

# OREGON SETS RECORD IN FIRE CONTROL, TIMBER HARVESTS IN '53

SALEM— (Special) — Lowest forest fire damage in nearly half a century, a billion dollar log harvest, defeat of the spruce budworm and developments in research and legislation, made top forest news in Oregon during 1953.

Long established forest records tumbled during the year as major achievements took place in timber conservation.

In forest protection, fire losses on the 13 million acres of timberlands protected by the state board of forestry and its cooperating private patrol associations were the lowest since the state forester's office was created in 1911. A total of 1,507 acres was burned over, and when all reports are tallied, it may be a national record for low fire damage among the big timber states.

Only 792 forest fires occurred during the 1953 fire season. Lightning started 423 and 369 were man-caused and could have been prevented. Percentage-wise, only 447 per cent of the blazes were man-caused, an outstanding improvement over previous years and well below the national average of nearly 90 per cent.

Most favorable fire record was made by the 38,000 loggers who worked in 12,000 logging operations, and were charged with only 49 fires.

Outstanding performance by loggers, Keep Oregon Green, the general public and efficient performance by protection personnel with an able assist from favorable

weather, were credited for the sharp decrease in forest fire damage.

A timber harvest of 9.8 billion board feet in 1952 brought a billion dollars in new money into the state and preliminary estimates for 1953 indicate the returns will be nearly on the same level. Over 100,000 people were busy in the woods, sawmills, pulp and plywood plants and associated industries accounted for 53 cents of every new dollar in the state. Oregon's rating of paying highest wages in the U. S. production workers was largely due to great number employed in the lumber industry.

Heavy damage by insects has displaced fire as the prime enemy of the forests. The spruce budworm, once threatening to defoliate 12 billion board feet of sawtimber, has been controlled by aerial DDT sprays. After five years of insecticide treatment, the attack has been all but halted with only remnants of the huge budworm invasion remaining in eastern Oregon.

Other insects such as the tree-killing bark beetle were not so easily controlled and the fight to eliminate this menace has been made through rapid salvage of the beetle infested trees which is currently the only method of meeting their attack. Rapidly spreading from the great 1951 blow-down, the beetle epidemic appears to be tapering off slightly, but is still a dangerous threat.

The 1953 Legislature passed 26

## Miss Oregon Helps



Miss Oregon, Patti Elaine Throop of Portland, adds her contribution to the 1954 March of Dimes. More support than ever before is needed in the current drive because of the costs of the new Polio Prevention Program of stepped-up gamma globulin supplies and massive testing of a polio vaccine during this year

## Family Fun PTA Topic

Something different in program ideas will take place tonight, Thursday, at the P.T.A. meeting at the High School. Two recreational leaders from the county extension office will be in charge, and their subject will be Recreation in the Home.

Mrs. Sylvia Lee, and her associate will demonstrate ideas for family fun, and the meeting will be "party style" with members participating. Refreshments will be served by the second grade.

All P.T.A. members and friends are being asked to save the metal unwinding bands from cans of MJB coffee, as the organization is trying to get another coffee maker to supplement the one earned before Christmas through the sale of Christmas cards.

To be taken up at the meeting is the problem of a money-raising event, with suggestions to be made by the executive committee, who discussed the problem at their Monday night meeting.

Buy U. S. Savings Bonds!

## Brookings Harbor Pilot 5 THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1954

All aliens must register during the month of January. Necessary registration forms are available at the post office.

**a Vaccine will mean Victory!**

Join the **MARCH OF DIMES** IT WILL TAKE MORE IN '54!

January 2 to 31

new forest laws and modernized many of the old fire protection acts which had existed since the days of the steam donkey and logging railroad and aligned them with modern motor logging methods.

Outstanding new laws prohibited smoking in the woods while working or traveling through operation areas; advanced the closed fire season from May 15 to April 1; increased the bond insuring that logged-over areas would be reforested; called for loggers east of the Cascades to obtain operation permits; continued a timber severance tax to carry on forest research and established a \$750,000 emergency fire fighting fund. Helpful federal legislation was passed when President Eisenhower signed a forest credits bill authorizing national banks to make loans on managed timber.

The private lumber industry set the pace in all fields of forest progress, hung up new records in the tree farm movement as nearly 3,000,000 acres of tax-paying lands were included in the permanent timber cropping program. Private owners poured out huge sums for the construction of fire-breaks which formed protective lifebelts around the timberlands earmarked to keep pulp, plywood and sawmills in production. Denuded areas were hand planted to hasten reforestation.

During the year, the State Board of Forestry, custodian for 730,000 acres of state forests, turned over more than \$1.2 million to the counties as their share of timber sales. Owners of small woodlands who cut their timber under the advice of the farm forester service, received a cash income of more than \$20 per acre and still had plenty of timber to cut in future years. At the Oregon Forest Nursery, annual production was stepped-up to 7 million seedlings destined to restore the Tillamook burn and keep farm woodlots productive. For the first year in history, the Christmas tree farmers made money as scarcity of attractive Christmas trees boomed prices.

With all the advances made in good forestry, the state still faces the annual threat of forest fires, more attacks by the bark and engraver beetles, blow-downs, access road problems and competition from other states which are becoming as tree crop conscious as Oregon. Many acres of denuded timberlands must be brought into production, more green lumber must be processed within the state and the new technology and ideas developed in research.

## Cur-Del Cleaners

Fast, Efficient Cleaning & Pressing!

PICK-UP AND DELIVERY SERVICE! IN BROOKINGS

PHONE 2863

Agents for Del Norte Laundry

## SAVE MONEY

ON YOUR NEW HOME

OR COMMERCIAL BUILDING

Special conditions in this area require proper designing. Don't throw your money down the drain through faulty construction.

CONSULT

## MACK G. MALCOLM

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Office in Lesmeister Agency

Ph. 2271



## WHEN YOU SHOP IN COOS BAY

Have your car Serviced

At Lou Blanc, Inc.

Leave your packages in your car throughout the day

COMPLETE SERVICE - FAIR PRICES

-- Cadillac — Oldsmobile --  
-- Safety-Tested Used Cars --

VISIT OUR WHOLESALE ROW

**LOU BLANC, Inc.**

Across the street from the Post Office in Coos Bay



## READY MIX CONCRETE

(Our sand and gravel is washed, screened and weighed to give full measure and proper proportions of aggregate, to insure quality)

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Crushed Gravel     | River Run Sand and Gravel |
| Rock Fill Material | Clay Fill                 |
| Black Top Soil     | River Silt                |
| Clam Shell Soil    | Concrete Pipe & Ditching  |

NO JOB TOO SMALL

**Brookings RED-E-MIX Concrete Co.**

Central Bldg.

Phone 2442