

**NATIONAL PARKS  
ASSOCIATION OF  
THE A.C.T. INC.**



**BULLETIN**

Vol. 9 No. 2

November, December, January 1971-72

Price 30c

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a periodical  
Category "B"

National Parks Association of the A.C.T. Inc.

"A National Park for the National Capital"

---

President: Mr. George Chippendale, 4 Raoul Place, Lyons (Phone: H:812454 W:818208)

Vice President: Mr. W. Watson, 61 Glasgow Street, Hughes.

Secretary: Miss Sheila Kruse, Box 457 P.O., Canberra City. 2601

Assistant Secretary: Miss Wendy Haines, 4/84 Macgregor St., Deakin. (Phone: W:522171)

Treasurer: Mr. Bruce Mitchell, Box 457, P.O., Canberra City. 2601

Publicity Officer: Mr. Glyn Lewis, 125 Carnegie Cres., Red Hill. (Phone: 956937)

Editor: Mrs. Fiona Brand, 11 Dyson St., Lyneham (Phone: H:479538)

Committee Members: Mr. J. Baker; Mr. I. Currie; Miss T. Exley; Mr. J. Schunke; Miss G. Watts; Dr. C. Watson.

---

All correspondence to Box 457, P.O., Canberra City. 2601

---

National Parks Association Phone Number 479538

---

Subscription Rates: Family and Corporate Subscription - \$5.00  
Single - \$3.00

---

The Association welcomes the following new members:

Mr. & Mrs. J. Banks; Lady Basten; Mr. T. Bellas; Miss A. Conway; Mr. & Mrs. R. Evans; V. Goldrick and family; Mr. & Mrs. C. Hill; Mr. R. Iannuzzi; Jan Kieth; Miss L. Lawrence; Mr. & Mrs. L. Murray; Mrs. Sweetnan; 3B Canberra (St. Johns) Girl Guide Company; Sea Ranger Crew of South Canberra.

Membership Renewals:

Receipts for membership renewal will be enclosed in the Bulletin, and no list of names included.

\* \* \* \* \*

If anyone knows the addresses of the following new members, could they please contact one of the committee so that newsletters can be sent to them?

Mrs. D. Brush; Mrs. D. Mackay; Mr. & Mrs. Evans.

EDITORIAL

Did you remember Earth Day on 24th September? Do hope you mentioned it to at least one person who may otherwise have not thought about the future prospects of this planet. The visit by Professor Paul Ehrlich to Australia has been a tremendous boost to conservationists and has started people thinking about the quality of their environment and the earth's future.

ESSAY COMPETITION

The essay competition winners received their prizes at a short "Earth Day" ceremony at the Griffin Centre. Our president, Mr. George Chippendale, chaired the meeting, spoke about the day and Mr. K. Enderby (M.H.R.) presented the prizes. Dr. Robert Story gave an excellent summary of the quality of the 100 essays received and congratulated the six prize winners, who were:

- Junior: 1st - Jill Twigg Patterson, Canberra High; 2nd - Lucy Tylman, Melrose High.
- Intermediate: 1st - Richard Starke, Telopea High; 2nd - Susan Fenton, Telopea High.
- Senior: 1st - Cathy Carney, Catholic Girls High; 2nd - Judy Storr, Campbell High.

The organisers wish to thank the judges, Dr. Nancy Burbidge and Dr. Robert Story for their efforts in first reading so many essays and then undertaking the difficult task of judging the best.

FROM NEAR AND FAR

The Australian Conservation Foundation's annual meeting, held in October, organised a showing of wonderful slides of Lake Pedder and the surrounding area in Tasmania. It will be a disgrace if this wonderful wilderness area is not saved from despoilation.

One of our long established members, Mrs. Temple Watts, who now lives in Queensland, has joined the Toowoomba Field Naturalists and the Pittsworth Branch of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland.

For advice on food menus, when there is a total fire ban (no gas cookers allowed), ask Julie Henry or other members who were at the long weekend outing in October. The gale nearly blew the campers over the Fitzroy Falls into the beautiful Kangaroo Valley.

\* \* \* \* \*

"TREES OF CANBERRA"

PART II

by NORMAN HALL

Eucalyptus mannifera Mudie Subsp. maculosa (R.T. Bak.) L. Johnson red spotted gum, brittle gum, white gum.

Red spotted gum is certainly one of the best eucalypts for street and park planting in Canberra and some very fine specimens can be seen in some of the older

suburbs. Two locations worthy of note are Melbounre Avenue, Forrest, and Captain Cook Crescent, Griffith. As it is a local species it is hardy to the climate and will grow satisfactorily on rather poor, dry sites; in addition it sheds its bark to ground level and therefore presents a low fire risk. The rather open, graceful crown and the clean white bark makes it one of the more ornamental trees of the city.

This eucalypt is a moderately small tree in nature and height at maturity may be only 30-60 feet, but on good sites and with watering, planted specimens may attain 70-80 feet. This size is still too large to be suitable for planting on the usual size of home sites.

It occurs naturally on much of the lower hills and rolling country of the southern tablelands and South-west Slopes of New South Wales and north-eastern Victoria. Locally it is one of the common species around Canberra and is found growing with E. macrorhyncha and E. rossii. It is also plentiful on the hills east of Queanbeyan and between Bungendore and Braidwood. The most useful feature for separating this species from E. rossii is the fruit. In red spotted gum the capsule has a medium width convex disc and slightly exserted valves compared with the broad, more or less flat disc and small inconspicuous valves in E. Rossii. In addition, the latter species usually has plentiful 'scribbles' on the bark, due to insect activity.

This is an excellent example of where full citation of the botanical name is essential to avoid any possibility of confusion. Until 1962 it was known as E. maculosa, when Dr. L.A.S. Johnson clarified the botanical position. The Standards Association of Australia has adopted brittle gum as the standard trade common name for the timber, but that name also applies to several other species.

KEITH HINDWOOD MEMORIAL FUND

Early this year, naturalist Keith Hindwood died while on a bush walk in Royal National Park in N.S.W. Many naturalists want his memory to remain green and his work to continue by the establishment of a Memorial Fund. The actual shape the memorial will take will depend on the amount of money donated. The organising committee lean toward a Bird Studies Centre. Should enough money be raised they would hope to be able to buy headquarters and pay for modest staffing, with options for future growth. At the very least they hope they would be able to start such a centre staffed on a voluntary basis. Another suggestion is for a nature trail in Royal National Park. A dream of Keith's was to have a local wetland sanctuary owned by ornithologists, which could be developed along the lines of Peter Scott's sanctuary at Slimbridge. They welcome other memorial suggestions from donors to the appeal. The final decisions will embody the principle of providing assistance to amateurs. All donation are tax deductible. Please make cheques payable to the - Australian Museum Keith Hindwood Memorial Fund. Donations will be receipted.

Our Association has donated a cheque for \$10.00 and suggested that a wetlands ornithological sanctuary be established.

\*\*\*\*\*

OUTING REPORTS

On Sunday 29th August, 20 N.P.A. members were taken on a conducted tour of the Canberra Botanic Gardens by Mr. Keith McIntyre. Wattles and Grevilleas were the main species flowering. Members were shown through the propagating area and also saw the misting system working in Rainforest Gully. It was pleasing to see many birds being attracted to the Gardens.

A rainy morning probably deterred more members from attending, though no rain fell during the inspection.

\* \* \* \* \*

On 12th September, 40-50 N.P.A. members attended the walk on Black Mountain. A strip of country recently burnt by a controlled fire was inspected, a red stringybark was seen with its bark struck by lightning, and many attractive flowering shrubs were seen. The box-leaf wattle (Acacia buxiflora) and the rice flower (Pimelia linifolia) were commonly flowering, and more rare, but quite spectacular was Acacia lanigera. Species of the bearded heath (species of Leucopogon) were common in many places, including the lunch-time stop on a ridge facing northwards.

George Chippendale

\* \* \* \* \*

The N.P.A. outing to Burrinjuck Waters Park was attended by 24 members

and 14 children, ranging in age from 3 to 60 years, all of whom managed the six mile walk to the top of Mt. Burren Jack (3173'). The track was well decorated with Acacias in full bloom and the contrasting purple of sarsaparilla was quite striking.

Thanks to the perfect weather, the view over the Burrinjuck storage area was clear enough to see the Goodradigbee arm as far as Wee Jasper and on to the Murrumbidgee ranges.

On Saturday evening the Park Manager, Michael Rowe, showed films borrowed from the Canadian High Commission and most of the party gathered for supper in one of the cottages booked for the non-campers.

Sunday morning was occupied with a leisurely visit to the Park Museum, followed by an equally slow stroll along the foreshore, enjoying the sight of greenhood orchids, sundews, various Acacias, a few dillwynias and the masses of Hardenbergia.

Since the park is only 74 miles from Canberra it is well worth a visit in the spring to see the flowers which are at their best in October, some extending well into November.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NOTES ON ARTICLES IN GENERAL READING

G. Chippendale

Woodchip Industry at Eden: The Australian Timber Journal for June 1971 reported on the official opening of the chip mill on 8th May 1971. The mill was opened by the Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency Sir Roden Cutler.

At the opening, Mr. K. Saito, Managing Director of Daishowa Paper Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Japan, stated that Daishowa was one of the largest producers of pulp and paper products in Japan and for some years has been a purchaser of wood chips and pulp from various parts of the world. He went on to say, "As with all new projects of this type, we have experienced some delays in becoming operative, but it is now intended to consolidate the existing plant and bush operations to an extent which will ensure efficient, regular and high volume production of wood chips. This is to be followed by expansion into pulp production at the appropriate time; this is a matter which is at present the subject of feasibility studies. The "Nansho Maru" will now permanently service the Eden project and is expected to average 10 sailings per annum.

"A second ship of approximately 50,000 tons dead weight is in the course of construction and is expected to be commissioned in November or December of this year. This ship will also be on regular and permanent service between Eden and Japan.

"We believe that Daishowa have demonstrated their faith in the future of the Eden project and would like to express our appreciation of the very great co-operation Harris-Daishowa has had from the Australian people, particularly that of the New South Wales Government, through its Forestry Departments and other departments which have been involved and, of course, included in this are those Commonwealth Government Departments which have been most helpful.

"To all of those who have assisted in the development of this Eden project we say a sincere thank you and ask that this co-operation and assistance be maintained in the future.

"The Eden project is the first of its kind in Australia, it will be followed by others in other States and perhaps by additional projects in New South Wales."

The Minister for Mines and Conservation in New South Wales, the Hon. W. Fife, M.L.A., said "For many years foresters and others have surveyed these resources, attempted to protect them from fire and longed for the day when some form of utilisation would arise to supplement extraction of sawlogs, and in the earlier days, the cutting of railway sleepers." Mr. Fife mentioned that the Forestry Commission of New South Wales would be controlling the harvesting of the timber, and the replacement of the crop, in a manner which will progressively improve the condition of the forest estate on the far South Coast. He also said that there would be a greatly increased standard of protection against fire and that the network of roads would help in this. The value of the wood chip exports out of Eden would soon reach \$10 million a year, and total exports should amount to about \$300 million in the licence period of twenty years.

\* \* \* \* \*

FOREST PRODUCTS IN A.C.T.

G. Chippendale

In the A.P.M. News for March 1971, it was mentioned that Integrated Forest Products Pty. Ltd. is establishing a \$4.4 million complex on a 74-acre site on the Monaro Highway, about eight miles from Canberra. The first unit of the complex, the sawmill, is scheduled to begin producing sawn timber and chips towards the end of this year, and the veneer and plywood mill will start up in the first half of 1972.

The A.P.M. News continues that the industry is the first fully integrated forests products project in Australia. It will provide \$500,000 annually in royalty payments to the Commonwealth Government and enable the most efficient utilization and silvicultural management of the A.C.T.'s pine plantations. The recreation needs of Canberra people have been considered in the forest development plan. Thinning and clearing will enhance the beauty of the forests and new roads and fire trails will open additional attractive areas, in line of opening up the forests when they are fire safe.

The I.F.P. factory site will be made attractive with screens of trees.

\* \* \* \* \*

From the news bulletin of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, it was learnt that the Canadian Fisheries Department awards nine contracts totalling \$383,240 for research aimed at reducing water pollution caused by pulp and paper mills. The same bulletin mentioned that Canada's national and historic parks systems expanded at far greater rate in 1970 than ever before. Four new national parks added, bringing the total to 24.

DO COLOURED TISSUES POLLUTE?

G. Chippendale

In recent literature we have been urged to buy only white tissues and toilet paper, as the dyes in coloured tissues added to stream pollution. In the A.P.M. (Australian Paper Manufacturers) News for July-August 1971, there was an article which began with the statement: "The suggestion that coloured tissues pollute is believed to be a misconception with no foundation in fact."

A letter to consumers by Mr. Wayne L. Bildahl, Managing Director of Kimberly-Clark of Australia Pty. Ltd., a company owned 50% by A.P.M. and 50% by the Kimberly-Clark Corporation of U.S.A., says:

1. Dyes do not inhibit the decomposition or biodegradability of tissue products.
2. The rate at which dyes break down varies depending on the chemical structure of the dye.
3. Dyes used in tissue products generally show an affinity for the tissue itself or other types of solid or particulate matter.
4. The dyes are not toxic, will not kill fish or plant life, and do not promote algae growth in rivers or lakes.

Mr. Bildahl also wrote, "If you have, or know where we can obtain, specific information that dyed tissues add to the problem of protecting the environment, please tell us about it."

\* \* \* \* \*

LOCAL GEOLOGYGeology in the Black Mountain Reserve Area

by G.A.M. Henderson

(Permission to contribute this article has been given by the Director, Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics)

The Black Mountain Reserve is underlain almost entirely by sedimentary rocks. These rocks, which are between 420 and 470 million years old, were laid down mostly as sand and mud in a former sea. Later they were consolidated into sandstone, shale and mudstone, and were folded, faulted and uplifted to their present position.

The most common rock formation in the area is the Black Mountain Sandstone, and indeed it is the hard resistant nature of this rock to which Black Mountain owes its existence. The sandstone is visible in cuttings along Black Mountain Drive, where the bedded nature of the rock can be seen. Notice that the beds are dipping; this indicates that they have been tilted from the original horizontal position in which they were deposited. Notice also that the continuity of the beds is interrupted by faults, which are the planes along which masses of rocks have moved with respect to one another.



Apart from the Black Mountain Sandstone several other rock types occur within the area. One of these, a very hard blue-grey rock called chert, is derived from the accumulation of millions of tiny siliceous radiolaria skeletons. This rock can be seen in creeks which cross Caswell Drive on the western side of the reserve. The rock belongs to the Pittman Formation which also includes sandstone, shale and mudstone. Another rock, which is known as the Acton Shale, is a member of the Pittman Formation. It is a hard grey rock which splits easily along bedding planes to resemble a slate. It contains fossils called graptolites which can be used to determine the geological age. The rock was probably formed from wind - blown dust deposited in the sea. Outcrops of Acton Shale occur in the north-westcorner of the reserve near the junction of Belconnen Way and Caswell Drive.

At the southern foot of Black Mountain a shale, known as the State Circle Shale, crops out in a cutting in Lady Denman Drive. Like the Acton Shale this shale contains graptolites, but they are somewhat different from those in the Acton Shale. They indicate that the State Circle Shale is younger than the Acton Shale. Also at the southern foot of Black Mountain it can be seen that The State Circle Shale dips under the Black Mountain Sandstone, which indicates that the Shale is older than the Sandstone.

In addition to the outcrops mentioned above there are many other outcrops of geological interest in the Black Mountain Reserve area. It is proposed sometime in the near future to publish a geological map of the reserve, together with notes describing a number of localities of geological interest.

\* \* \* \* \*

BLACK MOUNTAIN REPORT

G. Chippendale

As N.P.A. members will know, this Association has been active for about ten years to achieve the declaration of Black Mountain as a reserve. At present it is declared a park, and is administered in an understanding way by the Department of the Interior. Indeed, since its declaration as a park, we have had excellent cooperation with the Department.

We held two walks on Black Mountain, one in September and one in October, and another one is planned for November, as many members want the opportunity to walk in the area and discuss the natural history of the place.

Recent news that the A.C.T. Advisory Board of Tourism had had designs for the proposed tower submitted to them by the P.M.G.'s Department was reported in the local press. This Board appears to favour a concrete structure incorporating a restaurant. Such a proposal is not what this Association would support, but no designs have been submitted to us.

In June of this year, our Association sent a letter to Mr. Hunt, Minister for the Interior, asking if there was to be a tower on Black Mountain, and if so, what type of tower. We also asked if some opportunity would be given for a public forum at which views might be expressed on this matter.

Mr. Hunt replied on 24th August :

"I refer again to your letter of 25 June 1971 in which you enquire whether the public will be afforded an opportunity to express their views in public forum on the proposed telecommunications tower on Black Mountain.

"The proposal for the provision of a telecommunications tower on Black Mountain is the responsibility of my colleague, the Postmaster-General. Design and construction is the responsibility of the Minister for Works, whilst the National Capital Development Commission is involved in matters of overall design and siting. My own Department's involvement stems from its responsibility for all administrative aspects arising out of the proposal such as the allocation of land, traffic control and other kindred matters.

"Whilst I appreciate your concern for the need for a public discussion, I am mindful at this stage that a proposal is being examined by the relevant Commonwealth Departments with a view to submitting recommendations to the Government.

"The normal practice followed with Government projects involving the erection of public buildings - and this would apply to the proposed Black Mountain tower - provides for an enquiry by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, which would be the proper stage for the discussion of matters relevant to the public interest. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works usually invites public bodies and the public generally to place evidence before it and I suggest that this would be the most appropriate time for your Association to raise any matters relating to the proposed tower. "

Yours sincerely,

Ralph J. Hunt

Recently, on behalf of our Association, I attended a meeting with members of the Society for Social Responsibility in Science, and discussed Black Mountain. The S.S.R.S. has originated a petition to the Senate, and our Association is actively supporting this petition. Consequently, a petition form is included with this copy of the Bulletin. You are urged to get signatures and return the form, whether completely filled or not, to

Dr. J. Kirk,  
S.S.R.S.,  
P.O. Box 48,  
O'CONNOR. A.C.T. 2601

Further, you are urged to add some extra weight to the petition and write personal letters to

Senator C.L. Laucke,  
Standing Committee for Social Environment,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600

In such letter, you should use your own words, but some points to consider are :

1. A huge concrete tower, incorporating a restaurant, is undesirable aesthetically.
2. Such a tower would unbalance the present town plan.
3. If essential, any tower should be as unobtrusive as possible.
4. Consideration should be given to the effects of such a tower on the surrounding reserve.
5. Technical reasons should be made public as to why such a tower is needed, and why it is planned for Black Mountain. (At present our understanding is that the proposed tower is basically for radio-telephony which is at present carried out from Red Hill, but that the tower would also be able to serve the purpose of the present TV masts.)
6. Such a tower will lessen the value of the reserve.
7. Full consideration should be given to the environmental effects of Black Mountain as an area of natural beauty which is a backdrop to our city.

\* \* \* \* \*

SENIOR WINNING ESSAY

by Cathy Carney

(Discuss the statement "That environmental degradation is a crime compounded of ignorance, greed, affluence and apathy")

Without any doubt environmental degradation is a crime. Even when not prohibited by some specific law, any damage to the environment in which we live is a crime in the sense that it has far reaching detrimental effects on the health and well being of animals, plants and of man.

Environmental degradation can take many forms, from the simple depositing of rubbish to the more serious effects of erosion or the pollution of waterways and the atmosphere. In all cases, they arise from ignorance to a certain degree, greed, affluence and apathy.

Ignorance has been the prime cause of many changes in our own Australian environment. In past years the Prickly Pear was introduced as a garden plant and it was not considered as a threat to the environment. It did however spread, in the sub-tropical areas, to take complete possession of millions of acres of fertile country and was only eradicated by the expenditure of much time, energy and money. Similarly, the many insecticides were used in ignorance of their full effects. At first they were welcomed as effective controls for various injurious insects. It was only in later years that other damaging effects were recognised. This was shown with D.D.T. which has been proved to accumulate in animal fat and destroys fish in streams polluted with it.

Greed is also associated with ignorance. Many industrial enterprises have discharged waste products into rivers and the ocean without fully realising the damage to the environment which might follow. This form of sumping wastes is

probably cheaper than finding other ways of disposing waste products, and it is used as it reduces expenditure and so increases profits. The newer forms of pollution such as atomic wastes, poisonous gases and oil from tankers are being dumped into the oceans. It is unknown what the long term effects will be, but it can be assumed that they will not be beneficial.

The affluent society in which we live means that production of many commodities has increased with a consequent increase in industrial wastes, in ordinary garbage and in the disposal of such articles made from plastic. This latter substance does not readily decompose and is to be found as litter throughout the country and is also reported as forming an impenetrable layer on the floor of many harbours throughout the world. The affluence of the present day means that ordinary people, as well as industries, throw more things away and these accumulate to the detriment of the whole environment. All towns and cities have problems in disposing of waste. In some areas it is burnt or buried, but the great dumps of car bodies to be seen outside any town indicate that the problems of the affluent society are not yet solved.

Apathy on the part of the people as a whole has led to many forms of pollution being continued unchecked. It is only in fairly recent times that air pollution, caused by car exhausts in the form of noxious gases and from smoke, which causes 'smog' over the cities, has been the cause of real concern. This has been brought about because it has reached the stage of causing discomfort and even of affecting the health of many people.

Environmental degradation has been caused by man and it is now recognised that, in the words of an American biologist, "Ecology is the most perishable item to come along in years". It is evident also that man must make every endeavour to repair the damage that has already been done to the environment and to prevent any further damage resulting from his changing technologies. Some activity in this direction has already been undertaken. Publicity has created an awareness of the problems of pollution to our waterways, to the atmosphere and to the land. As these are the basis of life it is clear that education is necessary to preserve them and in some cases laws must be made and enforced against the crime of pollution.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### REFERENCES:

Russell L. Hamm, Larry Nason - An Ecological Approach to Conservation.

Rachel Carson - Silent Spring.

Various publications of the Wildlife and Conservation Sections of the C.S.I.R.O.  
Reports of the Rural Reconstruction Commission . 1-6.

Newsweek Magazine - January, 1970.

\* \* \* \* \*

Notes of the address "Ecological Effects of the Wood-chip Industry", given to the National Parks Association on 16th September, 1971, by K.G. Eldridge.

## INTRODUCTION

The Australian Conservation Foundation has stated that true conservation is total conservation :- "The wisest possible use, over a long term, of all our natural resources, applied for the benefit of man".

Environmental conservation does NOT just mean preservation in what we often call "the natural state". It means MANAGEMENT of the natural environment and management of natural resources for the benefit of man.

I would like to introduce the idea that a forest can be managed not only for the production of wood but also for water supply, birds and animals, wildflowers, and for recreation.

As a text for this evening we could take a quotation from a letter to the Canberra Times on 28 July 1971, signed by Enderby, Brown, Davidson and Fitz-Gerald :- "How many people will gain from a chipwood industry? And how many both now and in the future, will lose?"

## WHAT ARE EUCALYPT CHIPS USED FOR?

Chips are used for pulp to make paper. (Chips are easier to transport than logs.) There is an enormous and rapidly increasing demand. Back in the 1920's Australian chemists were among the first in the world to show that good paper can be made from hardwoods, especially eucalypts, even though their fibres are much shorter (1 mm) than those of conifers such as spruce (3 mm) which were the traditional raw materials.

Why do the Japanese suddenly want our eucalypt chips?

1. New pulping and paper making technology.
2. Short fibred pulps in mixture with long fibred improve the surface properties and strength of some writing, printing and wrappings, in other papers they just fill the gaps.
3. Japanese mills cannot get enough elsewhere.
4. Our chips are cheap.

## EXISTING EUCALYPT PULPWOOD HARVESTING OPERATIONS

Rough guesses at annual cut :-

A.P.M., eastern Victoria, about 5,000 acres.

southern Tasmania, about 3,000 acres.

A.N.M., southern Tasmania, about 3,000 acres.

A.P.P.M., northern Tasmania, about 2,000 acres.

1971 Total, about 1,000 - 15,000 ac.

For export:-

Eden - about 10,000 acres per year, 1971

Two companies on Crown lands in eastern and north-easter Tasmania.

1972 total about 25,000-30,000 acres.

One company on private lands northern Tasmania, 10,000 acres, 1972.

All these operations produce sawn timber as well as chips for pulping.

(Quote from R.G. Gardener, Aust. Timber Journal, May 1971. pp. 49, 50)

### CASE HISTORIES

#### BOOLA BOOLA

Australian Paper Manufacturers Ltd. have been harvesting eucalypt pulpwood in the Boola Boola State Forest in Gippsland, 100 miles east of Melbourne, for nearly 30 years. The mixture of eucalypt species, the climate and soils are similar to those along the south coast of N.S.W. near Eden, and to some parts of eastern and north eastern Tasmania.

At Boola there is nearly a quarter of a million acres of low to moderate quality forest. The forest is close to the pulpmill, 5 to 20 miles. The forest was in degraded condition after a century of selective logging and frequent bushfires. A carefully designed system of logging roads was laid out and consequently fire prevention was introduced.

Clear falling in the early 1950's has resulted in some excellent pulpwood forest. No expenditure was made to encourage regeneration and fire was not used. The objective of getting as much wood as possible from each acre of this forest type just happened to be a suitable condition for adequate regeneration and restoration of a habitat for wildlife. The more trees removed the more light there is for the establishment of seedlings. Most eucalypts demand light and will not grow up under the shade of large trees. Parts of Boola forest logged about 1950 are almost ready for harvesting again. Forest science will enable us to keep on harvesting useful wood every 30 years or so indefinitely, perhaps for hundreds of years.

#### FLORENTINE VALLEY

Australian Newsprint Mills Ltd. in the Florentine Valley, near Maydena in southern Tasmania have succeeded in controlling the process of natural regeneration of three fast-growing eucalypts by using intense fires to form a seed bed. Before this method was developed very poor regeneration occurred after logging and the high productive potential of the forest land was wasted.

#### COFFS HARBOUR

High growth rates are being achieved in growing crops of eucalypt pulpwood with intensive management - well prepared land, seedlings grown in a nursery,

weed control and fertilising after planting. The same methods are being used in eastern Victoria.

#### PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY

Price, quantity and quality of wood.

Site of processing mill, avoiding pollution and ugliness, close to wood, water and workers.

Logging, clear felling.  
avoiding ugliness and erosion, do not cut on stream banks, steepest slopes, roadsides, or near beaches or settlements.

Debarking - in the bush, to recycle nutrients and avoid pollution at mill.

Size of coupe - maintain and enhance diversity of age classes.

Regeneration - growing trees as a crop.

Fauna - allow for refuges for recolonisation.

Fire control.

Public access - visitors might pay.

#### MANAGEMENT

Forest scientists now have the technological skills to manage eucalypt forests. Most of the problems of the industry can be solved in most of the forest areas of south eastern Australia by planned management for multiple use of the forests - wood, water, wildlife and recreation. The balance between how many people will gain and how many will lose from a woodchip industry will depend on the quality of management of the job.

The woodchip industry has the potential to be a disaster or a success. We already have the technological skills for success, we now need good planning and, above all, good management.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### TIDBINBILLA NATURE RESERVE

by: D.L. Strusz

(Permission to contribute this article has been given by the Director, Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics, Canberra)

Most people who visit the Tidbinbilla Reserve do so to look at the animals and birds, or to enjoy the walks through the forests. But how many think to look at the rocks? Yet they help to make the Reserve such a pleasant place.

The valley has been cut in granite, and is framed by the high southwestern ridge of resistant quartz-rich sandstone. The rocks themselves are old - the

granite was intruded as molten rock into the older sediments about 400 million years ago - but the landscape is young. It only started to assume its present shape 10 million years ago, or so. Prolonged weathering had produced a thick soil cover, particularly over the granite. When the whole region was uplifted about 10 to 15 million years ago, this was relatively rapidly removed by the action of running water (particularly as floods).

When the granite cooled, it contracted, and cracked in various directions. Later weathering was most rapid along these cracks, called joints by geologists, so that there were left in the deep mantle of soil isolated blocks of unweathered rock, called corestones. These became increasingly rounded as weathering continued, until the process was interrupted by the soil being removed from around them. This exposed the corestones at the surface, as 'tors', often stacked one above the other, and sometimes forming spectacular scenic features.

The Department of the Interior has a pamphlet, describing in somewhat more detail these features as they can be seen at various marked places along the Turkey Hill Trail. There is also a general pamphlet on the geology of the reserve. Ask at the Information Centre for them.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### MEETINGS

##### NOVEMBER

DATE: Thursday, 18th November, 1971, at 8.00 p.m.  
 PLACE: Griffin Centre, Room 1, Bunda Street, Canberra City.  
 FEATURE: Guest speaker Mr. John Gray, a lecturer at the College of Advanced Education, speaking on "Citizen Action on Environmental Issues".

Visitors Welcome

There are no meetings in December and January

#### OUTINGS

##### NOVEMBER

DATE: Saturday, 6th, Sunday, 7th, November 1971.  
 PLACE: Jervis Bay.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: Caves Beach Camping area at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday, 6th. (Allow 4 hours travelling from Canberra. The quickest route is via the Federal & Hume Highways; take the Illawarra Highway turnoff to Moss Vale, and proceed on to Nowra. Turnoff to Jervis Bay is approx. 8 miles south of Nowra, along the Princes Highway).  
 LEADER: Mr. J. Baker (Work phone: 492634)  
 FEATURE: Walks through wildflower areas and the Botanical Gardens annexe. Emphasis will be on the various types of coastal vegetation, their respective floristic compositions and problems involved in their



conservation. Further details will be announced at the October monthly meeting. Nomination forms to reach the Excursions Subcommittee by Monday, 1st November.

P.S. Leader requires a lift !

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NOVEMBER

DATE: Saturday, 13th November, 1971 - half day outing.  
 PLACE: Black Mountains.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: At 2.00 p.m., off Caswell Drive, about 0.5 miles from the junction with Lady Denman Drive on the right-hand side going towards Belconnen, where a track leads on to the mountain and there is ample parking space.  
 LEADER: Mr. G. Chippendale (Phone: Home - 812454).  
 FEATURE: An easy ramble on tracks with wanders into the bushland to view the spring wildflowers. This outing is very suitable for families.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NOVEMBER

DATE: Saturday, 20th - Sunday, 21st November, 1971.  
 PLACE: Budawangs Mountains.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: 9.00 a.m. at the Canberra airport, just beyond the garage.  
 LEADER: Bob Story (Phone: Home - 812174)  
 FEATURE: Outing to the western part of the Budawangs. We go through Braidwood, then on the Nerriga road (dirt) for about 22 miles to a signpost MONGARLOWE, then another 15 or so, say 100 all told. The last five miles are rough and we'll have to take a chance on being "rained in". We will make for the shelter of a sandstone overhang at the end of a four mile walk, and with any luck camp there for the night. Next day back via the natural arch and Admiration Point, say 10 miles of easy walking. Bring a tent if you have one and leave it in the car where we park, in case you would prefer to camp there or in case the overhang is occupied ( a remote possibility ). Water available.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NOVEMBER

DATE: Sunday, 28th November, 1971.  
 PLACE: Monga State Forest.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: At 9.00 a.m. at the corner of Dalby Street and Canberra Avenue (near old markets). It may not be necessary to take all the cars, if some people would take passengers.  
 FEATURE: There is a two hour drive to the forest, beyond Braidwood. The day will be spent looking at wildflowers and ferns. It is hoped that the waratahs will be in bloom.

DECEMBER

DATE: Sunday, 5th December, 1971.  
 PLACE: Tidbinbilla Faunal Reserve.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: Rangers office at the reserve at 9.30 a.m. Allow an hour for the drive via Cotter from Canberra.  
 LEADER: Mick Hardware (Phone: Home - 861915).  
 FEATURE: A walk of 2 - 2½ hours along a new track in the area. Bring a packed lunch if you intend going on this walk. There are barbecue areas available for those who want to go on the short walks only.

\* \* \* \* \*

DECEMBER

DATE: Saturday evening, 11th December, 1971. 5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.  
 PLACE: Blue Range Hut.  
 DIRECTIONS: Coming from Cotter, turn left at Uriarra homestead into Brindabella - Mt. Franklin Road. Turn right onto track 3.2 miles from Uriarra homestead. The track to be taken is on the right-hand side of the road and is a short distance uphill beyond a track leading off to the left (Lee Creek Road) marked with a yellow P.M.G. sign. Follow track for 1.6 miles to Picnic area, passing under power lines and over grid.

ARRANGEMENTS: Wine, cheese and biscuits will be provided. Bring your own meat for barbecuing, bread and butter, etc. Cooking will be permitted indoors only - on stove or members' burners.

ENQUIRIES: Ian Currie (W. 958107; H. 958112); W.R. Watson (H. 816601); Keith Green (H. 491058).

\* \* \* \* \*

JANUARY 1972

DATE: Sunday, 16th January, 1972.  
 PLACE: Smokers Flat.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: Corin Dam turn-off, on Cotter-Tharwa road at 10.00 a.m.  
 LEADER: Laurie Adams.  
 FEATURE: Short walks through sub-alpine woodland and interesting swampy meadow vegetation containing some unusual plant species. Bring a packed lunch, and footwear suitable for swampy conditions.

\* \* \* \* \*

JANUARY

DATE: Australia Day long weekend, 29th - 31st January.  
 PLACE: Kosciusko National Park.  
 MEETING  
 PLACE: Rangers office, Sawpit Creek, 11.00 a.m.  
 LEADER: Mick Hardware (Phone: Home - 861915)  
 FEATURE: About 22 people will be able to book into the Alpine Club Hut at Perisher Valley. Others can camp at Sawpit Creek camping area. There will be two half-day walks on Saturday afternoon and Monday morning, and a full day walk on the Sunday. Good stout walking shoes are essential ! Sunday's walk will set out from Sawpit Creek.  
 A trip nomination form to reach the Excursion Sub-committee by Monday, 24th January.

\* \* \* \* \*

WHY CLUTHA COUNTRY !

(from a "National Trust" publication. The Trust is leading the protest against this latest despoilation of our country)

"Under the Clutha Development Pty. Ltd., Agreement Act passed by the New South Wales Parliament in November, 1970, Clutha Development Pty. Ltd., an American company is to be allowed to construct a private railway 40 miles long, to haul coal from Burratorang Valley, and to establish a dump of up to one million tons of fine crushed coal with particles of dust finer than beach sand, on the Illawarra escarpment above Coalcliff. From this dump the coal will travel, by conveyor belt, down the mountainside, over the cliff-face and along a jetty a mile long. Eight square miles of ocean is to be set aside as port area for the company's use. "Clutha Country" can extend even further to the towns or villages of Picton, Thirlmere, Tahmoor or Bargo or nearby localities or to other areas in or near the Burratorang Valley, wherever the company or any associated company, now or in the future, owns or operates a mine. Under the Clutha Act, all lands required by the company will be resumed or appropriated by the Government and rented to the company under a lease for mining purposes for 50 years.

Many laws which have been devised to protect the public interest are being set aside to further the Clutha interest.

When development is stretching out in a great dreary arc from Newcastle to Wollongong, any remaining green and open landscape is now becoming "special country" to be valued and kept green and open. The proposed Illawarra State Park will be viewed dimly through a haze of coal dust.

\* \* \* \* \*

TO The Excursion Sub-committee,  
N.P.A. Inc. of the A.C.T.  
Box 457, P.O.,  
CANBERRA CITY. A.C.T. 2601

I/We wish to join the outing to . . . . .  
on . . . . .

I/We will be accompanied by . . . . .  
. . . . .

I/We will proceed by private transport  
b) will need transport  
c) can provide transport for . . . . . other persons.

I and my guests agree to be bound by the rules and by-laws of the Association  
and to take part in the above field outing entirely at our own risk.

NAME: . . . . . ADDRESS: . . . . .

PHONE NO. HOME: . . . . . WORK: . . . . .

SIGNATURE: . . . . .

Please forward to reach organisers by the Monday preceeding the trip.

-----

TO The Excursions Sub-committee,  
N.P.A. Inc. of the A.C.T.,  
Box 457, P.O.,  
CANBERRA CITY. A.C.T. 2601

I/We wish to join the outing to . . . . .  
on . . . . .

I/We will be accompanied by . . . . .  
. . . . .

I/We will proceed by private transport  
b) will need transport  
c) can provide transport for . . . . . other persons.

I and my guests agree to be bound by the rules and by-laws of the Association  
and to take part in the above field outing entirely at our own risk.

NAME: . . . . . ADDRESS: . . . . .

PHONE NO. HOME: . . . . . WORK: . . . . .

SIGNATURE: . . . . .

Please forward to reach the organisers by the Monday preceeding the trip.

---