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## Forest Commissioner Rendall Calls for Volunteers for Bar Harbor Fire Patrol

WLBZ Radio

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**University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department**

Transcript of a sound recording in MS 608, WLBZ Radio Station Records, Bangor, Maine, 1931-1973

Title: State Forest Commissioner Rendall Calls for Volunteers for Bar Harbor Fire Patrol

Date: October 26, 1947

Recording number: D 16.80; CD 9, track 7

Length of recording: 4:10

[transcript begins]

JACK ATWOOD: At this time we present State Forest Commissioner, Raymond E. Rendall, with an important message for all those who may be called upon to fight fires during this emergency. Commissioner Rendall.

RENDALL: Even though we have gone through a week of on-the-line fire-fighting, our job is now great. Many men have fought fire until they have become tired and exhausted. This means that crews from outside the active fire areas will have to carry the burden of patrol and mop up. Every fire line must be patrolled or under watch day and night. We can and must not slip up on this extremely important job. Rain is the only thing that brings sure relief. Everything is tinder dry. There must be no let down in the precautionary efforts in each town. Organized patrol for holding old fires quiet and [squenching?] new ones are essential. The value of volunteers for forest fire fighting will be greatly increased if they report to the proper authorities.

Each fire is in charge of a district of a local fire warden. It is essential that fire fighters take orders from the designated leader and not from every self-appointed person. Emergencies demand decisions and mistakes are made, however, the best results are obtained when trained and experienced leaders make necessary decisions and workers carry them out.

Perhaps you, as a volunteer fire fighter, will be interested in the proper dress and equipment to use. For the present warm weather, most any kind of tough clothing will be satisfactory. However, I will list items that are good, if you have them, or can easily get them. One, tough clothes, especially pants that will resist tearing. Two, wool shirt. Three, heavy shoes or boots. Four, wool socks. Five, work gloves. Six, old cap or hat. Seven, handkerchiefs.

The Red Cross is supplying food. Men will be relieved each day if they wish to be. Good results have already been obtained by coordinating and organizing in groups. The first thing a volunteer should do is to join some coordinating group. He should then stand by for his group to be called by the proper authorities. As a volunteer, you do your part best by following the orders of your group leader, who in turn gets his from the person in charge of the fire area. More than at any other stage of fire-fighting, coordination and following orders are necessary as patrol and mop up are carried out. Local groups should be formed into relays for relief. My job, as Forest Commissioner, is to do all possible to help in

this important work of coordination. However, let me emphasize that the responsibility rests with the municipal authorities in organized towns. I appeal to you to help me in helping you.

ATWOOD: You have just heard State Forest Commissioner Raymond E. Rendall, broadcasting instructions to all citizens who may be called upon to aid in fighting fires during this emergency. This broadcast originated in Augusta.

[transcript ends]

For more information about this transcript, audio recording, or other materials in Special Collections at the University of Maine, contact:

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