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Another Year Passes

H. G. (Punk) Meginnis, ’28, and W. M. Beveridge, ’29

The three outstanding events of the club last spring quarter were the Foresters’ Banquet; the Veishea Parade and Open-House; and the Spring Campfire.

The annual banquet, held at the Cranford on April 27, was SOME affair. Following the menu and music, Paul Bunyan, alias Barney Wiggins, instigated a selection cutting with the graduating seniors in the title role of the overmature and decadent age class. “Paul” revealed many guarded secrets, and kept the speakers wondering just who told. The evening’s festivities ended in great hilarity and with the production of astonishing quantities of tobacco smoke.

The spring campfire in North Woods was held in the usual place near Squaw Creek. As is customary, the repast was perpetrated by the class in camp cookery. The superiority of its culinary attempts over the gastronomic question marks usually associated with campfires will be remembered for years by those present. Another minor feature of the evening was a game of kittenball, participated in simultaneously by three-fourths of the club, with one ball and an unwieldy stick of driftwood as accessories. Later, around the campfire, songs were sung, the historic feats of Paul Bunyan (of doubtful veracity) recounted, and the meeting broke up amid blood-curdling yells and a solemn rendition of the Forester’s Creed.

The old club spirit was shown to the rest of the school during Veishea. The float in the parade depicted the four
winds bringing the Ames Foresters from their timbered haunts to Veishea. Aside from an unmanageable pack mule, and four near-prostrated Ethiopian carriers of the Amazon representative, no ill effects were noticeable. (Neither were any prizes.)

The Open-House exhibit was set upon planks over the rotunda in Ag. Hall. It was a miniature national forest worked out to the smallest detail and showed protection, grazing, logging and milling phases of government forestry practice.

A magnificent mountain peak and the phenomenon of small clouds of real smoke (source unknown) rising from a recent burn, were special features. The exhibit won second prize, the first prize going to the Dairy Department by the margin of an orchestra and free malted milks.

The fall quarter opened with another large freshman class of approximately 50 prospective supervisors. The record-smashing sale of stag shirts and Ag. Club memberships was a testimonial as to the salesmanship of Boeckh, De Bower and others.

The fall campfire was remarkable in that it was held without a fire, due to the bad weather. In spite of this, a large percent of the club members met in Ag. Hall and dined on hot dogs, pickles, beans, and cider from what seemed to be an inexhaustible keg. After the grub, a more or less melodious song session was indulged in and Rotty entertained with some recently unearthed (King James version) Paul Bunyan stories.
The third annual Foresters' Hoe-Down, held at St. Cecelia's Hall on January 21, was THE HOWLING SUCCESS of the year. The ticket committee was almost mobbed by persons outside the department who wanted to attend this notable struggle, only five of them being successful. Perhaps there never has or never will be seen such a display of plaid woolen shirts and loud suspenders as were worn at this dance. Costumes imitating cowboys, lumberjacks and Spaniards were much in evidence. The rule, "no shooting" was enforced, so less blood was shed than in former years. Refreshments in the form of cider were dispensed over an old-time bar by Klug, Nicol & Co., Beverage Dispensers de Luxe. That dance made history.

And so are some of the major things that happened during the past year. What will happen in the year coming we will not try to forecast; no man can predict to such great lengths.

For the benefit of the fellows who have not as yet heard about it, after the close of school this spring Perkins Coville will no longer be one of the forestry department faculty. "Perk" has been at Ames six years, teaching the boys about the manufacturing side of forestry, and is leaving to go with the Forest Service at Washington, D. C. We are sorry that we are to be deprived of the pleasure of his friendship and the excellence of his teaching, but glad that he is having this larger opportunity to further himself in the profession.

We hope, "Perk," that you have enjoyed your work with us as much as we have enjoyed our work with you, and that you'll remember Ames and the fellows at least once in a while when you get settled down in your new job.