

obligations.

To a large extent Northwestern banks are taking just this sort of tions behind which timber is the only or indirectly, therefore, it involves a large portion of bank loans, especially on the west side of the mountains. And back of the lumber industry, ently. every time, timber constitutes the real resource upon which its solvency depends. Destroy all our timber and our lumber business is completely wrecked, and with it numberless dependent enterprises. Partial destrucally.

realize the business of other custo-mers would be seriously affected by ent force of men working harmoni- have said nothing of the damage to injury to the lumber business of one ously, and in simplifying having them stream flow and countless indirect in-or more concerns or localities. Although you seldom take timber as actual security by means of mort-gage, you do furnish money to meet ed just the same advantages for offi- of your grocerles at home is directly pay rolls, build sawmills, or buy timber land, when destruction of timber would certainly weaken the borrow-er's ability to meet his note. And as a rule you make no investigation of its safety.

meet certain standards of insurance lie resource, it put its supporters in less the danger of actual loss and the in the form of fire preventive effort. a strong position to ask for reciprocal greater the sale value of the property. Recently it has begun to attract at- help. Legislatures soon appropriat- Fankers should impress this briefly here today.

still more than counterbalances the pay but had to be patrolled with the undoubted improvement of public rest, was brought through a very dry sentiment on the fire question. Too year with but 1600 acres loss; about few people realize that the great a fiftieth of one per cent. Over 1300 when a combination of wind and hot same record. weather will fan beyond control some

of the small, apparently innocent, thing in this state. Oregon is besooner or later.

rod

lumberman himself as a customer, although probably oftener than you could not, and the small owner who way and in riot or invasion actually ent force of men working harmoni- have said nothing of the damage to tent by the state. In short it afford- cost of your ticket to Pendleton and cering that a city fire department affected by the lumber traffic which does over any protection which could helps support the railroads and buy be maintained independently by each their supply of ties, poles, and car city property owner.

But even more important still, the Interest in this subject from a broad in its field, it was not subject than unprotected timber. The more banking standpoint was first shown to the prejudice which the individual systematic the union of its owner with

more careful with fire.

fire. Every year sees more campers ington, for example, at a cost of less should maintain patrol and join his in the woods, more settlers clearing than a cent and a half an acre, neighbors in associate effort whenland, more locomotives throwing nearly three million acres belonging ever the opportunity exists. If the sparks, and more logging activity to to association members, with about banking industry will do this concreate dangerous slashings. All this five million acres more which did not certedly and consistently, it will have

menace is the abnormal year which fires were put out and not 6 reached is certain to come occasionally any importance. Idaho shows the

Now we are trying to do the same fires bound to be smouldering some- bind the rest of the northwest in this made their mark not alone in Paris, where. We had such a year in 1992, work. Its legislature appropriates but in Europe and in England. When when in a few days six billion feet of only \$250 a year for fire protection Melba, the proma donna, heard her timber was consumed in Oregon and against Washington's \$23,000. It has singing trills and scales in Marchesi's Washington. We will have another a great many progressive timber studio in Paris a few years ago she owners. They spent \$40,000 on patrol was struck with the birdlike quality

These things, with the rise of tim- last year. But in some cases this of her voice, and the intelligence and ber values and consequent heavier came to 5, 6 or 8 cents an acre be-losses, have led to a great change cause others did nothing. We have in the attitude of timber owners as too many owners who do nothing be-much interest in her career, and Miss One by one they have be- cause they think their neighbors Parkina accompanied her on a congun to realize that to consider fire must protect them anyway. We have cert tour around the world, giving damage as the act of God, to be reck- organized several associations but her the benefit of her art and exoned as a certain percentage of risk find difficulty in getting this class to perience. Finally she took her to

One patrolman can put out a hund- this \$30,000,000 which will soon be incipient fires cheaper than a \$100,000,000, goes to pay for labor risk without realizing it, in transac- bundred men can fight one real fire, and supplies and is circulated in every and the timber is saved besides, channel of agriculture and commerce real estate. Lumbering is our most important industry. Either directly ation. If one man can patrol the or indirectly therefore, it involves a buildings of two or more owners, it Oregon lose \$8 on every thousand feet is cheaper to hire him jointly than of timber burned, while the owner to maintain several men independ- may lose \$2. Nevertheless, some years more and some less, on an average In Idaho and Washington they we burn up timber which saved for soon went farther yet and formed manufacture would bring in seven to co-operative associations, assessing ten million dollars to be shared by the members upon their acreage. A every industry including the banks, few years experience taught that this We burn cutover land which if probrought great advantages beyond tected could be cut again in 60 years. tion has the same effect proportion-or bringing in the non-resident own-55.000,000 annually. There is pracer who could no nothing otherwise, theally no difference to the communi-

material.. But even more important still, the But to return to the immediate association began to influence public point. Clearly timber protected by sentiment. Being semi-public and its owner is a safer asset or security by eastern houses making a specialty timber owner may encounter. By af-of timber land loans, who are more fording means of advertising the machinery for patrol, fire fighting and more insisting that borrowers sums spent in protecting a great pub- and moulding public sentiment, the tention here at home and Mr. Hart- ed for state assistance. Railroad com- clients and adopt an attitude toward man kindly invited me to discuss it panies were reached and made to be prospective borrowers which will in-Careless fluence the latter's action. While it In considering the fire hazard to lumbermen were forced to stop set- may be going too far to imply preswhich timber is subject, we must re- ting a bad example and warranting sure, you can at least ask the lummember that while protection is in- charges of reckless vandalism. berman what protection he supports creasing, so is the possible source of The result has been that in Wash- and show him that you think he strong effect.

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