

NATIONAL FORESTS AND THEIR PROTECTION

(Continued from page one)
three-fourths of the material for our paper products.

Some believe that it is a question for posterity to solve, but this is not in keeping with our usual policy as Americans. Were we so selfish as to consider our own interests, and with no thought of the future, and what we will leave future generations, we should be justly condemned, but looking at the situation from that point of view, we find that we now have 50 per cent of the remaining merchantable timber in the three Northwestern states and 70 per cent of the land suitable for growing timber lying in the Eastern states.

The twenty thousand sawmills of the nation are annually cutting thousands of acres of timber land, and cutting only the choicest species. The owner is so burdened with taxes and so menaced with fire that he must cut and cut quickly.

This results in his cutting the timber for which there is a present demand, and leaving in the woods the less desirable species, much of which is usable, and much of which will be badly in need in a short time, to be destroyed by the fires which sweep these abandoned slashings. There is no fire more destructive than one of these. The fire not only consumes the merchantable timber left, and the seed which mother nature has for years been storing in the duff; it also consumes the seedlings and reproduction.

Here we are confronted with one of the great wrongs; we are cutting timber with no provision for the future, and cutting and burning it six times faster than we are growing it, and burning twice as much as the twenty thousand mills are cutting. The pity of it is that there is no more need for the average forest fire than there is for the average grade crossing accident; all that is needed is a little more thought and care.

We have something like fifty thousand forest fires annually, and they represent a fire line 33,000 miles in length; enough to cross this continent from ocean to ocean ten times and with a front three-quarters of a mile deep. The annual loss is over \$500,000,000. This is an appalling waste, and the very saddest part of it is that most of it is preventable.

This is a stupendous sum and whether or not it represents sufficient attack on our prosperity to be classed as a national menace, the indifference of a people who are content to let it continue are a menace to any nation, no matter how rich and powerful.

A comparison of forest acreage over a period beginning with the time when the Indian was supreme and up to the present is interesting and educational.

Of the 822,000,000 acres of forested land we have left 470,000,000 acres. Eighty-one million of this carries an inferior tree growth, with some little value it is true, but hardly to be rated as forests. By area most of the 470,000,000 acres has been cut over, the sum total of virgin forests being only 135,000,000 acres. Let us become too optimistic it is well to remember that 80,000,000 acres of cutover land has been so devastated by fire that they will never produce saw timber unless artificially replanted, the cost of which is almost prohibitive.

The loss of the merchantable timber is comparatively small as usually a part of it can be salvaged. It is when we come to calculate the loss of young trees that we get into the nine figures.

How many of you have witnessed a real forest fire at close quarters? There is no more appalling, terrifying sight, and there is no greater hardship than that of sleepless, exhausted smoke and dirt begrimed men continuing the fight against insurmountable odds. There is no greater hardship and exhaustion, unless it be in war, or sometimes at sea, than that of thousands of sleepless and smoke blinded fire fighters every year, while so many others are seeking summer pleasures.

During the terrible fire season of 1910 when hot winds literally blew up hundreds of fires, rangers were led away sobbing that they would not give up the fight to save the districts for which they were responsible, and in many cases these men were sent away in order to make them rest and recuperate.

If we keep up our average we can expect 50,000 fires this coming year, 70 per cent of them preventable. We, or rather you, as the forests belong to the people, hire rangers and firemen, expend good money to train them in the arduous duty of fire

fighting and go right on carelessly setting fires. The time has come when our problem is not so much a fire hunt as it is a man hunt, until every man who so far forgets himself and his duty to his neighbor, as to carelessly and maliciously let a fire get away from him in the woods, is branded an enemy of society and is brought to justice.

No excuse can alter the fact. He may plead thoughtlessness or ignorance, and many of them do when confronted by the justice, but this does not compensate his victims. As a rule it is more than just carelessness. It violates the law. As an influence against other crimes and misdemeanors we quote precepts as old as the Commandments, but for those who are insufficiently influenced we invoke the law, and we add the distrust, and contempt of lawabiding citizens for those who break or condone it.

Other countries do not have the severe fires we have here. Disastrous fires are the exception rather than the rule, because the law is rigorously enforced and offenders well know that if they violate that law there is swift and human retribution.

Everyone, everywhere in this lavish wood-using country has a direct interest in maintaining a goodly supply of forest products, without which life would be decidedly awkward, if endurable. Wood in some form enters into more than two thousand articles in daily use, and for which there is no suitable substitute. The high standard of comfort, convenience and luxury in American life is largely due to the abundance of wood products.

There is an added appeal to millions of our people in the recreation possibilities of our forests, and last year some six million from all walks of life spent from a few days to a week and more in the National forests and returned to their tasks rested and refreshed. If properly conserved and protected this health land can be drawn on indefinitely. A land of fields framed in productive forests is a beautiful land, a land good to look upon, a land good to live in, and a land which kindles the fires of patriotism in our hearts.

Little or no progress in protection and conservation can be made until our people become forest minded. Until they are we will lack the necessary foundation in public opinion. You would be justly angry if some visitor carelessly tossed his burning cigarette stub or match into your hay stack or barn, or on your carpet. The burning of these would be a direct loss to you. The loss of timber and watershed on the beautiful river flowing at your door would be just as great a loss, although indirectly. Someone is continually tossing matches and cigarettes on the carpet so gorgeously patterned by mother nature.

The great size of the forests compared with the size of the protective force, the difficulty of reaching remote areas across miles of wilderness, the dry air and light rainfall in parts of the West, the prevalence of lightning in the mountains, and the constant use of fire in the daily life of the people and in industry, all combine to make the hazard exceptional.

Any successful methods of protection must be founded upon organization, public co-operation and sound forestry practices. No single agency is as important as public sentiment, combined with public co-operation.

It would be a fine thing if this community were so aroused to the necessity of protecting the forests on which they are dependent for present and future prosperity, that when an offender is known he will be justly rebuked and brought to account, and that when the call of fire is sounded every able bodied man will feel obligated to do his utmost to help control any fire which may get away.

When that time comes he who is so thoughtless or careless as to start a fire will be convinced of the necessity and in that way we can make a record of "Not one man-caused fire in the Colowash district." This is the slogan suggested for Estacada and vicinity and with the help and co-operation of all we will come near to accomplishing it.

Summons

In the Circuit Court for the State of Oregon for Clackamas County.
R. W. Cary, plaintiff, vs. the unknown heirs, if any, of Rebecca Jane Palmeter and Henry S. Palmeter, her husband, deceased, Charles Loar, the unknown heirs, if any, of defendant Charles Loar, the unknown heirs, if any, of William Sharon, deceased, and also all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the complaint herein, defendants.

To the unknown heirs, if any, of Rebecca Jane Palmeter and Henry S. Palmeter, her husband, deceased, Charles Loar, the unknown heirs, if any, of defendant Charles Loar, the unknown heirs, if any, of William Sharon, deceased, above named defendants, and to all other per-

sons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property herein-after and in the complaint described, and to each of you:

In the name of the state of Oregon, you and each of you are hereby commanded and required to appear and answer the complaint of the plaintiff filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit: On or before the 20th day of April, 1928, the date of the first publication hereof being the 23rd day of March, 1928, and if you fail to so appear and answer, for want thereof, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in his complaint herein, to-wit: That the defendants, and each of them, be required to set forth the nature of his, or their, or its claim in or to the following described premises, or any part thereof, situated in Clackamas county, Oregon, to-wit:

Beginning at a stone at the North-west corner of R. P. Young D. L. C. in section 13, township 3 south, range 3 east of Willamette meridian; thence north 70 degrees 15 minutes east 13.45 chains; thence north 51 degrees 45 minutes west 2.25 chains; thence north 65 degrees 20 minutes west 21.50 chains; thence south 47 degrees 30 minutes west 9.80 chains thence south 58 degrees west 3.00 chains; thence south 45 degrees west 5.44 chains; thence south 21 degrees 4.17 chains; thence south 2.00 chains; thence south 49 degrees east 5.40 chains; thence south 61 degrees 30 minutes east 7.33 chains thence south 73 degrees east 3.11 chains; thence south 56 degrees 3 minutes east 7.50 chains; thence south 80 degrees east 10.75 chains; and thence north 20 degrees west 18.10 chains to the place of beginning, containing 65.23 acres, more or less.

Also beginning at the Southwest corner of the Joseph Young Donation Land Claim in section twelve (12) township 3 south range 3 east of Willamette meridian; running thence south 70 degrees 15 minutes west 480.44 feet; thence north 5 degrees 45 minutes west 2.25 chains thence north 65 degrees 20 minutes west 21.50 chains to the Clackama river; thence north 25 degrees east 673.2 feet; thence north 12 degrees 45 minutes east 1590.6 feet; thence north 805.2 feet to the northwest corner of the south half of the Jame Waldrip Donation Land Claim thence east along the north line of said south half 853.37 feet to the east line of said Waldrip claim thence south 5 degrees 30 minutes east 3465.6 feet, tracing the east line of said Waldrip claim to the place of beginning.

Excepting from the last described tract the following:—Starting at a stone at the southwest corner of the Joseph Young Donation Land Claim following the west line of said claim in a northerly direction thirty-four and five-one hundredths (34.05) chains to the place of beginning thence north 50 degrees 28 minutes 47 seconds west nine hundred ninety-four (994) feet to a post 4x inches on line of said claim; thence south 89 degrees 22 minutes 13 seconds west 850.1 feet; thence south 0 degrees, 44 minutes 47 seconds east, 300 feet; thence south 4 degrees 36 minutes, 13 seconds west 200 feet; thence south 0 degrees 4 minutes 47 seconds east 400 feet thence south 4 degrees 11 minutes 13 seconds west 121.2 feet and thence north 89 degrees 22 minutes 13 seconds east, 973.3 feet to the place of beginning, containing twenty (20) acres, more or less, all being in Clackamas county, Oregon.

That all adverse claims of the said defendants and or either of them be determined by a decree of this court, and that by said decree it be declared and adjudged that none of the defendants in this suit have an estate or interest whatever in and to said land and premises, or any part thereof, and that the title of plaintiff is good and valid, and a title in fee simple, and that the defendants, and each of them, and all persons claiming by, through or under them, or either of them be forever enjoined, and debarred from asserting or attempting to assert, any claim, right, title, estate, lien or interest in or to said premises, or any part thereof adverse to this plaintiff, and that plaintiff have such other and further relief as to the court may seem mete and agreeable to equity.

This summons is served upon you by publication thereof once a week for four consecutive and successive weeks in the Eastern Clackamas News, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in Estacada, Oregon, within Clackamas county, Oregon, pursuant to an order of the Honorable J. U. Campbell judge of the above entitled court which order was made and entered on the 17th day of March, 1928, and which order directed that service of summons be made upon you by publication as aforesaid.

The undersigned, attorney for the plaintiff, is a resident attorney of the state of Oregon, and his postoffice and residence address is Oregon City, Oregon, Room 3, Andresen Building.

The date of the first publication hereof is March 23, 1928.

O. D. EBY,
Attorney for Plaintiff, Residence and postoffice address, Room 3, Andresen Building, Oregon City, Oregon. m23 a20

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