

Ten Tons of Seed for Restocking National Forests

Washington, D. C., Aug. 2nd.—The U. S. Department of Agriculture is using this year ten tons of National Forests seed for restocking. Most of this seed has already been planted or sown. The rest will be utilized later in the season, as favorable conditions are presented.

It takes a great many tree seeds to make ten tons. Jack pine, the most important tree for planting in the Nebraska sand hills by the Forest Service, will average something like 125,000 to the pound. Of Western yellow pine, the tree most extensively planted throughout the National Forests as a whole, 10,000 seed will make a pound. Altogether, the ten tons of seed to be used this year represent perhaps 300 million single seeds.

If every seed could be depended on to produce a young tree suitable for planting, the result would be a supply of nursery stock sufficient to plant 300,000 acres of land; but no such result can be looked for, because many seeds do not germinate. Most of the seed will be sown, either broadcast or in seed spots, or planted with a corn-planter, directly in the place where the trees are to stand.

Even when nursery stock is raised a liberal allowance must be made for loss. In the first place, a considerable percentage of the seeds will be found to be infertile. Of those which germinate, many will die before they leave the nursery beds, and many more will be lost in transplanting. If, from a pound of Western yellow pine seed that contains 10,000 individual seeds, 4,000 three-year-old transplants are available for field planting, the Department of Agriculture has obtained satisfactory results.

There are now twenty-four National Forests nurseries with an annual productive capacity of over 8,000,000 seedlings. But there are many millions of old burns on the National Forests which are waiting to be restocked, and some quicker and cheaper method than the actual planting of nursery grown trees is urgently needed. Therefore the foresters are making experiments on a large scale with different methods of direct sowing and planting, and most of the seed gathered last year was

obtained for this use.

Broadcasting has already been found to give good results in some regions. It was first tried in the Black Hills of South Dakota, with an encouraging outcome. To broadcast an acre of land with yellow pine seed, about 8 pounds of seed is used. One of the most formidable drawbacks to this method is the extent to which the seed may be consumed by birds and rodents. If the season happens to be one in which food for these animals is scarce, the loss is very heavy. The problem of control of animal pests, such as field mice, ground squirrels, and gophers which eat the tree seeds, and also the further problem of preventing the depredations of rabbits, which are altogether too fond of the little trees themselves, whether nursery transplants or field grown seedlings, is receiving the attention of the Biological Survey experts of the Department of Agriculture.

In some localities the Department has had to purchase seed, but most of that used is gathered by Forest Service men themselves. The cost of gathering has varied for the different regions from thirty-five cents to one dollar a pound. As a rule the seed is collected in the fall months, when most conifers ripen their seed. Parties of three or four men ordinarily work together. Where lumbering is in progress the collectors follow the sawyers and take the cones directly from the felled trees. In standing timber, the task is much more arduous. The men must often climb tall pines and pull the cones from the branches as best they can. Where these are on the extremities and beyond the reach of the hand, pruning shears are used. The cones are dropped to the ground and then gathered into buckets and transferred to sacks, in which they are carried to a central point for further treatment.

The extraction of the seeds is tedious rather than difficult. In some cases the cones are spread out upon sheets in the sun, when, after a time, they open and the seed drop out; in other cases it is necessary to resort to artificial heat. This is applied by placing the cones upon trays with screen bottoms and raising the temperature of the room to the proper degree. The cones open, the winged seeds fall out, and the seed is separated finally from wings and dirt by a fanning mill. A good

many seeds have been removed from the cone by hand, but this is a sore trial to the fingers of the pickers and an exceedingly slow process.

A Remarkable Tree.

Editor RECORDER:—As Bandon is enjoying a successful revival meeting at present, allow me to give to your paper a story which may assist in the good work going on.

In the graveyard of the mining town of Anaberg, in Saxony, grows a tremendously large Linden tree, which is known to be 400 years old. There is something so remarkable and noteworthy in the shape and form of its branches that it never fails to attract the attention of visitors. The tree is taken care of by the citizens of the town, who have built a number of stone pillars around it so as to rest the limbs of the tree upon them and thus prevent their splitting or breaking off.

The story in connection with this tree is as follows:

The son of the preacher in the distant past, was, to his father's greatest sorrow, a non-believer in God and a resurrection of the dead. All the father's good words were spoken for naught. One time after preaching a sermon at the grave of one of the citizens at whose head a young Linden tree grew, the father called his son to the new grave and spoke seriously to him of life and eternity. The young man listened, but as usual, laughed and denied a resurrection, telling his father that as this Linden tree would not live and grow when pulled out of the soil, and the limbs buried in the soil while the roots extended upward, so would it be impossible for a dead man to be resurrected for another life.

Without any more lecturing, the father took the tree out of the ground and planted it reversed; then he knelt down, asking his Father in Heaven to make the tree grow and thereby save his son from death everlasting.

The son smiled, but to the joy of the father the tree began to grow and thrive, leaves put out from the roots and blossoms followed, year after year. Meantime, the son looked at it watched it thrive, and began to learn that there was more between heaven and earth than the smartest of the smart can describe. His disbelief vanished, and faith and hope entered his soul. He was no longer a sorrow to his father, but aided him by words and deeds, and was loved by all good people.

Four hundred years have passed since this tree was thus planted; no storms have broken it, age has not claimed its own. The story is believed by all those who see it. A silent but mighty teacher of the power of Jehovah and an everlasting life. POHL

To Move Fruit Crop

The railroads in the Northwest are making preparation to move the 1910 fruit crop, which will be the largest ever harvested in this section. With many acres of new orchards in bearing, and fine crops on the old ones, the output from the fruit growing sections will tax the capacity of the railroads to supply refrigerator cars. Railroad traffic officials have been making careful surveys of the orchards in Eastern Washington, Oregon and Idaho, with a view of sizing up the situation, and have ordered more cars than were ever before used in handling the crop. Wenatchee, for example, expects to ship 3,500 cars of fruit this year at an average value of \$700 a car, which means an output of \$2,450,000 from that thriving valley. The Yakima country, the Hood River country, and other leading fruit growing sections will surpass this output, and the railroads will be kept busy. Traffic men declare they feel under an obligation to handle the fruit crop as expeditiously as possible, for the railroads are each year advertising widely the possibilities of fruit growing in the Northwest, and they realize that having once brought the settler here it is up to them to help him market his product.

Is Cuba Capable?

America sighed with relief this morning upon being assured that the Cuban revolt was insignificant. No more fervid prayer has ever been uttered for Latin-American peace than that welling from the lips of Uncle Sam as he views the broils of the little island republic tumbling about in its swaddling clothes. More depends upon Cuba's growth than upon any other single ward of the Monroe circle. If some guiding hand that instills the doctrine of peace will quell the fiery, selfish Latin spirit in Cuba, until the people can learn what peace and progress mean, there will be a thank offering from 100,000,000 people in these United States.

Peace among the Latin scions that mingled with the American negro and aborigines, seemed impossible once in a not distant past. But Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and a few lesser lights of Latin America have progressed wonderfully in the ways of peace. They have proved that civilization has not lost all seed in this, hopeful soil. Lines for a new race of controllable force and adaptation to tropic conditions are forming. The United States is the strongest friend of the new conditions, and in taking advanced position in behalf of Cuba, has risked much, and would lose did Cuban incapacity become an irrefutable fact. But if the island republic triumphs, the United States becomes the queen of nations in a new role, which will cement the Americas and establish an illustrious precedent in the direction of world peace.—Telegram.

Fools and Forest Fires.

Probably there will be forest fires in this section of the country, and in other sections too, where there are forests to destroy, so long as there are fools close enough to forests to set fire to them.

Yet, the enormous waste of property due to these fires; the destruction of a vast amount of standing timber; the killing of young trees; the burning of houses; the wiping out of villages adjacent to forests, and the loss of human life ought to remind dull men that they are under some sort of obligation to be careful about the use of fire in the woods.

Apparently, the only way one can ever hope to put a stop to this annually recurring waste of property and life is by devising some means of adequately guarding the forests, and the only way to do that is to have a sufficient number of forest policemen on the ground.

The state of Washington, in common with other timber states, has suffered heavy losses on account of forest fires in the dry period, and these losses, here and elsewhere, will continue unless we can work out some method of keeping a closer watch on the forests.

There is no reason why camper or others should carelessly leave fires in the edges of the wooded areas, nor is there any reason why a man should throw a lighted match, or a cigar or a cigarette into a bed of dry leaves and grass.

But such things happen, for the same reason that many other thoughtless things happen. Some men are thoughtless. They never stop to weigh the consequences of their acts. And some men are simply indifferent. They don't care. That's why we have to have governments and laws and public officials.

While it may not be possible wholly to prevent forest fires, it is possible to minimize them, and we must work out some plan to do it. Forest fires are costly. Often they are tragic, but we can't stop them unless we step in between the forests and the fool with fire.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The Coos Bay Times says: Geo. Forty has arrived here with the hide of the sea otter he shot recently below Port Orford. Mr. Forty brought it up to be passed upon by S. C. Brown, who is an old otter hunter

Bandon Recorder

THURSDAY

AUG. 4, 1910

Lodge and Professional Directory

Lodges are Requested to Notify this Office on Election of Officers and on Change of Meeting Night. Cards under this head are 50c per in., month.

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BANDON LODGE, No. 133, I. O. O. F., meets every Wednesday evening. Visiting brothers in good standing cordially invited. A. Knapp, Secretary. L. J. Radley, N. G.

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MEETS in I. O. O. F. hall every second and fourth Tuesday evening. Practice nights 1st Tuesday of the month; Social evening the 3d Tuesday of the month. A cordial invitation extended to all members in good standing. Clara Goetz, N. G. Belle A. Kolp, Secretary.

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DELPHI LODGE, No. 64, Knights of Pythias. Meets every Monday evening at Knights hall. Visiting knights invited to attend. Wm. N. McKay, G. C. B. N. Harrington K. of R. S.

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G. W. REA

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