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PORTLAND, OREGON

## FIRE REPORTS EXAGGERATED

Headquarters Camp, Columbia County Fire Patrol Assn., Vernonia, Oregon.

Tuesday, Aug. 19th, 1913.

Inasmuch as many exaggerated reports of forest fires have appeared in the rural newspapers and also in Portland papers during the past few weeks The Columbia County Fire Patrol Association is desirous of reporting the truthful facts in connection with the fires which have occurred this season.

The fire at the Peninsula Lumber Co. camp in the early part of the month was confined to old choppings where logging operations had been carried on in the southeast quarter of section 25 in Twp. 5 north of range 2 west, about one mile northeast of Yankton and about one mile east from any merchantable timber situated within the associations patrol. None of the associations timber was consequently affected or burned as a result of this fire, which did more good than harm by cleaning out the debris which accumulates from logging operations, and furthermore, this fire was watched and checked by the crew of Peninsula Lumber Co.

The fire at the logging camp of Nehalem Timber and Logging Co., formerly known as Chapman Timber Co., occurred about the same time as the fire above mentioned, and resulted in burning a portion of the camp equipment which suspended logging operations for a few days only, but not one standing tree was even scorched. The fire was started from sparks flying from their logging engines and alighting on the old slashings around their logging operations in the SE 1-4 of section 26 and NW 1-4 of section 36 in Twp. 5 N. of range 3 W, and immediately the fire broke out the entire crew of the camp, consisting of about 125 men, fought the fire until it was under control. The camp equipment destroyed by this fire consisted of two bunk cars, a water tank, and about half a car load of dynamite, and a little damage was sustained to the trestles on the logging spurs.

The most serious fire reported by our Fire Wardens occurred outside of the Associations territory, in the vicinity of Round Top Hill, at the head waters of Gales Creek in Sec. 5, in Twp. 2 north of range 5 west, Washington county, Oregon.

This fire was started by careless hunters on Sunday, the 10th inst., and two of our fire wardens fought the fire on the north side in order to protect the holdings represented in the association's territory, and as a strong northwest wind was blowing at that time the fire was running quickly through the old burns out of our territory entirely and was not controlled until a large crew of firefighters had been fighting the fire for several days. The exact amount of merchantable timber destroyed by this fire has not yet been reported, but it is stated that the loss is not very heavy.

The fire patrol system of our association has been very systematically arranged by Supervising Fire Warden Henry Sharkey, ably assisted by J. H. McDonald as assistant supervising fire warden, both appointed by State Forester F. A. Elliott, upon recommendation of the association and the entire patrol force consisting of twelve men conforms with the requirements of the Oregon Forest Fire Laws. The territory patrolled covers practically all of the timbered area of Columbia County, all of Twp. 3 north of range 4 and 5 west, Washington county, Twp. 4 and 5, north of range 6 west, Clatsop county, excepting holdings of Du Bois Lumber Co., and the interests of O. A. Ritan & Ritan, Wentworth Lumber Co., and the north tier of sections in Twp. 3 north, range 6 west, Tillamook county, representing an area of approximately 300,000 acres of which 210,000 acres is included in the association represented by over 100 members. The patrol force is outlined as follows:

1. Henry Sharkey Supervising Fire Warden, with headquarters at Vernonia and Trenholm.
2. J. H. McDonald, Assistant

Supervising Fire Warden with headquarters at Vernonia and patrolling Wolf Creek territory.

3. H. R. Smith, Federal Patrolman at Trenholm, patrolling between Upper Clatskanie and Milton Creek.
  4. Odin Anderson, association patrolman between Apiary and Deer Island.
  5. Oliver Anderson, association patrolman in Lower Clatskanie district.
  6. E. M. Sullivan, association patrolman in Crooked Creek district between Pittsburgh and Mist, also at Lookout Point on Gravel Pit Hill in SW 1-4 of NW 1-4 of Sec. 6, Twp. 6 N. of Range 4 west.
  7. J. H. Emerson, federal patrolman in Fishhawk and Lower Deep Creek district.
  8. John Kane, association patrolman in Upper Deep Creek and Buster Creek district.
  9. Frank Ball, association patrolman in Upper Pebble and Deep Creek district.
  10. Gus Schmidlin, association patrolman in the Daisy Creek district, Washington county.
  11. Fred Ellison, association patrolman in Upper Nehalem district in Washington county.
  12. R. D. Montague, association patrolman on Lookout, known as Rocky Point, situated on NE 1-4 of SE 1-4 of Sec. 16 in Twp. 4 north of range 5 west.
- The above fire wardens patrol their respective districts daily and keep a constant lookout for fires, and should a fire occur the association is equipped with all the necessary tools for fighting fire and furthermore have cleared over one hundred miles of fire trails through the country this season, thereby making the timbered area accessible. Since the association was organized on May 26th, 1912, to the present time no timber within its territory has been destroyed by fire, which is owing in a large measure to the excellent fire patrol system which has been established. Columbia County Fire Patrol Association.

### STATE FIRE WARDENS

- Sharkey, Henry, Trenholm and Vernonia.  
McDonald, J. H. Vernonia.  
Anderson, Odin, Clatskanie.  
Anderson, Oliver, Clatskanie.  
Ball, Frank, Vernonia.  
Derby, Howard, Hudson.  
Ellison, Fred, Timber.  
Harvey, L. W. Vernonia.  
Hayden, Walter, Marshland.  
Kane, John, Keasey.  
Kyle, H. C., Marshland.  
McCurdy, Fred, Hudson.  
Miller, R. A., Hudson.  
Montague, R. D., Buxton, care of Anderson.  
Pettijohn, Thos., Vernonia.  
Raund, Martin, Maygers.  
Redjeski, Bob, Houlton.  
Schmidlin, August, Buxton.  
Sullivan, E. M., Mist.  
Warren, E. S., Vernonia, care of T. Pettijohn.  
Emerson, J. H., Mist.  
Smith, H. R., Trenholm.

### Puzzled Him.

Mark Twain and his peculiarities were being discussed by an English class in a certain high school. One youthful orator had very eloquently described Mark's personal appearance and had laid unusual stress on the author's fondness for wearing white flannels.

"Gee!" said one much interested youth. "I don't see how the public knows whether his flannels were red or white."—Everybody's Magazine.

### Good Scheme.

"I suppose you take excellent care of your health?"  
"No," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "I tried every kind of medicine I could get hold of for awhile. Then I gave up and forgot about my health, and I've felt better ever since."—Washington Star.

### Sunday in Helgoland.

The Sabbath begins in Helgoland at 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, when the church bells are rung, and ceases on the following day at the same hour. At one time no vessel was permitted to leave the port during the Sabbath.

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