

### Farmers Planting Crops That May Not Ripen for 100 Years

**By WATFORD REED**  
**INS Staff Correspondent**

PORTLAND (INS)—Nearly 4,500 farmers in all parts of the United States are growing a crop that will take somewhere between 15 and 100 years to ripen.

They are the nation's 4,500 tree farmers who have set aside a total of 28,462,111 acres for growing trees as a perpetual crop.

The quickest crop is in the south, where forests can be thinned after 15 years and the small trees cooked for use in paper. The trees left on the land grow faster because they get more light.

In the Douglas fir belt of the far northwest, the first crop is harvested after about 40 years, unless some Christmas trees are taken out at the age of five or 10 years.

In the northwest, the small timber is used for poles, firewood or pulp wood for paper-making. The healthier trees keep on growing toward a harvest at an age somewhere between 60 and 100 years.

The trees thinned out in these "early" harvests usually would die of overcrowding, anyway, and their value would be lost. They probably would become fire hazards, too.

**Farmer's Aim**  
The aim is to cut out deformed, broken and damaged trees, overcrowded trees and an occasional "weed" tree—an extra large specimen that spreads out and prevents others from growing.

Some timber owners in the far northwest prune off the limbs to a point 17 feet from the ground so that at maturity the trees can be sold as "peeler logs" for making plywood or "clear" lumber. They will have no knots where there are no limbs.

The aim is to keep the land producing trees as a crop—in contrast to the "cut and get out" tactics that left millions of acres of denuded, churned-up waste land in older parts of the country in years gone by.

One reason is that millions of acres of land are better suited to raising trees than any other crop. The returns are higher than they would be from any other kind of vegetation on the same land.

For instance, erosion forced a southern farmer to abandon a hillside cotton field. Pine trees got started on the land some way, and he let them grow. He has sold \$5,400 worth of pulp wood from the land so far, and he has 10,000 board feet of saw logs to the acre still growing. And the trees will combat any further erosion.

A tree farmer in the Great Lakes region has harvested \$4,800 worth of hardwood saw logs from an 80-acre tract. He expects to keep on harvesting every five years. The timber, incidentally, is in better condition today than it was when he began selective cutting.

About a fourth of the nation's 460 million acres of commercial



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### Jaycees Select Ten Top Young Americans

Tulsa, Okla. (AP)—An episcopal bishop who uses an airplane to carry religion to remote Alaska villages and a Seattle geologist who was a leader in scientific work on the Jukebox set were among the 10 top young American men of 1953 selected Saturday by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

### Judge Orders Double Shift for This House

DALLAS (AP)—Judge Charles Long Jr. ordered this temporary arrangement on occupancy of a house which was part of disputed property in a divorce case.

### Travelers Aid Social Service Given by Trained Workers

NEW YORK (INS)—The woman said she was nearly 65, but she looked much older. She was main and gray and her feet dragged when she walked. She said she was new in town and needed a job and a place to live.

Perhaps Travelers Aid could help her?

She told the worker on duty in the Pittsburgh railroad station that she didn't know where else to go.

At first, it looked pretty hopeless. She had lived and worked in many places, but had never been strong enough to hold a job. Her only relative was a sister somewhere on the West Coast—and she hadn't seen her in 30 years.

Worked Fast  
Travelers Aid worked fast. The woman's sister was living in California, but she was on a Pacific cruise. She was reached by radio.

TA found a job for the sister in Pittsburgh. This time she didn't have to hold it very long—only until she had saved up her train fare to California. She lives now—with a permanent place to live and a loved one live with.

Like thousands of others, the lost sister had found Travelers Aid something more than an information booth in a railroad station. And it is considerably more—a complete social service agency with trained case workers.

Takuo Koizumi, a Japanese railroad official, says the thing in America and he hopes to establish a similar service in his own country.

A Dutch air cadet remembers where pretty women walk in and beautiful walk out... CAPTAIN SHOPPING CENTER

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