Jim Cayford

As I write this column, National Forest Week, May 1-7, is just ahead of us. Much activity and enthusiasm has been generated for our special week which has its theme "Forests: Growing Futures". I am aware that many of our sections and individual members are helping to meet a resolution passed at our 1982 annual meeting that there be increased participation by the Institute in National Forest Week in 1983. I will be attending ceremonies on May 2 at Smoky Lake, Alberta to mark the designation of this county as Forestry Capital of Canada for 1983. Smoky Lake is the location of the Alberta Forest Service Pine Ridge Nursery which is producing 36 million white spruce and lodgepole pine seedlings for forest renewal. Later in the week I will be participating in two tree planting ceremonies in Sault Ste. Marie, one sponsored by our Central Ontario Section and the other by the Great Lakes Forest Research Centre of the Canadian Forestry Service.

Between February and April, forestry ring ceremonies were held at six universities and a total of 412 rings were presented. The CIF/IFC has presented silver rings to all Canadian forestry graduates since 1967, and it is fitting that the one national organization of foresters should present an identical ring to all graduates of forestry in Canada to demonstrate their common professional interests. It is our policy that a member of the Executive Committee participate in each ring

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ceremony; this year George Garner was at Lakehead, Jim Clark at Alberta, Gilbert Paillé at Laval and I was at New Brunswick, Toronto and British Columbia. The Executive is impressed with the calibre of graduates, but their enthusiasm is dampened by their dismal job prospects. Hopefully with an improving economic climate there will be more opportunities in the future.

Two of the resolutions passed at Prince George dealt with forest utilization and marketing. Resolution 82.15 recommended that governments and industries develop incentives and programs for the harvest and utilization of currently non-merchantable species and residues while Resolution 82.16 emphasized the need for governments and industry to allocate more funds to research on market and product development, including appropriate tax incentives and additional venture capital to meet technology transfer requirements. Responses were received from most agencies to whom the resolutions were directed and several replies to each resolution are printed elsewhere in this issue.

Members of your Executive attempt to visit as many sections as possible during each year. These visits are indispensable in providing us with an insight into section activities. Since the annual meeting we have been able to visit with 18 of the 23 sections.

There has been general support for the decision taken at Prince George that the CIF/IFC and the four provincial professional foresters associations form a Cana-

dian Federation of Professional Foresters Associations. Our first collaborative project is well underway and involves the preparation of a statement on the use of herbicides in forest management. A second project will involve the preparation of a brief on forestry to be presented to the Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Projects for Canada. As a first step, Gilbert Paillé, Bob Bouchier and myself met in late April with the Hon. Donald S. Macdonald, Chairman, and Her Excellency Mrs. Jean Casselman-Wadds, Commissioner. The purpose of this meeting was to review the process whereby organizations can make their views known to the Commission and to discuss forestry issues that might be addressed by the Commission. We are now establishing a steering committee to oversee the preparation of a brief which is to be submitted in late 1983. Meanwhile, we are maintaining and expanding our contacts with the professional associations. I attended the annual meetings of the New Brunswick and British Columbia associations; a very successful CIF/IFC breakfast was held at the latter. Meetings have also been held with the presidents of the Ontario and Quebec associations. It remains my view that it is important to expand and strengthen these contacts and that we must develop more communication and cooperation within the broad forest constituency.

J.H. Cayford
President

Planting crew, Cooking Lake Forest, east of Edmonton, 1917.