



Kapuskasing Logging Camp 1936-1938

Gib Carleton's experiences as a young man in the forests of northern Ontario, recorded in notebooks and later on cassette tapes by his son Neil over a 30-year period between 1978 and 2008. Neil Carleton is a naturalist and former teacher living in Almonte, Ontario.

Jack Tracy from Ardbeg, south of Sudbury, who married one of the Simpson girls from Dunchurch, also well south of Sudbury, was the first one from the area to be a logging camp foreman around Kapuskasing. When he was home for a visit, Dad went to see him about a job. Jack would tell you to come to his camp to do such and such a job, piece-work to start. If you knew Jack, you might get a day job, paid by the day, to repair camp windows and things like that.

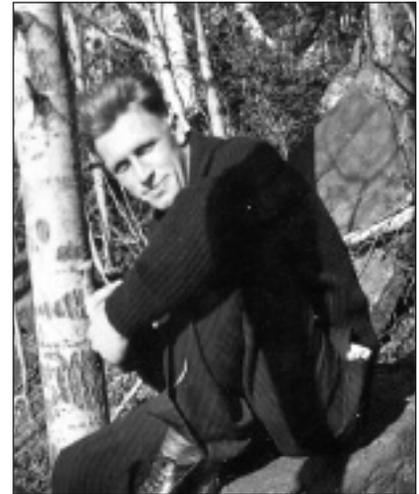
Jobs were scarce but not many boys in Dunchurch would go that far north to look for work. To get there, you'd have to have enough money to stay in a hotel for a few days. At Kapuskasing,

you'd go to the woods department of the employment office and ask for a specific camp. You'd ask for Jack Tracy's camp, #28. It was 48 miles from town and it would take two days to walk into the camp.

When Dad was hired on, the Assistant Foreman of the camp was Cecil LaBrash (Mom's first cousin) from Maple Island, son of Jim LaBrash (Mom's uncle). There were a few others in the camp like Dad who started with day jobs.

Dad worked well with horses and was later recognized for this. Not many people in the north, he explained to me, had horse experience. It wasn't long before he was a teamster. Dad recalled having some choice in selecting horses for the camp, and remembered having the biggest team in the bush.

He told me about skidding logs one time from a ridge of white and yellow birch. The previous guys cut just enough to keep ahead. Dad and two others asked to take it on with a week of

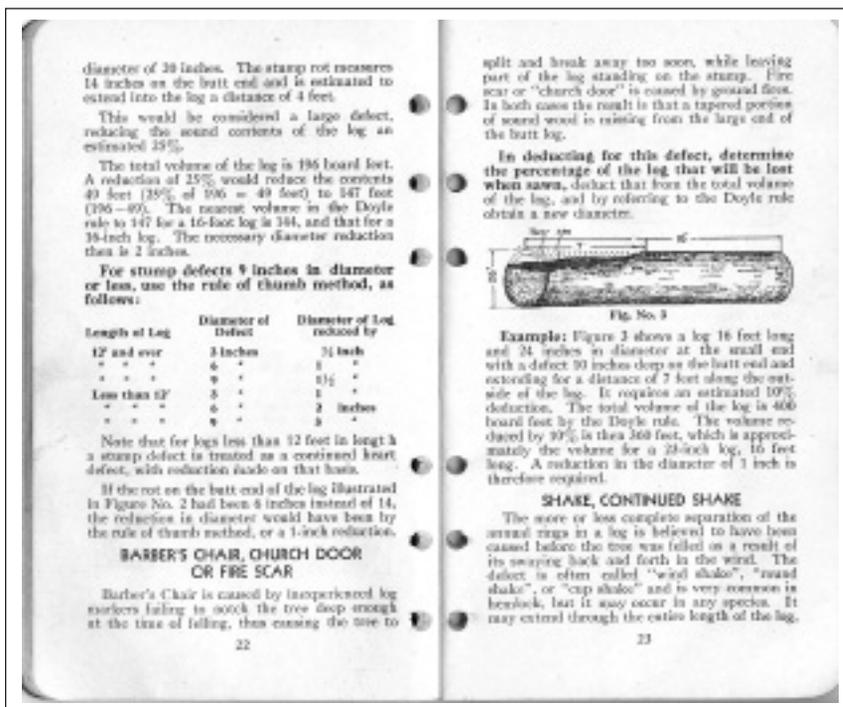


Gib Carleton before heading north to a logging camp, fall of 1935, age 20.

good hard work. You had to show a little more interest, he explained, that you were a little sharper and would take the extra step. He would cut too if there was extra time. The logs were skidded down in lengths and the tree tops were too small for pulpwood. He mentioned that the guys in camp who fluffed it would have to cut it out front for the cookhouse with a bucksaw.

On Sundays he would fix any horse harnesses that needed attention and get ready for the coming week. Van Simpson and Dave Simpson from the Dunchurch area were also teamsters at the camp.

It was after Dad proved himself by showing he was a good worker that he was encouraged to work towards his scaler's licence, and write the test when he was ready. The scaler's job was to measure the diameter and length of logs that were cut, and to estimate any big pile of logs because you wouldn't have time to get to them all. The best way to get the necessary experience was to be taken on as an apprentice with an experienced scaler, usually a middle-aged man. With a waxed chalk, the scaler would mark the log butts blue or black, as big as your thumb. The tally man, a separate job, accompanied the scaler in



Gib's Scaler's Manual of Scaling Instructions.

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a logging camp to record log diameters and lengths - 8', 12', 16'. Pulpwood was cut in 4' lengths.

A cutter wouldn't get paid for piece work until his logs were scaled. In areas where timber was scarce, you might get paid by the day. You had to buy your own axe and take it with you wherever you went. The camp provided long crosscut saws, and later bucksaws or Swede saws with steel frames.

In the bush you'd cut the tree just above the snow, limb it and pile the limbs up. A team of horses would skid the logs out to a skidway, a winter road, where they were piled to be scaled. The logs would be hoisted up onto the pile with a jammer, maneuvered by a team of horses.

Dad obtained his scaler's licence, and was later offered to manage a camp with 200 men for the Spruce Falls

Power and Paper Company. He was only twenty-one.

It was his friend Dave Simpson who told Dad to leave Kapuskasing to get a good job in the mines of the Sudbury area. Dad thought it over for a while, left the camp, and got a job in the fall of 1938 working underground at Laveck, about thirty miles from Sudbury. He went to Crowley's bunk-house and cookhouse to live.



NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL NEWS ❖ NOUVELLES NATIONALES/INTERNATIONALES

FSC Canada's Forest Management Standard Technical Expert Panels

FSC Canada is currently undergoing the process to revise and align its National Forest Management Standards—National Boreal Standard (2004), Maritimes Standard (2008), BC Standard (2005) and Great Lakes–St. Lawrence draft Standard (2010) with revised Principles and Criteria and International Generic Indicators.

In carrying out this important work, FSC Canada has assembled six Technical Expert Panels to assist with the development of the Canadian Forest Management Standard in six key the-

matic areas. These Panels will provide technical guidance and recommendations to FSC Canada to be considered when developing normative measures, e.g., indicators and supplementary materials where needed.

The six Technical Expert Panels are the following:

- Principle 6, 9 and 10 (from the new Principles and Criteria–v.5): Ecological and Operational Consideration
- Species at Risk (Caribou)
- Pesticides, Conversion and Invasive Species

- Principle 3: Aboriginal Rights, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Community and Stakeholder Rights (legal and customary)
- Scale, Intensity and Risk, including Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests (SLIMF)

FSC Canada is pleased to have a total of 29 experts to participate in these six panels. For a list of the experts, see: ca.fsc.org/technical-expert-panels.319.

FSC Canada présente les Groupes d'experts technique de la norme d'aménagement forestier

FSC Canada est actuellement en processus pour réviser et harmoniser ses normes régionales d'aménagement forestier—norme boréale nationale (2004), norme des Maritimes (2008), norme de la Colombie-Britannique (2005) et norme préliminaire Grands Lacs St-Laurent (2010) avec les principes et critères révisés et les indicateurs génériques internationaux.

Pour réaliser cette étape importante du travail de révision, FSC Canada a mis sur pied six Groupes d'experts techniques pour aider au développement de la norme canadienne d'aménagement forestier dans six domaines thématiques

clés. Ces Groupes fourniront des conseils techniques et des recommandations à FSC Canada. Ces conseils et recommandations seront considérés lors de l'élaboration de mesures normatives, par exemple, des indicateurs et du matériel supplémentaire si nécessaire.

Les six Groupes d'experts techniques sont les suivants:

- Principes 6, 9 et 10 (des nouveaux Principes et Critères–v.5): Considérations écologiques et opérationnelles;
- Espèces en péril (caribou);
- Pesticides, conversion et les espèces envahissantes;

- Principe 3: Droits autochtones, incluant le consentement libre, préalable et éclairé;
- Droits des communautés et des parties prenantes (juridique et coutumier);
- Échelle, intensité et risque, y compris les forêts de petites dimensions et d'aménagement de faible intensité (PDAFI).

FSC Canada est heureux d'avoir un total de 29 experts qui participent à ces six Groupes. Cliquez ici ca.fsc.org/technical-expert-panels.319 pour plus d'informations.