

Foresters Kelley and Wold Honored at Saturday Noon Luncheon

With a closing request for better treatment of our forest lands looking forward to the maintenance of the natural resources of timber on the stump in abundance, Major Evan Kelley bid "adieu" to his friends of the Forest Service and Missoula at a luncheon at the Hotel Florence Saturday. Three hundred assembled at the farewell affair for Major Kelley and Oscar Wold, who recently retired as regional fiscal agent. Approximately two score members of the forest staffs from the region outside of Missoula joined in the occasion.

L. A. Campbell was toastmaster, with a number of songs, some original for the occasion, as a special feature, Dorothy Truxler the accompanist. In token of the appreciation, friendliness and esteem of the group, both guests of honor received gifts.

Mr. Wold was presented with an easy chair set and a book of letters, Mrs. Wold with a bouquet of roses.

Major Kelley received an eight-volume set of the original travels of Lewis and Clark, a feature in which he is intensely interested and to which he plans to devote much time in the future, as well as a book

of letters. Mrs. Kelley received a bouquet of roses.

Letters and telegrams pertaining to the guests of honor were read from D. N. Mason, the Dude Ranchers' association, C. L. Billings, the Spokane blister rust office and the Bureau of entomology, and other individuals.

P. D. Hanson, the new regional forester, gave his first impressions of the region after his visit to all forest headquarters with Major Kelly, and said "hello, folks" to the group at the luncheon.

R. T. Ferguson of Great Falls, a veteran supervisor, Assistant Regional Forester C. H. McHarg, Meyer Wolff and C. S. Webb, and Supervisor George DeJarnette of the Colville forest participated in the presentations.

Mr. Wold responded with his thanks in a few heartfelt words.

Major Kelley told how greatly he had enjoyed his experiences in the region over the period of years since he first hiked from Hayden lake to Wallace, Idaho, over timber trails in 1920, carrying a 35-pound pack on his back. He related the many changes and developments that he

has seen, urging future forward progress in the Forest Service program.

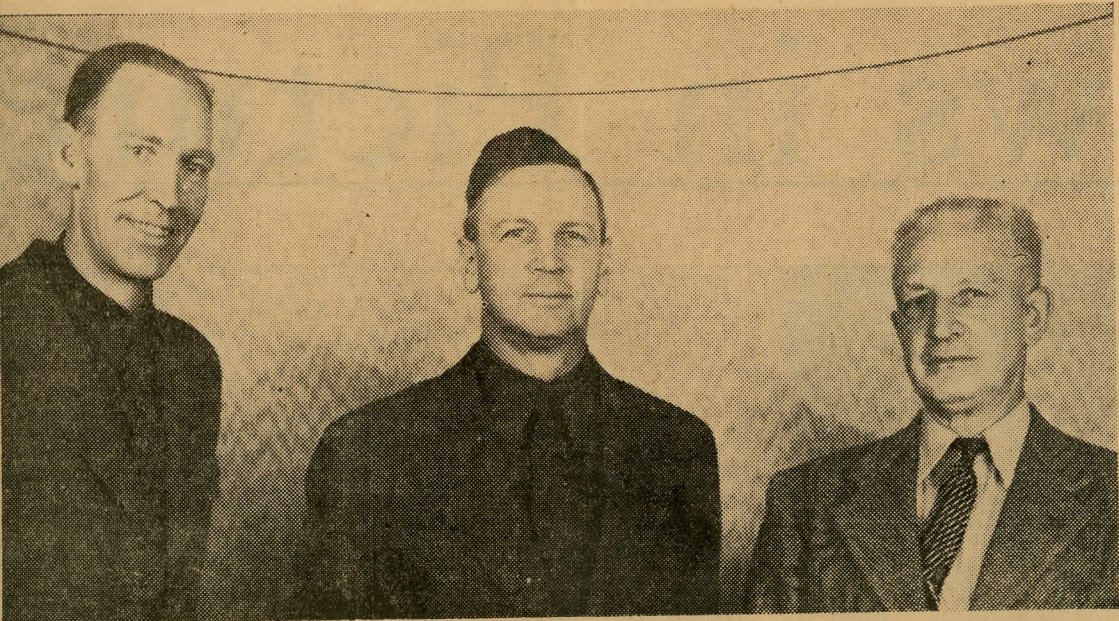
"We have seen an era come of bringing fires, our greatest menace, under comparative control," he said. "Jobs ahead include gaining mastery of the challenge of forest management. We have made great progress in range management, there being no more important objective than in keeping a grass cover green on our ranges. A great expansion of recreation use of the forests after the war will bring new problems."

"The region has a large share to play in providing a future timber supply of the nation, one of our most important resources, one of the first commandeered at the start of this World war.

"Our land can not be prosperous without an abundance of national resources. Let us keep our country as rich as it can be in timber, with better treatment of our forests looking forward to the maintenance of timber on the stump."

At the head of a delegation of 14 coming from the Bitter Root forest were Supervisor and Mrs. G. M. Brandborg of Hamilton, as well as Fred Stell, Theodore Rollins, Lester Robinson, Otto York, Jack Warren, Tom Smith, Bert Waldron, Ralph Hanson, A. B. Gunderson, Nora Reginos, Mabel Allen and George Haynes. Supervisor J. K. Dwinelle and Miss Medora Wilson came from the Absaroka at Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wetzel, Ray Tennant and Al Muchmore from the Beaverhead, C. B. Sutliff, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Samsel of the Cabinet, Supervisor E. F. Barry of the Clearwater, Supervisor G. M. DeJarnette and his mother, Mrs. G. DeJarnette, from the Colville, Supervisor A. A. McCutcheon from the Custer, Supervisor and Mrs. William Fry, Eric White and V. Linthacum from the Deer Lodge, Supervisor and Mrs. J. C. Urquhart, Mr. and Mrs. William Ibenenthal, Mr. and Mrs. Stan Foskette and Stanley Larson from the

Luncheon - Oct. 28 - 1944



RETIRING FORESTRY CHIEF, SUCCESSOR VISIT BUTTE—Maj. Evan W. Kelley, regional forester of the Northern forest area of the United States, who will retire November 1, and his successor, P. D. Hanson, were Butte visitors Tuesday. They conferred here with W. E. Fry, Deer Lodge National forest supervisor. Left to right in the picture are Mr. Fry, Mr. Hanson and Major Kelley.

Major Evan Kelley Retiring After 40 Years in Forest Service

After nearly 40 years in the government Forest Service, Maj. Evan W. Kelley, regional forester of the Northern forest area of the United States with headquarters at Missoula, is retiring, effective November 1. His successor, P. D. Hanson, has been assistant regional forester at San Francisco.

Both forestry chiefs were in Butte Tuesday visiting with W. E. Fry, forest supervisor for the Deer Lodge National Forest and Mr. Hanson was acquainting himself with the affairs of the local office.

Maj. Kelley has spent 15 years of his long career in the Forest Service as regional forester at Missoula. He started his career in California but the Northwest is Maj. Kelley's adopted country and he has purchased a plot of ground in Rattlesnake creek, one of the picturesque and attractive areas in the Missoula vicinity, where he will make his headquarters when he quits his official duties.

"We have seen great progress in

the fire control and recreational use of the forests as well as in the demand for forest production in the time I have been stationed at Missoula," Forester Kelley said. "There has been a revolution in the demand for timber from the national forests and we see prospects in the near future for an increasing market for the species of timber not heretofore in demand. As this demand grows we shall find the forests contributing in greater measure to the national welfare.

"I take great satisfaction in saying that the old cut-and-burn methods have been quite generally converted to the new standards which leaves the land in good condition for new growth. There is appearing throughout this forest area an appreciation of the wisdom of the policy of balancing cut against growth. Some of the largest timbering operations in Montana are now being definitely placed on that basis.

"We have seen also in these 15 years great development in the management of the ranges in the national forests. The constructive attitude toward stock grazing and good grass management has been helpful alike in the protection of the forests and in the prosperity of our stockmen. The preservation of the grasses is necessary to the permanence of the livestock industry in the western Montana region.

"The development of transportation in and through the forests has been an important factor in the excellent degree of fire control which has been developed. The

ROCENE'S

Sport Jabs

Finest of Associates

In my early days of the newspaper game, 50 years ago, I came into close contact with the men of the Forest Service. I continued my association with them for 30 or more years and came to know many of them intimately.

I have never met a finer group of men in every way than the Forest Service men. In learning about their business through newswriting, I had the utmost admiration and respect for them. I stood in awe of their great deeds in the mountain country of Missoula and they never let me down.



Ray T. Rocene

There was never a finer set of men than those who ran the Forest Service. Men who sacrificed themselves relentlessly to save God's green timber and acres. They would go to any length in their personal sacrifice.

First I remember Richard Rutledge as regional forester. A fine, raw-boned man who handled himself with greatest personal skill at all times, ran the region well.

Then came Fred Morrell. What a man that was. Fred was one of the finest gentlemen that I ever met anywhere.

Not long ago, when I was seriously ill, a personal letter came from Fred in a Florida hotel, where he was living in retirement. That did more for me than any letter I got during that time. I was seriously ill for months, unable to reply, and his letter was lost at home. I wonder if that distinguished gentleman who fought fires with his hands and mules so effectively is still alive.

Then there was Major Kelley. Could anyone say more than that the Forest Service will never see another Major Kelley.

He fought his way to the top of the region, became a trusted officer in World War I.

Major Kelley was a symbol of the Forest Service. He came when airplanes were first introduced by Jack Yost.

I remember standing one day on my porch at home and seeing the smoke of forest fires in every direction. That was what the men of the Forest Service fought so well, so successfully.

Assistant Forester

Then there was Glen Smith, assistant forester, one of the finest men that ever wore the uniform of a forester. He was an expert on everything, grazing, mining and all the other parts of the service.

Ted Shoemaker was another of the grand men that I met in those years. A man that was admirable in every respect.

Meyer Wolf was another regional forester whom I admired greatly.

There were thousands of others, supervisors, rangers and their ilk whom I knew and admired greatly for their persistence.

When my sports duties forced me to give up the Forest Service detail, I lost a great deal in dropping out of contact with those fine citizens.

I believe that the average Forest Service worker is the greatest asset the country has, and you will pardon me for telling about them.