

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS
EPISODE NO. 655

PROGRAM TITLE

Sustaining

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

Bergoffen

WRITER

Thursday, October 21, 1943

DAY & DATE

11:30-12:00 Noon CWT -Blue

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

CAST

Jerry-Frank Dane
Jim -Harvey Hays
Kelly-Phil Lord
Nelson-Sid Ellstrom

SOUND

REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:
This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF TEXAS

San Antonio

San Antonio

Thursday, October 21, 1943

11:30-12:00 noon CWT - line

Insurance & Home

John - Frank Dunn
Jim - Harry Hays
Kelly - Bill Lamb
Wilson - Ed Elliott

OTIOM - 3811X - 1005045X

1 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

2 MUSIC: Theme

3 ANNOUNCER: Our National Forests these days are contributing to national
4 needs as never before. Timber cut in the National Forests during
5 the past fiscal year established an all-time high. The total cut
6 was over 2-1/3 billion board feet, seven percent more than the
7 previous year and 83 percent above 1939. In some National
8 Forests more timber was cut than the planned cutting budget
9 called for. This was done to keep the local sawmills running
10 full time and the necessary timber rolling to war. In no case,
11 however, have future forest values been sacrificed. The
12 Forest Rangers know that all the timber that's needed for the
13 war can be produced without destroying the capacity of our
14 forest lands to produce more timber.

15 Now to the Pine Cone National Forest where we find Ranger
16 Jim Robbins and his assistant Jerry Quick in the pick-up truck
17 on their way into the forest to inspect a timber sale area
18 recently opened to logging. Here they are:

19 FADE IN SOUND OF MOTOR, SUSTAIN

20 JERRY: Well, it's like I told you, Jim. I found four trees cut
21 down that weren't marked for cutting.

22 JIM: Go on, Jerry. I want to get all the facts straight.
23
24
25

1 JERRY: Well, I called Nelson's woods boss over and laid down the
2 law, that's all. It made me made seeing those nice young
3 trees lying down there on the ground.

4 JIM: Yes, I can understand that, Jerry. But just how did you go
5 about laying down the law, as you put it?

6 JERRY: Aw, Jim, I didn't go overboard. I didn't show I was really
7 sore or bawl him out, if that's what you think. I just told
8 him to cut only the marked trees, see?

9 JIM: Okay, Jerry. After all Nelson is new here. This is his
10 first national-forest operation, and that goes for Kelly,
11 his woods boss, and most of the loggers, too.

12 JERRY: I know that, Jim, but still that's no excuse for violating
13 our cutting rules.

14 JIM: No, that's no excuse. But we've got to remember this is a
15 green outfit and that mistakes can happen. It'd been better
16 of course if you'd told Mr. Nelson himself about it.

17 JERRY: I gave Kelly a note to take to Mr. Nelson, explaining the
18 whole thing and pointing out that if it happened again we'd
19 have to charge him double stumpage for any unmarked timber
20 they cut down.

21 JIM: That's good...Well, we're about there, Jerry. We'll find out
22 if your last inspection had any effect.

23 JERRY: There's one thing I oughta tell you, Jim.

24 JIM: Yeah?

25

1 JERRY: This fellow, Kelly. He didn't say anything when I showed
2 him those treese. No excuse, no reason for cuttin 'em,
3 or anything. When I gave him that note for Mr. Nelson
4 He just grinned. that's all.

5 JIM: H-m-m, that's interesting. (FADE) Very interesting.

6 PAUSE

7 FADE IN SOUND OF CUTTING AND SAWING, OFF, BRING ON GRADUALLY, SUSTAIN
8 INTERMITTENTLY

9 JIM: This area doesn't look bad, Jerry, not bad at all. Stumps
10 cut low, see? And they're doing a good fire protection job,
11 pulling the tops away from the standing trees. I guess maybe
12 your inspection did help at that.

13 JERRY: I wonder. We haven't found any more unmarked trees down so
14 far this trip. But the way Kelly acted, Jim...I wonder...

15 JIM: Of course we haven't been over the whole operation yet...
16 There's our man over there, isn't it? Isn't that Kelly,
17 the woods boss?

18 JERRY: Yes, that's him.

19 JIM: Hello there, Mr. Kelly!

20 KELLY: (COMING ON) Howdy, Ranger. Hello, Mr. Quick.

21 JERRY: Hello, Mr. Kelly....'Scuse me, Jim. I want to take a look at
22 that tree those men are cutting, (GOING OFF) up ahead there.

23 KELLY: (PLEASANTLY) Nosiest young fella I've every seen, that
24 assistant of yours, Ranger.
25

1 JIM: (CHUCKLES) Maybe so, Kelly. At least He's conscientious.
2 Jerry takes his work pretty seriously, just like we all
3 ought to, I imagine.

4 KELLY: Maybe so. But this is the first time in all my years of
5 logging that I've had anybody come out in the woods and look
6 at every tree my men cut down, every single tree.

7 JIM: Well, in our National Forests, Kelly, every single tree, as
8 you put it, has a definite value, you see. It has a part in
9 our whole scheme of producing timber for the public good.
10 It's the Ranger's job to see to it that each tree is given
11 the chance to play that full part, and that's why we check
12 so closely.

13 KELLY: But this is war, man!

14 JIM: Yes, I know, Kelly, and all the more reason, I think, for us
15 to be especially conscientious in handling our forests.
16 Besides....

17 VOICE: (OFF) Timber-r-r-r!

18 SOUND OF TREE CRASHING TO GROUND, SLIGHTLY OFF

19 JERRY: (OFF) Hey, Jim...Come over here.

20 KELLY: I figured he'd find it.

21 JIM: Find what?

22 KELLY: That tree the boys just cut down. It wasn't marked.

23 JIM: Oh? You saw it wasn't marked and yet you told the men to
24 cut it?
25

1 KELLY: Yes, that's right, Ranger. You see, Mr. Nelson and me, we
2 kinda look at this timber business a little different than
3 you fellas do, with the war on and all.

4 JIM: So I gather. Where can I get in touch with Mr. Nelson?

5 KELLY: He's due out here in the woods today. Oughta be here pretty
6 soon.

7 JERRY: (ON) Look, Jim. It's another deliberate violation of the
8 cutting agreement.

9 JIM: I know, Jerry. But there's more to it than that, I think
10Kelly, this business of cutting unmarked timber has
11 got to stop. I'd appreciate it if you told your men that,
12 pronto.

13 KELLY: Sorry, Ranger. I work for Mr. Nelson. I gotta follow his
14 orders.

15 JIM: I see. And I take it his orders are to cut trees that
16 aren't marked, huh?

17 KELLY: Not all of 'em. Only those that I think will make good
18 lumber.

19 JERRY: Well, of all the crazy...Jim are you going to

20 JIM: Hold it, Jerry...Kelly, you're not very flattering. I
21 reckon you know that. We marked this area mighty
22 carefully.

23 KELLY: I don't mean no disrespect, Ranger. But I gotta follow
24 Mr. Nelson's orders, don't I?

25

1 JERRY: See, Jim? It's like I said. Talk isn't going to get us
2 anywhere. I'm for less talk and more action.

3 KELLY: You better take it up with Mr. Nelson then. That's him
4 coming over this way now.

5 JIM: Good!

6 NELSON: (COMING ON) Good morning, gentlemen.

7 JIM: Howdy.

8 JERRY: Mr. Nelson, what about these unmarked trees your men are
9 cutting? Mr. Kelly says that you....

10 NELSON: That I gave him the go-ahead, huh? Yes, that's right.
11 But let's hold off on that a minute....Tom, coming in
12 this morning I noticed several tops that need going over.
13 There's still a lot of good wood in those tops that can
14 be used. Check it, will you? We can't afford to waste
15 wood these days. I want the men to cut as far into
16 the tops as they can go.

17 JERRY: (UNDER HIS BREATH) Well, I'll be jiggered.

18 TOM: Okay, Mr. Nelson. I'll tend to that right away.

19 JIM: I'd appreciate it if you had Kelly tend to the cutting of
20 only marked trees, too, Nelson.

21 NELSON: (HESITANTLY) Well...all right. I guess we'll have a show-
22 down on that pretty quick, but for the time being, at least,
23 I guess you can tell the men to stick to the marked trees, Kelly.

24 KELLY: Yes, sir. (GOING OFF) See you all later.
25

1 SLIGHT PAUSE

2 NELSON: Well, Ranger?

3 JIM: Nelson, I don't mind telling you this is about the queerest
4 set-up I've ever run into in all my years of timber sale
5 work in the National Forests.

6 NELSON: How so, Robbins?

7 JIM: For a brand-new outfit, so far's national forest logging is
8 concerned, you're doing a bang-up job.

9 NELSON: H-m-m, I wasn't expecting compliments, exactly.

10 JIM: I'm serious, Nelson. You've got your men cutting the trees
11 as close to the ground as any forester could ask for.

12 NELSON: Sure. We don't want to waste any more wood in stumps than
13 we have to.

14 JIM: Yes, sir. And your men are doing a swell job reducing the
15 fire hazard by knocking the tops down to the ground, and
16 pulling 'em away from the standing timber.

17 JERRY: Aw, Jim, what's that got to do with this sort of violation
18 here?

19 JIM: Wait a minute, Jerry....Then, Nelson, this last thing.
20 Telling Kelly to get on the men about wasting timber in the
21 tops. That's nice going.

22 NELSON: I see. And in view of all these things you're wondering
23 why in Heaven's name I should give orders to cut some of
24 the unmarked trees. Is that it?
25

1 JIM: Yes, that's it. From the very first this hasn't been any
2 mistake on the part of men new to our cutting regulations.
3 It's been a deliberate violation of the timber sale
4 agreement that you and I went over very carefully and that
5 you signed.

6 NELSON: That's right. I remember something in that agreement, though,
7 about having to pay a double stumpage fee on any unmarked
8 trees cut. I'm willing to pay that double stumpage, Robbins.

9 JERRY: Sure, lumber prices are good nowadays.

10 NELSON: That's not the point, Mr. Quick.

11 JIM: No, I can see that, Nelson. Do you mind telling us just
12 what is the reason for your going ahead like this in
13 violation of the contract?

14 NELSON: (GRIMLY) Yes, I'll tell you, even though it may sound crazy
15 as a March hare to both of you....I've got two boys in this
16 war, Robbins.

17 JIM: I thought it was something like that.

18 NELSON: I was glad to get into this national-forest timber. It
19 save me from having to close down because of lack of timber
20 where I'd been operating before. More than that, it gave me
21 the best chance I know to help my boys. Does that make
22 sense?

23 JIM: Yes, it does. We need timber to back up our boys, all right.
24
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1 NELSON: I like to think, Robbins, that every tree I cut in here,
2 every log I send out of these woods, will help make this
3 war shorter; that it will speed the return of my two sons
4 back home. That may sound kind of idealistic, I know,
but it's the way I feel.

5 JIM: I see. I appreciate your sincerity, Nelson. It's easy to
6 understand now why you saw fit to take your own judgment against
7 mine in cutting trees that weren't marked for cutting. You
8 felt that because there was some good timber in these young,
9 thrifty trees there was no reason why they shouldn't go
10 along to back up your boys, huh?

11 NELSON: Yes...that's true.

12 JIM: Nelson, you've been frank with us. Now I'd like you to
13 listen to me.... carefully, if you will.

14 NELSON: Go ahead, sir.

15 JIM:: There isn't a man among Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers who
16 wouldn't be willing to see every stick of timber in this
17 country cut down if it was absolutely needed to win this
18 war.

19 JERRY: That's right, Mr. Nelson. But that sort of cutting isn't
20 necessary.
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1 JIM: No, it isn't. We've got enough of the bigger, mature
2 timber to do the job without sacrificing our young growing
3 stock. And so we keep on marking timber, us fellows in the
4 Forest Service, so that the public forests will keep on
5 growing more timber. We're looking beyond this war,
6 Nelson. These few trees your men have taken out before their
7 time, they were an important part of what must be the next
8 cutting in here. They weren't ready to go to this war yet,
9 just as your sons wouldn't have been ready five, ten years
10 ago.

11 NELSON: I hadn't thought about it quite like that, Ranger.

12 JIM: You mentioned your boys coming back here after the war.
13 Unless I'm badly mistaken you've had hopes they'd follow
14 in your footsteps in this business of yours you seem to
15 honestly like so well.

16 NELSON: And there's got to be timber for them to work with? That's
17 what you're getting at?

18 JIM: Yes, the war job doesn't call for it, and we don't intend,
19 therefore, to abuse the forests in our charge.

20 NELSON: You're a good man, Robbins...

21 KELLY: (OFF) Hey, Mr. Nelson...

22 NELSON: Yes, Tom, What is it?
23
24

1 KELLY: (COMING ON) We're clearing up those tops you found,
2 Mr. Nelson. And we came on a couple more dandy, sound
3 trees back down the line aways. They're not marked, but
4 they're high-grade; maybe not as old as some we're
5 cutting, but.....

JIM: It's possible Jerry and I might have missed a few trees
that could be cut. We'll look at 'em if you like, Nelson.

8 NELSON: No, I don't think you missed marking a single tree in
9 this whole area that's ready for cutting right now,
10 Robbins....Tom, tell the men they're to lay off every
11 tree that doesn't have Uncle Sam's mark on it.

12 KELLY: But you told me...

13 NELSON: Those are the orders from now on, Tom. We'll do our share
14 if we stick to the marked timber... More than that, Tom,
15 I'm kinda looking forward to the next time we log this
16 part of the Pine Cone National Forest....
17 Because next time, I'm thinking, my two boys will be here
18 doing the job with us..logging some of these trees we leave
19 to grow now...

20 MUSICAL FINALE

21 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the
22 National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation with the
23 co-operation of the Forest Service, United States Department
24 of Agriculture.

25 rr/11:00 AM/
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