

WHAT THE FOREST SERVICE DOES FOR YOU

How the Administration of the National Forests is Conducted For the Benefit of the People



WALLACE IDAHO SWEEP BY FOREST FIRE IN 1910



RANGER ON PATROL DUTY IN WALLOWA NATIONAL FOREST

The national forests have been established from time to time by presidential proclamation to preserve a perpetual supply of timber for home industries, to prevent destruction of the forest cover which regulates the flow of streams, and to protect local residents from unfair competition in the use of forest and range. They are patrolled and protected by government expense for the benefit of the community and the homelander. In order to effectively carry out this policy the secretary of agriculture has issued certain regulations for occupancy and use of the forests to secure their greatest use and development for the benefit of the people as a whole. Under these regulations, which are based upon specific acts of congress, mature timber is sold, grazing of stock is permitted, and the occupancy of lands is allowed when such occupancy is not antagonistic to the purposes for which the forests were created. Examinations are also made of the isolated tracts of agricultural lands scattered throughout the forests and where such land is not needed for public purposes it is listed with the secretary of the interior for settlement and entry under the public land laws.

The forest service, aside from the administration of the forests, carries on investigations into the life history of the growing tree, its propagation, and its value for various commercial uses. The work of the service thus divides itself naturally into more or less well defined lines. In the organization of the six districts into which the national forests are divided, these lines of work are recognized by the placing of each under the direction of an expert in that particular line. Thus there are the offices of silviculture (including timber sales) grazing, lands, products, and for proper protection of the forests against the fire, the destruction of roads, trails, telephone lines, etc., and the office of operation. With this brief review of the organization of the service, it is possible to get an intelligent idea of what work has been done.

Timber Sales.

As previously stated, the mature timber on the national forests is not locked up or reserved from use. In fact, lumbering is inseparable from forestry, it being the business of the forester to raise trees for the harvest in the same way that the farmer raises his annual crop. On the national forests of Washington, Oregon and Alaska, is an estimated stand of 28,000,000,000 feet of saw timber, including a great amount of mature timber which should be cut, and the forest service is glad to sell it. As rapidly as funds will allow, the timber on the forests is being cruised and mapped. Every season parties are sent into the field for this purpose. During the past year parties of from six to twenty men each have worked on nine different national forests and have covered a large territory. The ultimate object of this cruising work and the data collected in connection with it is to formulate plans of cutting for the forests without which the practice of forestry is impossible. Of course the task of covering the 54,000,000 acres of national forests in Oregon, Washington and Alaska is a considerable one and until plans are completed the forest service aims to confine its cuttings to the timber most in need of cutting and for which there is demand.

The following is the stand of saw timber on the national forests of district 6, with the amount which can be provided and cut annually on each:

DOUGLAS FIR FORESTS.

Name of Forest.	Supervisors' Names and Addresses.	Amt. of standing timber M. Ft. E. M.	Estimated annual growth to be cut annually M. Ft. E. M.
Chugach	W. G. Weigle, Ketchikan, Alaska.	4,000,000	40,000
Tongass	W. G. Weigle, Ketchikan, Alaska.	67,000,000	670,000
Cascadia	C. H. Selinger, Eugene, Or.	22,844,000	228,440
Crater	M. L. Erickson, Medford, Or.	8,500,000	85,000
Oregon	T. H. Sherrard, Portland, Or.	12,500,000	125,000
Santiam	N. F. Macduff, Albany, Or.	11,340,000	113,400
Siskiyou	R. M. Fromme, Grants Pass, Or.	12,000,000	120,000
Stuslaw	A. E. Cohoon, Eugene, Or.	1,428,000	14,280
Umpqua	S. C. Hartman, Roseburg, Or.	18,500,000	185,000
Columbia	H. G. Stahler, Portland, Or.	1,500,000	15,000
Olympic	P. S. Lovejoy, Olympia, Wash.	24,580,000	245,800
Rainier	G. F. Allen, Tacoma, Wash.	6,870,000	68,700
Quinalmie	E. P. Kirkland, Seattle, Wash.	3,900,000	39,000
Wenatchee	C. H. Park, Bellingham, Wash.	10,735,000	107,350

YELLOW PINE FORESTS.

Name of Forest.	Supervisors' Names and Addresses.	Amt. of standing timber M. Ft. E. M.	Estimated annual growth to be cut annually M. Ft. E. M.
Crater	M. L. Erickson, Medford, Oregon.	487,000	4,870
Deschutes	J. Roy Harvey, Bend, Oregon.	4,643,000	46,430
Fremont	G. D. Brown, Lakeview, Oregon.	3,112,000	31,120
Malheur	Cy. J. Bingham, John Day, Oregon.	5,758,000	57,580
Miam	H. W. Harris, Wallowa, Oregon.	2,000,000	20,000
Ochoco	Horner Ross, Prineville, Oregon.	4,000,000	40,000
Paulina	W. W. Cryder, Oregon.	1,500,000	15,000
Umatilla	H. B. Rankin, Heppner, Oregon.	2,828,000	28,280
Wallowa	H. W. Harris, Wallowa, Oregon.	3,000,000	30,000
Wenaha	J. M. Schmitz, Walla Walla, Wash.	1,440,000	14,400
Whitman	Henry Ireland, Stumptown, Oregon.	2,683,000	26,830
Chelan	G. W. Milham, Chelan, Wash.	3,882,000	38,820
Okanogan	C. C. Reid, Republic, Wash.	3,898,000	38,980
Shoshone	H. M. Hale, Okanogan, Wash.	23,000	230
Wenatchee	A. H. Sylvester, Leavenworth.	4,031,000	40,310

Wherever possible cutting on national forests is done in such a way as to reproduce the forest naturally. Sometimes this cannot be done, however, and artificial reforestation must be resorted to. Again, on old burns, where the forest was so completely destroyed that no seed trees were left, reforestation cannot be expected to bring the soil into producing condition again. On such areas the forest service plans to start the new forest by sowing seed or planting young trees. So far much of the work done has been of an experimental character to determine the method applicable to different conditions.

Reforestation Methods.

Seed may be sown broadcast or in selected and prepared spots. The former takes more seed and much of it is wasted by not falling in suitable places. Planting seedlings, while more expen-

should be everybody's business is nobody's business.

It is not so within the national forests. Here it is distinctly the business of forest officers—rangers and guards—to see that fires do not exist, and if they do get started, to suppress and extinguish them. The forest service works upon the common truth that prevention is better than cure and accordingly is completing as rapidly as possible a simple yet extensive system of trails, roads, and telephone lines which ramify to all parts of the forest to enable the rangers to quickly and easily reach or report any fire which may get started. The national forests are subdivided into districts or beats, each one of which contains an area which can be conveniently patrolled by one man, either on foot or horseback. The man who is in charge of a fire beat must visit all parts of it as often as possible. If the fire danger is particularly bad he must traverse it along the most important route once every day. If not so important, once or twice a week may be sufficient.

Caring for Existing Timber.

Aside from the assurance of a perpetual supply of timber produced on the national forests, for further needs of the people, the insurance against destruction by fire of the mature timber and young growth already existing is one of the duties of the forest service.

To many who are accustomed to the sight of repeated forest fires year after year their suppression and prevention seem almost impossible. The constant carelessness of unthinking people, in either setting fires or not doing anything to stop them after once started, has brought about a belief in many places that forest fires, although deplorable, are to be expected the same as storms or any other natural phenomena. Yet, as a matter of fact, forest fires, if taken in time, are one of the simplest and easiest of evils to overcome. In the ordinary timbered regions around about the towns and farming communities, a fire in burning brush or old logging works is too often looked upon as nobody's business to attend to. It is the usual case, that "what

SOME LONG SEA VOYAGES RECALLED

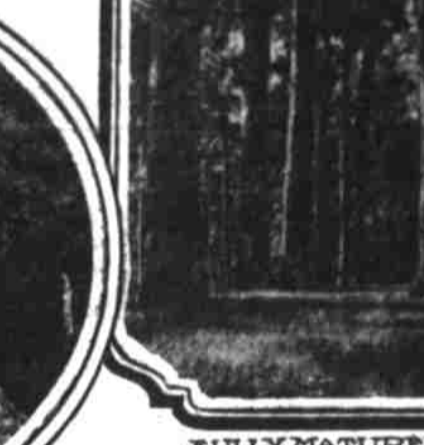
From the Pall Mall Gazette. THE other day the Italian ship Nifa sauntered into the channel with a change of wind and gale halled off Frawley Point, 126 days out from Astoria, bar, without once having been reported. To the nautical perception the sea is full of such lonely craft battering their way round the Horn through a region of almost perpetual gales, or idling in the doldrums to the irritation of their dispirited crews, who only find partial consolation in the reflection that every flap of the mainsail means half a crown out of the owner's pocket and a corresponding addition to their own hard earned pay.

Within the experience of the deep sea sailor such passages are nothing unusual, particularly on the outward voyage to the Pacific, when Cape Horn has to be weathered and its prevailing westerly winds won through. On March 2, 1918, the four masted bark Invernesshire sailed from Hamburg bound for Santa Rosalia in the Gulf of California. During a passage which included such incidents as her tempo-

SEED PLANTING CREW IN TILLAMOOK COUNTY



SOWING SEED AT WIND RIVER NURSERY



FULLY MATURED STAND OF YELLOW PINE IN WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST

SECTION OF ROGUE RIVER TRAIL SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST

miles of the former and 379 miles of the latter were constructed on the national forests in district 6. These, added to those already built in former years, make a total of 2301 miles of trail and 1173 miles of telephone line. This does not take into account hundreds of miles of miners' prospectors' and settlers' trails, and a large mileage of commercial telephone lines, to which nearly all of the lines built on the national forests are connected either directly or indirectly.

Relation of Grazing to Forestry.

The six years of government regulation in the use of the range in Oregon and Washington has shown that the presence of cattle, horses and sheep may be of decided benefit to efficient protection. Sheep have been accused of doing untold damage to the range and to tree growth. Under the old unrestricted method of range use, particularly in handling sheep, continual drives were made from camp to camp all summer long in order to be the first to reach the choice feed. Extended camps were made on these desirable areas and heavy damage resulted not only to the forest production in the vicinity of the bedding ground, but also to the range itself.

Government control has changed all this and has not only protected the users of the range, but also increased the amount of forage yearly available for use.

Forest Service's Land Policy.

It is the policy of the forest service to put lands within national forests to their highest economic use. Lands which are unquestionably chiefly valuable for agriculture, except tracts necessary for administrative purposes, are to be used for occupation and development by home makers. Since settlement within as well as near the national forests is an aid to their protection and development, there is every reason to encourage use for agriculture of lands which can properly be opened for settlement. Although the forest service is anxious that there shall be permanent settlers within the forests,

it is just as desirous that valuable timbered lands or other natural resources shall not pass from the possession of the government in order to afford individuals an opportunity for speculation.

The following statistics indicate the volume of work already done by the forest service under the forest homestead act and the practical effectiveness of the law in its primary purpose of bona fide home building. More than 113,384 acres, consisting of nearly 1200 separate tracts have been received in all the national forests since the passage of the law. The number received in district 6 is 4626. Since the passage of the act, in this district alone 113,384 acres, consisting of nearly 1200 separate tracts have been listed, which means that over 1200 families have been provided with homes.

The most difficult problem is still that of the level agricultural lands of timber. As rapidly as possible, such lands are being classified and timber sales solicited in order that timber may be removed and the lands opened to settlement. The forest homestead act has now been in operation nearly six years, and as a consequence, practically all the lands which can be opened to entry under certain forests have been so opened.

The forest service is anxious that all possible water power developments be made and that such a use of national forest land be put on a practical business basis whereby a company undertaking water power development is assured of a firm of permit of sufficient long life to warrant the investment and still keep this great resource in the ownership of all the people.

The national forests are the playgrounds of the people and the forest service stands for their protection. During the last season 83,000 people in Washington, Oregon and Alaska turned to the national forest for their recreation. The forest service lays out camp places, protects them and charges nothing for it. People who wish to build permanent camps, cabins and hotels, sanatoriums, or other legitimate recreation or business structures, can do so for a nominal sum.

Branch of Products.

The branch of products confines its activities mostly to investigations relating to the commercial use of forest products. Practically all other branches of the service have to do primarily with the administration of national forest areas.

The executive offices of the branch of products are located at Madison, Wis., and the work of the branch is directed from that point. There the University of Wisconsin has erected for forest service use of an elaborate building for housing the principal laboratories of the branch and providing office rooms for employees in charge of the work. The forest service has equipped this laboratory fully for carrying on all investigations concerning the utilization of wood.

Field offices of the branch of products are maintained in Washington, D. C., Boulder, Col., San Francisco, Cal., and Portland, Or. The office at Washington supervises all of products work in the Atlantic coast states, and the office at Madison directs the work of the branch throughout the middle western and plains states, known as the central division. The Boulder office has jurisdiction over the Rocky Mountain division, the San Francisco office, the state of California, and the Portland office directs the affairs of the northwestern division, including Oregon.

Solomon's exhortation to "go as the ant" is being followed in Paris, where the latest craze among fashionable women is to have an ant kept. In sight of 10 salons a glass case is kept with a colony of ants.

By one of those inexplicable freaks of fashion the works of the great sculptor, Bernini, are being followed in a recent craze of following a woman in a woman's high-heeled shoes.