

Reviews

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOCIETIES OF FORESTERS, HELSINKI, FINLAND

Supplement to Proceedings IU SF (1976)

THE Proceedings of the Second Congress of the International Union of Societies of Foresters (IUSF) and the Supplement which includes papers delivered at the panel discussions and plenary sessions have come to hand for review. This Congress, which was held in Helsinki, Finland, in August 1974, had as its theme "Forestry for People."

In the Manifesto printed on pages 2 and 3 of the Proceedings the participants were reminded that foresters all over the world were asking or were being asked such questions as — What formal training is required to meet today's challenges?

How can systems of continuing education keep foresters abreast of changing needs?

How can the forestry profession develop appropriate means of communication and interaction with other professions responsible for the environment and natural resources?

What are the roles of professional societies of forestry?

Should the foresters achieve and maintain a key role in land-use planning and policy determination in the high offices of government and industry?

As the Manifesto indicated these questions were the subject of concern at the Congress and the publications under review include a range of papers on these topics by contributors from all over the world. Also included are the opening addresses by the Chairman of the Organising Committee, Kalle Putkisto, the President of the Society of Finnish Foresters and the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry.

Of special interest is the account of the steps that led to the establishment of the Union, its growth and development and its future role given in the progress report presented by Dr. V. L. Harper, President of the Union.

The Keynote address by Professor Nils H. Osara, retired Director of the Forestry and Forest Products division of F.A.O. entitled "The Role of Professional Foresters in Economic Development and in Achieving Social Goals" deserves special mention. Professor Osara traces the origins of the professional forester in Europe and elsewhere and details the growing range of activity of professional foresters with examples from Finland and elsewhere. He asks "What is our destination"? "The tasks ahead are enormous. Forest devastation must be brought to an end. Barren areas, formerly green, must be

reforested. Problems of interrelationship between silviculture, recreation and environment must be resolved. The position of those who derive their living from forests must get serious attention. "Finally" writes Prof. Osara "the most important task — sufficient wood supplies must be made available now and in the future."

The publication includes lists of accredited members, the constitution and by-laws of the Union and Congress participants. The papers dealing with trends and issues in forestry education in the various countries are of special interest to anyone concerned with this field.

The final paper entitled "Professionalism and Ethics in a Forestry Context" by H. R. Glascock, Jr., Executive Vice-President, Society of American Foresters, is a thought-provoking contribution that deserves to be read by anyone concerned with the role of Forestry Professionals in society.

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