ashe, is also employed in the Refining Room.



Clifford Gillespie (Refining, Ecusta Paper Div.), his son Jimmy, Clyde Huff, and Clyde's son Buddy, returned recently from a successful 'coon hunt in a nearby state. Jimmy and Buddy are shown displaying the evidence.

FIREWATCH . . .

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The weeks between October 15 and December 15 and between February 15 and May 15 are considered by the Forest Rangers as the Fire Season. The beginning and closing dates of the Fall and Spring seasons may vary by several weeks however, depending on the weather.

When a fire is spotted from a tower, the ranger immediately notes the time of day and pinpoints the location with his firefinder, a map equipped with a sighting device, which enables the spotter to identify the exact spot from which the smoke is rising. He then telephones or radios the information to the District Ranger at the Ranger Station. The District Ranger checks with another tower to get a second "reading" on the location of the fire, and, when the location has been definitely determined, he dispatches a crew of firefighters to the area. The firefighting crew carries, along with the firefighting tools, a mobile radio set so that they may keep the District Ranger informed as to the progress made in combatting the fire. Once a tower ranger reports a fire he must "stay with it" until it's been extinguished. With radio and telephone he keeps in contact with the Ranger Station and the firefighting crew, to keep them informed as to the fire's progress—whether its spreading to other areas or whether they have it confined and under control.

The value of George Brown's services (and those of all the other tower rangers, as well) as a firewatcher are inestimable. When he and his

fellow rangers report a fire, not only are they doing their job for the Forest Service, they are performing a valuable service for towns, industries, and individuals as well. Several Western North Carolina towns depend on streams originating in Pisgah National Forest for their water supply. Several industries, including Ecusta, depend on the National Forest streams for water. Individuals would be deprived of the Forest's hunting, camping, picnicking and other recreational facilities should a forest fire which might spring up go unreported, and thus spread over thousands of acres, destroying natural water, recreational and timber resources.

The George Browns who carry out "Operation Firewatch" in our forests expect no extra awards for "just doing their jobs." All they ask is the cooperation of everyone in doing away with the forest's worst enemy—fire.

"My country owes me nothing. It gave me, as it gives every boy and girl, a chance. It gives me schooling, independence of action, opportunity for service, and honor. In no other land could a boy from a country village, without inheritance or influential friends, look forward with unbounded hope."
—Herbert Hoover.

"Nature gives to every time and season some beauties of its own; and from morning to night, as from the cradle to the grave, it is but a succession of changes so gentle and easy that we can scarcely mark their progress."
—Charles Dickens.

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