

Images of the Past: The First 50 Years of Forest Entomology on the Pacific Slope

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I want to thank my sponsor, Ken Raffa, the Founder's Award committee and members of the Work conference for honoring me with this award and giving me the opportunity to address you tonight.

My talk is dedicated to the memory of Bill MacCambridge. He was one of my early mentors on the 1951 spruce beetle project here in Colorado. He was also a close friend and super skiing buddy. He contributed a great deal to our profession and the Work Conference.

In 1950 the second Western Forest Insect Work Conference was held in nearby Fort Collins at the Armstrong Hotel. Room rates were \$1.75 without bath, \$2.75 with bath, Registration fee was \$1.00 and dues were \$1.00. Hec Richmond of the Victoria B.C. laboratory was chairman and there were 28 attendees. F.P. Keen, head of the Berkeley Forest Insect lab allowed entomologists wanting to attend from Berkeley, \$58.00 for round trip Pullman coach fare, or \$7.00 per day per diem if they drove a private vehicle with no mileage allowance. We have come a long way in 58 years, at least in terms of inflation.

By now you can probably guess the theme of my address. As many of you know, I have become enthralled with history. This seems to be an affliction that advances with age. But history is more than recounting the past; it is also how we all will be judged by future generations. So it behooves us to get things right to the best of our abilities.

I want to show you a series of images of the first 50 years of Forest Entomology in California, Oregon and Washington, or the "Pacific Slope", where many of our professional roots were established. I apologize for having so little history to offer about our profession in British Columbia. I hope some Canadian in the audience will rectify that gap.

I will show you mostly pictures of our founders and their personal lives, and some highlights of their contributions. I will keep my comments brief in favor of showing numerous images. More detail can be found in my recently published biographies of pioneers H.E. Burke and J. Miller.

Slides were used to illustrate some pioneer entomologists and their lives. In addition, there were pictures of their modes of transportation, forest insect stations and control camps, examples of bark beetle outbreaks, survey methods, bark beetle control, defoliator problems and aerial spraying pesticides. Some closing comments were made about the rewarding profession called Forest Entomology.