

ADVERTISER

FARM A HOME ETC

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST HANGERS #387

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

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TIME : 00-1 :15 PM

DATE

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS







JIM: (FADING IN) Here's the letter I got from the Chamber of Commerce at Forestville. It says (READING) "Mr. Cornelius M. Grant will call Friday morning to investigate the situation as we have explained it to him. The outcome of your interview with him will determine the life or the death of the town of Forestville. May we express our deepest appreciation for your interest and assistance in the problem which faces us at this time. Sincerely yours, K. H. Archibald, President "

SARY: And this Mr. Grant owns timber land near Forestville?

JIM: Uh huh. About 30,000 acres.

SARY: And he's coming here to see you this afternoon?

JIM: Yes. You see, so far, he's refused flatly to make any changes in his operating plans.

DESS: But how can his land alone save Forestville, Jim?

JIM: Well, Dess, Forestville is a one industry town. Logging is their business. And the entire population depends one way or another, on the timber they cut.

DESS: I remember the time you went over there on business, Jim, and we stayed at a logging camp near Forestville. There were some of the biggest trees I ever saw in that forest.

JIM: Not much left of them now, Dess. The logging camps have been moving farther and farther away from the town every season.



3383/ On dear, I suppose the mills have gobbled up everything  
JIM: Yes, they've been clear-cutting right along. But  
that's the way the town got started. Grew up over  
night because the timber was good, and handy to the  
mills on all sides.

3384/ How many people live in Forestville, Mr. Robbins?  
3385/ about three or four thousand, Mary. It's a fine,  
modern little city, with a good business section and  
paved streets --

3386/ They have an excellent school there, Mary.

3387/ I've heard of it. But why does the whole town depend  
on the logging companies, Mr. Robbins?

3388/ Well, they have one large company and a couple of  
smaller ones operating around there. That means a  
pretty good sized payroll. That's the only industry,  
so there's never been any particular reason for other  
business to come in, except for things like stores and  
banks, and so forth. And all of them depend on the  
logging companies for their business. And at the  
present rate of cutting, the timber supply will  
last about ten years.

3389/ Can't they stop cutting so much?



JIM: That would mean throwing a lot of people out of work all of a sudden, Mary. If you're on wage basis there's got to be a gradual adjustment to a sustained yield, to put the industry on a permanent basis. Otherwise the timber industries will fold up in a few years, and the whole town along with it.

MARY: But how is the Forest Service going to be able to help them?

JIM: Well, we can't do very much unless all the town people will get together and cooperate on a long term plan. We can help 'em work out plans to make sure that all the remaining timber within reach will be managed under a sustained yield plan so that enough timber will always be left after each cutting to form the basis for another crop. And we can bring some of our National Forest timber into the picture to widen out the working circle of the area, by selling stumps to the logging outfit in Forestville. That would help keep the mills going and the people there employed until the forests have a chance to recover from being stripped in the past. And maybe the Forest Service could acquire some of the out-over land to protect it and help bring it back to timber production.

BOSS: Won't Mr. Grant cooperate?

JIM: Apparently he's turned down every plan that's been offered, Boss, -- and his timberland is pretty much the key to the whole situation.



1 CARL: Can't he see what it means to the people in  
2 Forestrville?

3 W: They sent a committee to see him. They told him the  
4 town was on the verge of complete ruin, unless they got  
5 some kind of help. Why there'll be several hundred  
6 families out of work, if the sawmills close down.

7 BESS: What could the people do? They might have to go for  
8 relief.

9 JIM: That's exactly what would happen in a lot of cases,  
10 W. There's no other town or industry around here  
11 that would be able to absorb all those workers and their  
12 families.

13 BESS: Can you do anything to help, Jim?

14 JIM: I hope I can, Jess, but I don't know. I think I'll  
15 show Mr. Grant the material I've collected on the  
16 history of that town called Sarrington. (READING) I  
17 have some old clippings from the --

18 MUSIC UP AND OUT

19 JIM: (READING IN) I'd like to show you some old clippings  
20 I have, Mr. Grant.

21 GRANT: (SO, TERSE, ALMOST GRUFF) Yes?

22 JIM: They're from a newspaper called the Sarrington Globe.

23 GRANT: Never heard of it.

24 JIM: It's not operating now.

25 GRANT: Folded up, eh?



JIM: Was -- When the town of Barrington was deserted, was there wasn't any place for a newspaper any more?

GRANT: Well, I'd like to discuss the Chamber of Commerce plan for Forestville, not for a history lesson.

JIM: (LAUGHING) You're right.

GRANT: What's all this got to do with the town of Forestville?

JIM: The history of Barrington is the same as Forestville may be, unless something happens to save it.

GRANT: Where is this Barrington?

JIM: It's near the Pine Cone National Forest here, about 5 miles from Winding Creek.

GRANT: I've never heard of it.

JIM: It's been a ghost town for the last fifteen years. It was started some time back before 1900 as a logging settlement for an outfit owned by a man named C. H. Barrington. He put up a sawmill, and the town began to grow around it. In this clipping from the paper, you can see how it was proposed to lay out the new streets --

MAP OF CLIPPINGS

GRANT: Umh -- is that the actual results, or was it just a real estate blow-up?

JIM: No, the town was actually laid out on this plan with the business section along these blocks here, and a park in the center. It was a nice shopping district.



GRANT: Those pictures of the business section?

JIM: Yes, there's the bank, with stores all around the section, and the lumber store and general store all there ---

GRANT: Hmm - Must've been a pretty fair sized town, wasn't it?

JIM: Oh huh -- About two or three thousand people, I guess.

GRANT: I see --- What's that in the middle of the bank -- a tobacco?

JIM: It is now -- but when that picture was taken, it was supposed to be a monument dedicated to the cause of benevolence of God and Nature.

GRANT: Dedicated to what?

JIM: Well, Mr. Grant, according to all I've heard, the citizens of Barrington were mighty happy because they had steady work and permanent incomes. I reckon some of 'em realized that all their prosperity came from the forests, and wanted to do something about it.

GRANT: So they put up this monument?



JIM:           Yes. It seems they figured the forests would always provide them with prosperity. Here's the inscription they put on the base of the monument. (READS) "We, the citizens of Barrington, dedicate this monument to the generous benevolence of God, who is our eternal benefactor. And here we pledge ourselves that the city builted here shall forever reflect our gratitude, so that the Heavenly Father may never be sad as he looks upon this fair valley."

GRANT:       All their fancy verses didn't seem to get them anywhere.

JIM:         Mr. Grant, I want you to see the town of Barrington (FADING) as it stands today. I want you to --

MUSIC UP AND OUT

FADE IN CAR AND STOP. OPEN CAR DOOR

JIM:         (FADING IN) Well, Mr. Grant here's the town of Barrington.

GRANT:       (FADING IN) Haven't -- looks almost deserted, doesn't it?  
 JIM:         Yes. There's a few poverty-stricken families still hanging on here -- too poor to go anywhere else, I guess. Most of these old houses are abandoned -- see? They're more like skeletons than buildings, with no roofs, no doors or windows, and some of them with their walls crumbled away.

GRANT:       What part of the town was this?



JIM: Remember the square in the picture I showed you -- where the monument was erected?

GRANT: Yes, yes -- the North side over there looks like that might have been where the stores were.

JIM: There were store buildings all around us here. There had a lot of business in Washington. Now there's nothing left of it now except the front walls of those buildings you see across there.

GRANT: Did they have a railroad through here?

JIM: Yes, one of the big roads ran a line up here. See that concrete super-structure over there beyond the stores?

GRANT: Yes.

JIM: That's what's left of a big warehouse. The railroad ran past there. But the weeds have grown much covered it over by now.

GRANT: I'd say that's a large investment to be lying idle.

JIM: The capital stock of this town was probably worth a million or more at one time. Now it's not worth a nickel -- See that building on the northwest corner of the square?

GRANT: The one that says "Office"?

JIM: Yes -- It was the pay office of a big logging outfit. A lot of families got their living through the logging windows in there -- Now what's left of them are no longer -- or gone away to try and start over someplace else.



GRANT: I see - And all this waste and poverty was brought about because the timber gave out?

JIM: That's right

GRANT: But I see some trees on the slopes of the valley above here --

JIM: Yes, the Forest Service planted those and we're been planting a lot more lately with the help of the CCC. But it'll be quite a few years before there'll be any timber cut around here again

GRANT: These hills were cut pretty clean, all right

JIM: Cut-over and burned over. It's going to take a long time to bring this land back to timber production again -- Let's have a look at the town monument. You might be interested to see it.

GRANT: There doesn't seem to be much left of it

JIM: I don't know when it fell down, or what caused it

GRANT: Foundation must have given away

JIM: I think it did -- There's the base of it lying there. From the way it's tilted up, it looks like that's what happened

GRANT: What was the inscription you said they put on it?

JIM: I'll show you -- Here it is -- see?

GRANT: The letters are pretty well worn away, aren't they?

JIM: Can't read 'em.



JIM: Now- you can hardly make 'em out. Remember the inscription said -- "Ye, the citizens of Forestville dedicate this monument to the generous Benefactor of God, who is our eternal benefactor. And hereby pledge ourselves that the city built here shall forever reflect our gratitude, so that the Heavenly Father may never be ashamed as he looks upon this fair valley."

GRANT: I can't make out very much of it --

JIM: No. But look -- there's three words there that seem to stand out more than all the others --

GRANT: Are there? Let me see --- yes -- "God -- is -- ashamed" --

JIM: (PAUSE) I reckon it's just a coincidence, like a lot of unexplainable things that happen -- But whatever it is, it sure fits this deserted town and the valley it lies in.

GRANT: (PAUSE) Mr. Robbins, are you sure that timber land and wine will save my town of Forestville from this -- this -- desolation?



JIM: We've figured it out as close as we could. Now, how  
 we've selected the amount of timber necessary to keep  
 the sawmill running and the men employed. And by  
 managing all the available timber in all ownerships  
 on a careful sustained yield plan, there's still a  
 chance to make the town's industry secure and  
 permanent. -- But we can't do it without your help.

BEAVER: It won't be any stop-gap -- to merely keep out the  
 life of the town?

JIM: Not if everybody works together to handle the timber  
 on a sustained yield basis. It won't be easy getting  
 readjusted to a long-term plan, though. It'll mean  
 some sacrifices --

GRANT: Jim, I've put everything I had into my timberland --  
 I've given my whole life to this timber business, and  
 I always figured I was entitled to get the most I could  
 out of it in my own life time -- but the town of  
 Forestville has been good to me. I don't want to see  
 it die. I'm going to stick by it -- You can tell  
 your people I'm ready to work with them on anything  
 they think is right.

MUSIC: UP AND OUT





