

Snag Felling Task Nears End In Smith River Burn

The last of the snags are coming down on International Paper Co. lands in the Smith River Burn east of Gardiner.

Clearing out the snags has reduced fire hazards for new young trees growing on much of the company's land. Each of the thousands of black, weathered snags which stood like gaunt spikes against the sky represented a potential "chimney" whose punky wood threatened to spew windborne sparks for miles if struck by lightning or caught in a local blaze.

The Smith River Burn, stretching back from the Drain-Reedsport Highway in the vicinity of Scottsburg, was swept by two major forest fires, one in 1938 and another in 1951. It covers some 28,000 acres, of which about half belong to private industry.

"The ashes of the 1951 fire weren't cool yet when we started logging out the burned timber," said Marvin Kittelson, resident forester for the Long-Bell division of International Paper Co. "By getting at the job right away, our logging crews were able to salvage what sound timber remained in the burned trees before it deteriorated."

Operation Paid For Self

Kittelson explained that the amount of timber salvaged just about paid the cost of the vast snag-clearing operation. The big job helped create local payrolls and saved millions of board feet of timber for the nation's use.

The next step now is to get all of that land back into production," he said. "Last year we covered 900 acres by air with Douglas fir seed. This year we will seed 1,000 acres and in 1959 we'll seed 2,000 acres." He added that trees sown by natural regeneration are also growing in some areas where the fires left isolated blocks of nearby seed timber undisturbed.

To stop erosion and prevent brush from taking over the fire-devastated lands, the company and the Bureau of Land Management seeded mustard over the whole area in a joint operation shortly after the last fire. IP and BLM lands are checkerboarded together throughout the area.

Cecil Sharp, Reedsport contract logger for International Paper Co., estimated that his crews felled at least 38 big snags to the acre in parts of the burn. He did not count small-diameter snags in his estimate.

100,000 Snags Estimate

"In some places there must have been over 50 snags an acre," he said. "We probably downed altogether well over 100,000 snags on company lands, as a conservative guess."

Kittelson said particular attention was paid to clearing corridors along ridgetops, where snags could spread sparks in both directions if left standing.

"If there was a single spike standing against the skyline when the cutting crew came off the hill," said Sharp, whose two sons help him in the operation, "they had to lug the saw up again and get it. The boys soon got to the point where they left those ridgetops clean as a ruler's edge."

Kittelson said about 7,000 acres of company land will require some degree of artificial reforestation in the burn area.

The industry forester observed that the project illustrates how conservation depends on markets and modern technology.

"We couldn't have made this operation pay for itself without the modern chain saw, or the markets that industry has developed through its strides in utilizing all kinds of timber," he said.



BEFORE — One of the last patches of snags remaining on International Paper Co. lands in the Smith River Burn near Scottsburg is surveyed by Cecil Sharp, contract logger for IP's Long Bell division at Gardiner. Since 1951, Sharp has cleared snags from some 14,000 acres of company land.



AFTER — A clean skyline, free of the gaunt snags that constitute a fire menace to new young trees, is surveyed by Marvin Kittelson, left, forester for International Paper at Gardiner, and Sharp. The last snags on IP lands in the burn are being cleared away. (American Forest Products Industries photo)

Many Persons Suffer From Effects Of Life-Saving Penicillin, Other Drugs

By JOHN A. BARBOUR
AP Science Reporter

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. (AP) — About 17 million Americans may suffer side effects—sometimes dangerous—from life-saving penicillin and other antibiotics, a drug expert said today.

Perhaps 10 per cent of the nation's population could become sensitive to these drugs, Dr. Henry Welch of the U. S. Food and Drug Administration told a scientific meeting of the American College of Physicians.

In a few cases, he said, use of antibiotics has brought death to some oversensitive persons. But generally this sensitive group suffers rashes, blood troubles like anemia, shock, swollen lips or eyes or respiratory tract difficulties.

Doctors Should Be Aware
Doctors, he said, should be aware of a patient's past response to antibiotics wherever possible.

INSTRUCTOR HONORED

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A dinner here Friday night honored Dr. Ralph Casey, a former University of Oregon teacher who is retiring as director of the University of Minnesota journalism school.

Quarles Claims Earth Satellite Not Weapon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Deputy Secretary Donald A. Quarles said the Defense Department does not regard as a weapon a seeing-eye satellite that could spot objects on the earth's surface.

Quarles said this in an interview in explaining why he told the House Space Committee Wednesday the Pentagon would not object to a Soviet reconnaissance satellite.

Rep. Keating (R-N.Y.) suggested that Quarles took this position because Quarles expects the United States to get reconnaissance satellites orbiting the earth before the Soviet Union does. Quarles did not comment on that.

The committee has heard that a man looking through a small telescope from a satellite 500 miles up could spot earth objects less than two feet in size.

Admonished Girl Beats Woman Crosswalk Guard

NEW YORK (AP) — A 16-year-old girl, admonished for starting across a street against a traffic light, beat a woman school crossing guard Tuesday in the Bronx, police said.

Arrested on a charge of assault was Carmen Toledo, of the Bronx, a ninth-grade junior high school student. After a mental examination at Bellevue Hospital, a city magistrate paroled her in the custody of her father, pending a hearing.

Magistrate Richard Daly scolded the girl. She said the crossing guard, Mrs. Frances Nemetz, 35, had been rude to her.

2 Hydrogen Bombs Exploded Hourly Would Give Nation 12 Per Cent Needed Power

WASHINGTON (AP) — A physics professor said Friday it is possible to meet 12 per cent of the nation's electric power needs by exploding two small hydrogen bombs an hour in a specially designed chamber.

Dr. Jay Oreat, assistant professor at Columbia University, New York, proposed walling off a section of a deep canyon, lining and roofing it with steel, insulating the chamber with dirt on top and setting off the bombs inside.

The idea was outlined in a paper prepared for a meeting of the American Physical Society.

So far, the peaceful harnessing of the power of the H-bomb is only a goal which scientists are talking and speculating about. Some scientists attending the meeting were inclined to view Oreat's plan as still highly speculative rather than practical enough for immediate use.

In another paper, Dr. R. Jastrow of the Naval Research Laboratory here said information obtained from Russia's first Sputnik satellite and American rockets indicates the atmosphere is 40 times more dense at a height of 250 miles than had been estimated two years ago.

This would mean that a one-foot, 100-pound satellite in an orbit 250 miles above the earth would last only four months, whereas earlier calculations would have put its lifetime at 13 years.

In cooperation with Dr. I. Harris of NRL, Jastrow computed data

Sat. May 3, 1958—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3



CENTER OF ATTENTION—Janice Kane, 23, seems to be attracting more attention than the instructor in this class of 301 students at Chicago Medical College. There are 300 men in the class, which perhaps explains why. Janice, from Atlantic Beach, N.Y., is the only woman attending the school. A former model and artist, she's an honor student and first woman member of a national medical fraternity, Phi Lambda Kappa. Janice takes her unique role in stride, although, she remarks, "At times I feel like I have 300 big brothers."

Cement Company Plans \$18 Million Expansion

TACOMA (AP) — One of the nation's largest producers of cement has purchased a large industrial tract from the Port of Tacoma and plans the eventual expenditure of approximately 18 million dollars for manufacturing and terminal facilities.

The purchaser was the Ideal Cement Co. of Denver. Ideal paid \$180,435 for the 29-acre tract which faces on the port-industrial waterway.

The company, which operates 15 cement manufacturing plants in 12 states between the Gulf and Pacific Coasts, contemplates the erection of a cement storage and distribution terminal at waterside. "With the possibility it will also build a cement manufacturing plant on the site within a few years," Cris Dobbins, Ideal president, announced in Denver.

Ideal presently serves its Northwest market from plants at Grotto, Wash., Spokane and Gold Hill, Ore.

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LITTLE MISS COTTON — Eight-year-old Nancy Anne Moore, of Falls Church, Va., has been awarded that title in the Washington, D.C., area. She'll compete with 19 other regional winners for the national Little Miss Cotton title at the Memphis, Tenn., Cotton Carnival on May 14th.

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