



1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

2. MUSIC: THEME

3. ANNOUNCER: When we speak of forests most of us think only of the
4. trees. But there's more to a forest than that.

5. Growing under the trees and in the many large and small openings in the
6. forest are grass and weeds and many leafy bushes and shrubs known as
7. browse. In some places this intermingled growth of smaller forest plants
8. is of equal importance and sometimes of even more importance than the
9. trees. In the case of our great national forests of the West for instance,
10. forest grasses and shrubs support huge and growing herds of wildlife --
11. deer and elk. They help protect watersheds and build up forest soil. And
12. finally the forest grasses provide sufficient forage for 25,000 ranchers
13. to pasture more than five million cattle, sheep, horses and goats under
14. paid and free permits administered by the Forest Service. A large
15. percentage of these thousands of western livestock growers are entirely
16. dependent on use of the national forest pastures for their livelihood.
17. And indirectly each one of us is more or less dependent on them too. The
18. next time you step into a new pair of shoes, slip into a new wool sweater,
19. or sit down to a good leg of lamb or juicy beef steak, remember those
20. may all have had their origin in some western national forest. Well now
21. for another visit with our friends of the Pine Cone National Forest. As
22. we look in today we find Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant ranger Jerry
23. Quick in their Forest Service pickup driving over to Steve Thompson's
24. ranch to attend a meeting of the Pine Cone Live Stock Association. Here
25. they are ---

FADE IN SOUND OF PICKUP IN MOTION AND BACK

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1. JERRY: I'm tellin' you Jim it hasn't got a chance in a million.
2. Steve Thompson's got all the members primed and cocked
3. against it.

4. JIM: U-m-m.

5. JERRY: As far as their voting to spend that money on a drift
6. fence is concerned we might just as well forget it.

7. JIM: (CHUCKLES) These fellows wouldn't be cowmen if they
8. weren't against a fence. That's a matter of tradition.

9. JERRY: Yeah but imagine...wantin' to spend the money on that
10. larkspur elimination project! Tryin' to dig out that
11. whole canyon full of larkspur there in Weasel Creek
12. with what they've got -- it's just plum crazy. Like
13. pourin' sand down a rat hole.

14. JIM: Well, it's for them to decide, but I'm not so sure
15. the other members on the board will fall for that idea
16. of Steve Thompson's, Jerry. These ranchers may seem
17. a little hard-headed and cantankerous occasionally
18. but by and large they've got a lot of good horse sense.
19. They're not gonna spend that money on anything
20. impractical.

21. JERRY: Well, if tryin' to dig that larkspur ain't impractical...

22. JIM: It's Steve Thompson's idea.

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The British and the French got all the...
...the British and the French got all the...

At the same time...
...at the same time...

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1. JERRY: Sure, but the rest of 'em listen to him, Jim. They
2. even elected him chairman of the association. How do
3. you account for that?

4. JIM: Steve's a good talker, Jerry, maybe a better talker than
5. a rancher. But chairman or no chairman he's only got
6. one vote out of the seven in the association.

7. JERRY: He oughtn't to have any vote at all.

8. JIM: In this country everybody's entitled to his opinion,
9. Jerry.

10. JERRY: Aw sure I know, Jim. I'm all for the democratic
11. principle and I think these local livestock associations
12. are one of the best things that ever happened to range
13. management. But there's a limit, and in my estimation
14. in this case we've reached it. Somebody ought to take
15. ahold of Steve Thompson and kick him clean out of the
16. association. The only reason he's for the larkspur
17. eradication instead of the drift fence is because the
18. drift fence would be right up against his land and
19. it might inconvenience him some. He hasn't got the
20. interest of the range or the group interest at heart
21. at all.

22. JIM: Well we'll soon find out, Jerry. There's the lights
23. of Steve's house showin' up there ahead. I dunno
24. but I sorta got a hunch (FADE) this larkspur project's
25. gonna be knocked into a cooked hat.

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1. (SOUND OF PICKUP UP AND FADE)

2. SLIGHT PAUSE

3. SOUND OF PICKUP PULLING TO A STOP AND MOTOR CUT

4. JERRY: Looks like we're the last ones here. Steve's probably
5. got the meeting all started and over with. We might
6. as well stayed home.

7. JIM: (CHUCKLES) You're gettin' to be a confirmed pessimist,
8. Jerry. I'm gonna have to work on you.

9. J. HALL: (RANCHER ABOUT FORTY - QUIETLY) Howdy, Jim.

10. JIM: (SURPRISED) Huh? Howdy. Who is it? Steve?

11. JED: No, it's me, Jim. Jed Hall. Hello Jerry.

12. JERRY: Well howdy, Jed. You like to scared me to death.

13. JED: The rest of the boys are all inside. But I been
14. waitin' for you fellas to have a word with yuh before
15. yuh went in there.

16. JIM: H-m-m. What is it Jed?

17. JED: Well Jim, the less you say tonight the better. Don't
18. say nothin' less you're called on. That's gonna be
19. best for everyone.

20. JERRY: What the...say, what kind of a reception is this
21. anyhow? We've got a right to some say....

22. JIM: Take it easy Jerry.

23. JED: Yeah, I reckon it does sound sort of funny for me to
24. be givin' you advice like this. But you've known me
25. long enough to know it's well intentioned, Jim. If you
fellas just keep quiet and let the board thrash this
thing out tonight it'll come out best all the way around
in the end.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

1880

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

1881

...the first time the last one...

...the first time...

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...the first time the last one...

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1. JIM: I think you know what you're talkin' about, Jed.
2. JED: Thanks Jim. I figured I could depend on you. Now
3. you fellas wait a minute and I'll go on in.
4. JIM: Okay Jed.
5. SLIGHT PAUSE WITH SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS GOING OFF
6. JERRY: (SOTTO) That's just the same as tellin' us we're not
7. wanted, Jim. And be George I'm mad. That's
8. cooperative money and we've got as much right...
9. JIM: Take it easy Jerry. Some of these things work out
10. funny and I got a feelin' everything here's gonna
11. work out all right in the end. We'll go in now and
12. when we get in there just act like all's well with
13. the world.
14. JERRY: (FADE) Well okay, but I'm tellin' you I'm sure burned
15. up inside.
16. MUSIC UP AND OUT
17. SOUND OF NUMBER OF MEN TALKING
18. SOUND OF GAVEL STRIKING TABLE
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1. I think you have not really understood the
 2. situation. I thought I could depend on you.
 3. You have let me down. I will go on my
 4. own.
 5. I don't want to be bothered going out
 6. tonight. I will just stay in bed. I will
 7. not go out. I am not feeling like that. That's
 8. all. I don't want to go out. I don't want
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1. STEVE
2. THOMPSON:

(RANCHER ABOUT FIFTY -- SMOOTH TALKER) Gentlemen, the
meeting will come to order. Since there's no old

3. business we might as well get along with the main reason for calling
4. this meeting. You all know the seven members on the board of directors
5. of the Pine Cone Livestock Association are here tonight with our friends
6. in the government, Jim Robbins and Jerry Quick who we can call on for
7. technical advice but who do not have a vote in the final decision....we're
8. here to decide the best use we can make of the \$1510.00 that's accrued in
9. the cooperative fund of the association. Twenty per-cent of the fees we
10. pay the government for runnin' our stock in the Pine Cone National Forest
11. goes to make up this fund and the money's to be spent the way we think
12. best to improve our national forest grazin' areas. The government gives
13. us members of the association the right to make the final decision with
14. the rangers settin' in as technical advisers -- which is all fair and
15. proper. I guess I mentioned that before but that oughta be clear at the
16. beginnin'. Now at the last meetin' Jim Robbins recommended we spend this
17. here hard earned money of ours on some kind of a drift fence across the
18. upper end of Willow Creek. But Jim ain't no cattleman -- every cattleman
19. like those of us here on this board of directors can claim to be, knows
20. that fences -- any kind of fences go against the grain of any cow whether
21. it's some old crossbred or a pure bred Hereford. And all us cattlemen
22. also know we gotta pertect our cattle. We gotta pertect 'em especially
23. from Poisinin' -- larkspur poisinin'. Instead of spendin' our money on
24. fences we're all agreed we need to spend it on cleanin' the larkspur outa
25. Weasel Creek. We first of all gotta pertect out cattle. And without
goin' any farther let's put it up to a vote right now to use that money
against any more larkspur poisinin'.....

1. JED: Now just a minute, Steve. That's a right good speech
2. and I know you been makin' a good argyment all along.
3. But they's several things needs to be said that ain't
4. been said before this here business comes to a vote.

5. HUM OF VOICES, BACK, UP

6. SOUND OF GAVEL ON TABLE

7. STEVE: Jed Hall, you're out of order.

8. JED: Out a order or not outa order I'm gonna have my say
9. so, Steve. And it's just this. Spendin' this money
10. tryin' to dig all the larkspur out from among all the
11. grush and rocks in Weasel Crick canyon is as hair-
12. brained and useless as tryin' to shoot stars outa the
13. sky.

14. STEVE: Jed, you're plum crazy. Next thing you'll be sayin'
15. cows won't eat larkspur an' if they do eat it they
16. won't die.

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... a minute, Steve. That's a right good reason
and I think you've been making a good argument all along.
But there's several things seem to me that don't quite
add up. When you said before that you had business coming in a week

1200

HUM OF VOICES, WAKE UP

ROUND TO TABLE ON TABLE

Let me see, you're out of order.

STEVE

... a week or two after I've given him my way

1200

... Steve. And it's just this. Goodbye.

Steve, he did all the things out from among all the

Steve and took in 'usual' things every day at home.

... and he's been as happy as a pig in mud since then.

why

STEVE

... Steve. Next thing you'll be saying

... and I'd better not let you do that if you

... Steve

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1. JED: You're blamed tootin'. That's just what I was
2. about to say. (HUM OF VOICES UP AND DOWN BACK)
3. There's enough good feed in Weasel Creek now under the
4. allowable stockin' set by Jim Robbins so the cows
5. don't need to eat larkspur and if they don't need to
6. eat it they won't eat it. That I know. I've had a
7. lot more experience in the cattle business than you
8. have and I'm tellin' you big losses from larkspur
9. poisinin' come from overstocked range. No self
10. respectin' cow's gonna bite into a hunk of larkspur
11. when they's plenty a good grass around. All the rest
12. of you fellas been so scared of poisinin' you been
13. keepin' your cattle outa Weasel Crick while I been
14. runnin' mine in there especially for the last ten
15. years. 'Fore we got the grass back on that range I
16. used to lose outa my 1200 head maybe one or two critters
17. a year. Since then -- durin' the past three seasons --
18. I ain't lost a single head.

18. HUM OR VOICES, BACK UP AND DOWN

19. SOUND OF GAVEL

20. STEVE: (CLEARS THROAT) Does that mean you're in favor of
21. that drift fence, Jed?
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1. JED: As fer as the drift fence goes I ain't made no statement
2. one way or the other. (FADE) All I'm sayin' is I'm
3. agin wastin' money tryin' to dig out that crick bottom
4. full of larkspur.

5. PAUSE:

6. SOUND OF PICKUP IN MORION BACK (FADE IN)

7. JERRY: By George I still can't understand it, Jim. They
8. voted unanimously in favor of the fence, and we didn't
9. say a word.

10. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Uh huh.

11. JERRY: But it was unanimous Jim. Even Steve.....

12. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Steve keeps his nose to the wind, Jerry.
13. I told you he'd missed his callin'.

14. JERRY: But when Jed Hall Met us out there and told us not
15. to say nothin'.....

16. JIM: (YAWNS) Just the democratic process and hoss sense,
17. Jerry, Step on the pedal and let's get this gas wagon
18. back to Windin' Creek. (FADE) Tomorrow's another day
19. and we got a drift fence project to get under way.

20. MUSIC: FINALE

21. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each Friday
22. on the National Farm and Home Hour as a presentation
23. of the National Broadcasting Company with the
24. cooperation of the Forest Service, United States
25. Department of Agriculture.

