

In Sweden and Norway also I found that M.R.A. was becoming a powerful factor in overcoming division and strife in industry and throughout the life of the countries. In Britain the ideology of Moral Re-armament was gaining ground; and its influence in the coalfields was of great value to the nation.

In the field of industrial relations this positive force for combating strife and division was the most significant thing I discovered in the course of my tour.

APPENDIX I—THE PROMOTION OF FARM FORESTRY IN FINLAND

By Dr. N. A. OSARA, Helsinki

Because many of the members of the World Forestry Congress have inquired about the way in which the promoting of farm forestry in Finland has been organized and because there is no up-to-date publication reporting this matter in English, I'll try to give you a little survey on the subject.

The actual Law for Private Forestry is not the first one; it was preceded by the Forestry Laws of the years 1917 and 1886. The organization we have now was developed gradually from these laws. And even behind these old laws there was a long course of development. It can be mentioned that the first law concerning forests was enacted in the year 1647. The democratic spirit of the Finnish people has established through centuries a certain knowledge that forests belong to the whole nation and that a single person cannot be allowed to harm them.

I will not repeat all the paragraphs of the Private Forestry Law, but I want to point out some of them. In the first and the second paragraph there are stipulations about what it is forbidden and what it is allowed to do with forests. In paragraph 3 are set out the penalties for acts contrary to the stipulations.

The Finnish Law for Private Forestry is so far a prohibitory law, in which there is not enough advice for positive forest management. We are aware of the fact, and a committee appointed by the government is working up a new law concerning private forests. It seems apparent that in the near future the existing Private Forestry Law will be replaced with a new one, a Forest Management Law, involving considerably more positive features and stipulations on effective forest management.

Many paragraphs in the Private Forest Law deal with the consequences of false management of forests and with the so-called closing of the forest. Further there are stipulations about the liability to pay the costs of reforestation work in case of devastation. The land-owner and the owner of the felling right are both responsible. In Finland much timber is sold on the stump, and in that case the buyer often, especially in earlier days, decided which trees were to be cut.

Now I shall describe the organization which has been created by the Law for Promoting Private Forestry. Beginning from below there are the Communal Forestry Boards, consisting of three members in every commune. This Board receives notice of tree-felling given by the forest owner, and its members are present when inspections of devastated forests are made.

The proper hull of the field organization is built up by the District Forest Conservation Boards, eighteen in number. As a rule, the Board consists of at least three, but often of five, regular members and as many deputies. The law provides the Boards with the power of authority and the application of the first and second paragraph in the Private Forestry Law decisively depends on the Boards' consideration.

As the central organizations for the District Forest Conservation Boards there are two Central Forestry Associations, one for the Finnish-speaking area ("Tapio") with sixteen Boards subordinated, and another one for the Swedish-speaking area with two subordinate Boards. In addition to the District Forest Boards, the Central Forestry Association has other members, as a remainder of earlier practice before the year 1928, but, in fact, only the District Forest Conservation Boards have any significance. The Central Forestry Association is led by the Administrative Board and by the Board of Directors, which consist of the most prominent and leading persons among forest owners.

The Central Forestry Association has the form of a free organization, in spite of its authoritative role, and the State exerts no other control on the Central Forestry Association, or on the District Forest Conservation Boards, than to see that the Private Forestry Law is complied with and that the grant is used for the purposes dictated.

Thus we come to the highest organ, to the Forest Service. There is a special department for private forestry questions, although it consists of only one single person, and its main task is to see that private forestry work is granted sufficient money in the State Budget. Of course, above the Forest Service there are the Government and the Diet.

An annual grant provides the organization with money. Beyond that the District Forest Conservation Boards acquire means by charging for forest operations executed. The charge doesn't cover the costs, but it is preferred to collect this charge for two reasons. First, as a matter of principle it is not considered right that the State should pay for all the silvicultural work carried out in private forests, and second, the forest owners value the aid more if they have to pay for it.

Additional income the organization acquires by supplying seed and plants, and by publishing books and a forest newspaper.