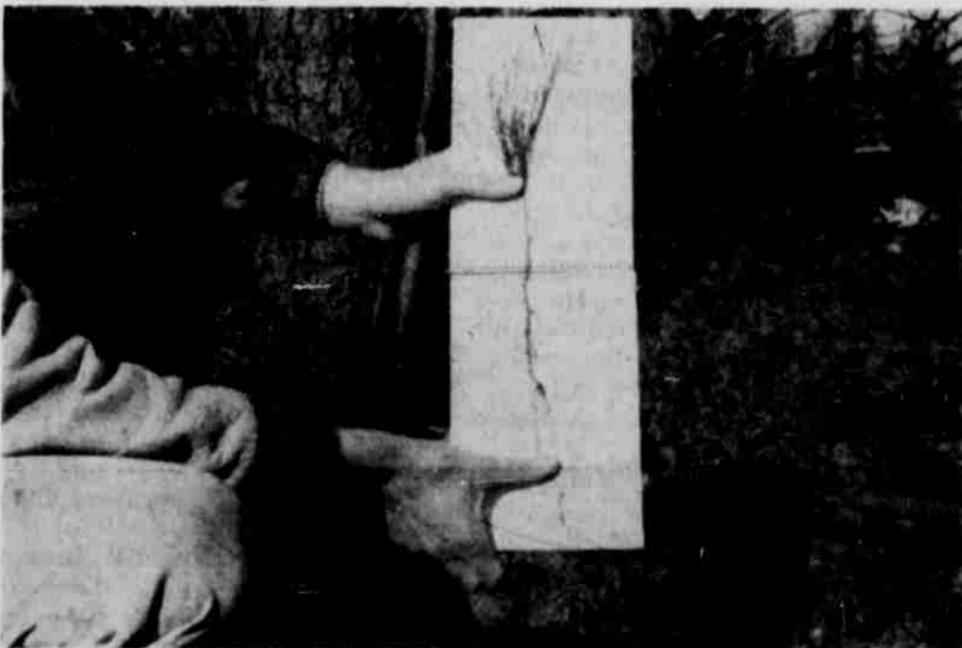


Experimental Tract On Burn Area Planted To Pine Seedlings



The seedling planting program and growth patterns of the area being replanted are illustrated by the above pictures. The top picture shows Bennett Foster, forester with the trust management staff, operating the seedling planter. At center a ponderosa pine seedling, typical of those used in the planting program, with a long root in relation to the top, is shown. At bottom, a new log bears witness to changes in the growth rate of trees in the area. The rings have been marked at 10 year intervals for easy reading to show the growth history of the particular tree over the past 60 years. Growth per 10 years since the 30 year point, when the surrounding area was first logged, is seen as much greater than prior to the first logging.

A 30-acre tract near Solomon Butte was experimentally planted to ponderosa pine seedlings on March 24-26 by the U. S. National Bank trustee. The tract, burned over by last year's fire, received approximately 300 seedlings per acre in a "12 x 12" pattern (12 feet intervals between seedlings in all directions), considered an ideal growing pattern.

R. L. Mezger, chief forester for the management staff, reports that the seedlings, 10,000 of them, were obtained from the State of Oregon nursery at Elkton at a cost of \$7.00 per thousand. (Such seedlings can be ordered by any landowner and at a comparable price for orders of 10,000 or more, Mezger advises). The seedlings are 2 years old and so developed as to have a root several times longer than the top. Mezger explains that the long root increases the seedling's chances for survival in the pumice soil of this area where moisture dries up quickly.

The timing of the seedling planting is deemed highly important. "Early spring is the ideal time" Mezger states. "There is a limited period you can plant in the spring to expect survival. There are only a couple of weeks when you can really go at it after the snows and before the ground is dried out."

Trust officials expect the experimental planting to help define the possibilities of reforesting the general burn area through use of seedlings. The experimental tract is considered representative of the surrounding area in amount of fire damage and in soil and moisture conditions, and has typically good growth characteristics. New stumps on the tract provide a graphic illustration of the growth possibilities of the region under scientific planting. Rings on these stumps formed since the original logging of the area 30 years ago are much larger than rings formed before the area was logged.

"The growth rate I would guess increased by about 4 times after cutting. Scientific planting can give a similarly fast growth rate," Mezger states.

The results of the seedling-planting will be particularly noted for comparison with the seed-planting program conducted last fall. On Nov. 16 and 17, 1959, nearly 4,000 lbs of ponderosa seed was planted by helicopter on some 2100 acres on and near Solomon Butte. Management officials will begin investigating the results of this program in about one month, when the germination

period begins. Final results are expected to be ascertained by late this summer. At that time tests will also be made on the seedlings to determine what has survived.

Commenting on these two approaches to reforestation, Mezger points out that seedlings can be expected to have a much higher rate of survival than seed. Offsetting this advantage, however, is the much greater time and expense involved in planting seedlings. Thus, 3 days were needed to plant the 30-acre experimental tract as contrasted with the less than 2 full days used to drop seed on the 2100 acres of Solomon Butte area.

"If you can get even limited success with seeding it is certainly worth the effort," Mezger summarizes.

Other recent developments in remaining area management include distribution of a \$400 payment on March 15, purchase of 62 head of calves to add to the Agency Farm operation, and hiring of Boyd Jackson, Jr., a remaining member, on March 21 to assist Dell Overton in running the Agency Farm.

SECOND UNIT SALE (Continued from Page 1)

value of the lands determined as provided in subsection (c) of this section, unless a different amount is provided by law enacted prior to the proclamation of the Secretary of Agriculture. Appropriation of funds for that purpose is hereby authorized. Payment shall be made as soon as possible after the proclamation of the Secretary of Agriculture. Such lands shall become national forest lands subject to the laws that are applicable to lands acquired pursuant to the Act of March 1, 1911 (36 Stat. 961), as amended. Any of the forest units that are offered for sale and that are not sold or taken pursuant to subsection (b) or (d) of this section shall be subject to sale without limitation on use in accordance with the provisions of section 5 of this Act."

A man in Alaska was arrested for bigamy. It was discovered that he had a wife in Nome, another in Fairbanks and a third in Juneau. The judge looked down at the culprit and sternly remarked: "How could you do such a thing?"

The bigamist replied: "Fast dog team."