

## New Ideas and Improved Methods

By FLOYD QUERY

JOHN B. WOODS, JR., of the State Forestry Department, with the assistance of the shop mechanics, has developed a "Bazooka" for peaceful use. The new device consists of three essential parts: a metal tube 44 inches in length with the lower end split and flattened to form a blade, a wooden thrust rod, and a three-inch coil spring. Instead of being a weapon of destruction, this implement is designed to reseed denuded forest lands with tree seeds.

Lynn F. Cronemiller, Assistant State Forester in charge of the lands division, advises that by using this device one man can seed about three acres per day as against about three-fourths of an acre per day by planting seedlings. It costs between \$3.00 and \$5.00 in the nursery to raise seedlings enough for an acre. Reforestation has largely been held back by the prohibitive cost of planting seedlings.

A technique of area poisoning to get rid of rodents that eat seeds has been developed, and if successful will open fully the way to cheap and quick reforestation of Oregon timber lands—a matter of vital importance in this state.

THIRTY-SIX LIVES SAVED, 7094 fewer injured workmen, and \$387,966.00 saved the Industrial Accident Fund in 1944 as compared with the 1943 record is the report of the Accident Prevention Division of the Industrial Accident Commission, according to information released by Ralph W. Emmons, administrator. The cost of the accident prevention program for the year was only \$144,827.00. These savings in lives and suffering are represented in dollars saved the accident fund by computing the average claim cost for 36 fatal and 7094 non-fatal claims.

It is with regret that we do not have the names of all the people who made this possible. Robert Evenden, Director of the Accident Prevention Division, and his staff are in direct charge of this work, conducting 112 safety training schools, publishing safety codes and a magazine, *Safer Oregon*, among other activities. Our own Governor Snell for years has been an active sponsor of accident prevention methods and has given his enthusiastic support to this plan.

NEW EQUIPMENT in the form of tractor loaders, purchased by the State Highway Commission for the Maintenance Department, and used primarily by the paving crews, has demonstrated a considerable saving in pavement patching costs. Cecil Daimler's crew reduced costs per ton for mixing hot-stuff from \$1.51 per ton in 1943 to \$1.26 per ton in 1944. This crew placed 16,337 tons which at \$0.25 per ton amounts to \$4084.00. The cost of the loader was about \$2500.00 and it will be used about ten years before it is worn out.

During the winter months, H. C. Melton used one of these loaders for cleaning ditches. He kept costs on an average day's work and found that it cost about \$0.40 per cubic yard to clean the ditches and haul the dirt away, using the loader. To shovel the dirt by hand and haul it away costs at least \$1.00 per cubic yard.

A combination of good equipment and intelligent operators is a money saving team in anybody's business.

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There is destiny that makes us brothers,  
None goes his way alone;  
All that we send into the lives of others,  
Comes back into our own.

—Edwin Markham