

AROUND THE DISTRICT

By George Vitas,

As any sawmill man will tell you, it's getting harder and harder to find timber of good saw-log size. (Saw-log timber is timber large enough to be commercially profitable to saw into lumber of a variety of grades and sizes.) There are plenty of trees in the woods but relatively few are of saw-log size. Logging and milling trees under saw-log size can be a money-losing proposition as well as destructive to the forest. U. S. Forest Service studies have shown that when a man cuts a tree under 13 inches in diameter, if he considers all the costs involved, the lumber he produces from the little tree will eventually cost him more than he will get for it.

Forest conservation is normally thought of in terms of forest fire protection and the growing of trees. But it really goes beyond that. How a tree is used AFTER it is cut, has a great bearing on the conservation of the forest. For instance; U. S. Forest Service studies have shown that the average tree cut in the United States is utilized as follows: 43 percent of it is turned into wood products; 22.5 percent is used for fuel; and 34.5 percent is left in the woods or wasted. One way of giving the young timber, that now covers so many thousands

of acres, time to grow into true saw-log size is to utilize, more fully, the timber we do cut. Better utilization should lessen the pressure to harvest immature timber.

Recognizing the need for research in wood utilization, the U. S. Forest Service established, in 1910, the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisc., in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin. It was the world's first institution devoted, exclusively, to the study of forest products. Discoveries at the laboratory have led to the growth of several new industries and have given new life to many old ones. The laboratory went "all out" during both of the World Wars on war work, performing services for the army, navy and private industry. Hundreds of people come from all over the world each year to visit "Madison's House of Magic", as the laboratory is called. Each year thousands of mail inquiries are answered and wood-utilization problems are discussed with industry representatives who come seeking advice. Cooperative research projects are undertaken, with both the government and industry sharing in the cost. The purpose of such projects is not to promote one product as against another, but to determine facts which will benefit both industry and the public.

Despite the progress of wood research at "Madison's House of Magic", much remains to be done. Future possibilities in the chemical conversion of wood, unlimited as they are, are being looked into. In the years ahead, the Forest Products laboratory will intensify its work on utilization of woods-waste and low-grade trees; further improvements and economics in structural utilization of wood; development of new preservatives and treating methods; improvements in and simplification of gluing techniques (immensely important in the plywood industry); increasing the fire safety of wood; improvements in paint technology; development of new or improved paper products; chemical conversion of wood; and other studies aimed at expanding the uses of wood and making it give better service to man.

BACK TO COLLEGE

Harold Stepp left last week for Appalachian State Teachers college, Boone, where he is now enrolled.

HOME FROM CHICAGO

Mrs. Mary Ingram has returned from a five weeks' visit with her daughter, Miss Ruth Ingram, of Chicago.

MONTREAT

"Then Jesus Came" was the subject of the sermon Sunday morning, Dec. 2, by the pastor, the Rev. John R. Williams, in the Presbyterian church, Montreat. Text, St. Luke, 19th chapter and 10th verse. The emphasis of the sermon was on the miracle of Jesus coming to save the lost.

The college choir sang very beautifully a traditional Christmas carol, "O Come, Emmanuel." John Sinclair was at the piano.

The afternoon circles met Dec. 4. The time was brought forward one week on account of the Christmas holidays. Circle 1, Mrs. Keith Townsend, chairman, met with Mrs. W. J. Gammon. Circle 2, Mrs. Thomas Spence, chairman, met with Mrs. Pearl Jones.

Miss Maria Spence led the meeting of the P. Y. F. in College hall last Sunday at 7:15.

Twenty-four men were present at the first organization meeting of the "Men of the Church", held in the home economics room of Gaither hall, Monday, Nov. 26 at 6:30 p. m. They accepted the invitation of the Business Women's Circle to meet with them in December.

Christmas is drawing near and plans are being made for the proper celebration.

The Glee Club will give a program of Christmas music the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 7:30. The public is invited.

Mrs. George Ennett Sr. suffered a broken left arm when she slipped and fell on the ice in her yard Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Postmaster C. Rice has returned after a short vacation.

The Rev. O. F. Yates has returned from a visit to Williamsburg, Mo., where he attended the 50th anniversary and homecoming at the "Nine Mile" church. He enjoyed seeing many friends and relatives.

A letter from Mrs. W. R. Potter, who is visiting her son in Ridgeville, Ind., states that she and her brother, Will Jones, will be coming home soon to Montreat.

Dr. William Mathews and little son of Charlotte visited the W. A. Rosses on Alabama terrace last Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. L. J. Coppedge of Greybeard road spent a delightful Thanksgiving holiday with Dr. Coppedge's brother, Hugh L. Lobdell, and family of Charlotte.

Dr. and Mrs. Nelson Bell had as their guests this past week

Woman's Clubs To Meet Together

The Sr. Woman's Club will meet Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 8 p. m. in the Monte Vista hotel. Please note the change of date. There will be no business session and the program will begin promptly at 8 p. m., when the Jr. Woman's Club has been invited to join with the Sr. club.

"Christmas in Art," slides from the National Art Gallery, Washington, D. C. will be presented by the Sr. club. Fred Schnelz will operate his projector for these slides.

A musical program will be given by members of the Jr. Woman's Club.

After the program, refreshments will be served by the Sr. club, Mrs. W. I. Willis, chairman.

Dr. Bell's mother, Mrs. J. H. Bell, and his sister, Mrs. David Norris, both of Greenville, S. C. Mr. and Mrs. F. Brinkerhoff of Assembly drive had a trip to Greenville, S. C., this past week.

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS MEET
June Glenn Jr. attended the Carolina Press Photographers Association meeting in Raleigh last Sunday

MOTHER HERE
Mr and Mrs Clarence Worley had as a week end guest Mr. Worley's mother, Mrs. D. M. Worley of Fairview

POET'S CORNER

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS
Forgiving and forgetting what Our friends and foes have done, To mar the peace and happiness Our efforts should have won; Remembering to smile, the while Our willing hands unglue To open wide our treasure chest Of friendliness and love.

Contains the chest such lavish wealth
As might astonish kings,
Or, sacred in its poverty,
Just little homely things,
The perfume from it rises far
As heav'n is high and wide,
And angels call this sweet incense
The Soul of Christmastide.

—James Peele Parker
Member, Creative Writing Club.

VISITS COUSIN
Miss Lou Marlowe of Elk Mountain was a week end guest of her cousin, Miss Barbara Jones.

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