

Deschutes Ranger FOR DECEMBER

The December number of the Deschutes Ranger just issued from the local forestry office, has as a front-piece a view of the bridge at Allingham ranger station constructed last spring by Ranger Vincent.

Extracts from the Ranger follow: Ranger Harrison has been posting boundary along the south side of his district north of Fort Rock.

Forest Ranger Smith is still assisting in the preparation of the final maps and estimates necessary in connection with the extensive land classification report which work is now nearing completion.

Forest Assistant Sprout is working up the final tracings and estimates in connection with the Big River land classification project, the field work for which was done this fall.

A total of 7411 June 11 applications have been received in District 6 since the passage of the Forest homestead act. 1793 of these have been either wholly or partially listed, the listed area being 171,000 acres. According to number of applications received during the fiscal year 1914, the different Forests in the District rank as follows: Sunlaw, Rainier, Deschutes, Colville, Oregon, Crater, Siskiyou, Paulina, Fremont and Okanogan, Malheur, Olympic, Chugach, Cascade, Wenaha, Columbit, Tongass, Wenatchee, Minam.

In response to an inquiry as to whether or not Forest officers will be granted leave during the fire season in order to visit the San Francisco Exposition, the District Forester has stated that no leave would be granted for this purpose between the dates of July 15 and September 15.

Reports from the Forester show that a total of 612 fires occurred in 1914, distributed among the seven districts as follows: No. 1, 1975; No. 2, 279; No. 3, 569; No. 4, 327; No. 5, 1468; No. 6, 1239; No. 7, 335. Preliminary estimates show that the total loss of merchantable timber was probably not over \$400,000 in value. In 1910 the value of timber injured or destroyed was about \$6,500,000.

Forest Ranger Smith has purchased a new five passenger Ford automobile which will be very valuable to him in connection with the handling of work in his district, which is an extended one with an unusual fire danger and which is well provided with roads.

Ranger Vincent has established 3 snow stakes provided by the United States Weather Bureau, at three different points in the mountains west of Sisters, where monthly measurements will be taken. The first stake is installed near the Cold Spring counting corral in Section 2, T. 15 S., R. 9 E., the second at the Cache Creek Ranger Station in Section 14, T. 14 S., R. 8 E., and the third at a trapper's cabin a short distance south west of the Cache Creek station. These readings will furnish us with accurate information regarding the depth of snow, regarding which many questions are asked us each year. Measurements for November and December have already been taken.

Forest Supervisor Merritt was in Portland from December 17 to 24 attending a meeting of the District Investigative Committee, of which he is a member, which annually prepares a program of investigative work for this district, which includes Washington, Oregon and Alaska, that covers all investigative work for the coming year.

Shirley Buck of the District office was in Bend December 20, 21 and 22 making an official inspection of the supervisor's office and records, as well as the service reports and diaries of all rangers. His report, a copy of which has been received, commends the work that is being done and offers a number of good suggestions for improving it. Such an administrative inspection is very beneficial in that it calls attention to our weak points, not in a spirit of criticism but in order that we may pick up the loose ends and increase our efficiency.

C. B. Hudson of the First National Bank has given the local office permission to use, temporarily, an additional room adjoining our present quarters. This is very much appreciated since our office force is greatly increased during the winter on account of the fact that we have a number of men engaged in compiling field data taken last season.

In a report presented at the Western Forestry and Conservation Association meeting on December 7 and 8 the District Forester stated that in Washington and Oregon the Forest Service extinguished 1239 fires this year against a total of 632 in 1913, 367 in 1912, 842 in 1911, and 1008 in 1910. The fire fighting cost this year was \$124,000 against \$10,000 last year, \$5,000 in 1913, \$102,000 in 1911 and \$173,000 in 1910. Although the number of fires was large and the cost great, the timber loss was comparatively small. For every four acres of green timber killed or destroyed in 1910, only four-fifths of an acre was killed or destroyed this year. In other words, judging by the acreage burned, the fire fighting machinery of the Forest Service was five times as efficient as in 1910. Among the reasons are that the Service has six times as much telephone line as in 1910, nearly two and one half times as much trail and about a hundred high peak lookout stations. Also in 1910 the Service had comparatively few men who had ever fought fire to any extent. This year every Forest had on it a number of men who were well experienced in this work with well thought out and recorded plans for any emergency that was likely to arise.

Forest Ranger South has completed the Crescent Ranger station yard fence that we began during the fire season. He has also finished a new well and an out door cellar at the

station which add greatly to the convenience of the place.

Ranger Onsey is putting a new shake roof on the old log barn at the Big River Ranger Station so that it will be temporarily usable as a shelter for his horses during the winter season.

Ranger Austin is building a cabinet in the Forest Service store room at Bend in which the nonexpensive articles or property stored there may be placed in systematic order.

In the report of the Forester for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, it is stated that last year there were excluded from the National Forests 1,565,141 acres of land and added 269,695 acres.

Commercial sales of timber aggregated 1,525,877,000 feet, valued at \$2,535,959. The actual cut was 616,661,000 feet, valued at \$1,264,530. In addition to this amount nearly 10,000,000 feet of timber was sold in sales at cost rates to settlers under regulation B-9, Oregon, with a cutting of 74,000,000 feet ranked third in amount of timber cut, Montana and Idaho taking first and second places respectively. Altogether there were 8,298 timber sales made of which 7,926 involved an amount of timber valued at \$100 or less, 146 with a value of \$100 to \$500; 64 with a value of \$500 to \$1,000; 108 with a value of \$1,000 to \$5,000; and 54 with a value over \$5,000. In addition to these, there were 2,341 small sales to farmers at cost.

In the report of forest fires for the calendar year 1913 it is shown that 47.9 per cent burned one fourth acre or less, 24.6 per cent between one-fourth and ten acres, 23.9 per cent ten acres and over with a damage of \$100 or less, 3.3 per cent ten acres and over with a damage between \$100 and \$1,000 and 55 per cent with a damage over \$1,000. The following table gives the causes of fires by number and per cent:

Railroad locomotives	543	12.61
Lightning	1571	34.76
Incendiarism	452	10.00
Brush burning	232	5.13
Campers	513	11.35
Sawmills, donkey engines, etc.	66	1.46
Unknown	886	19.60
Miscellaneous	257	5.69
Total	4520	100.00

MARKET REPORT.
NORTH PORTLAND, Jan. 15.—Receipts for the week have been: cattle 1633, calves 31, hogs 9021, sheep 5026. The cattle market has not been characterized this week by quality and as a result top prices have ruled less than last week. Top steers brought \$8 Monday, but have ruled less since. Best cows brought \$6.75. Hogs have steadily declined since Monday, although the Portland market has maintained its supremacy over all other American markets all week. The depression seems general and is not by any means a local affair. Top prices around \$7. Sheep market continues strong with light receipts. There is still a shortage of good quality stuff coming forward, but all offerings are being taken readily.

Applications for Grazing Permits.
NOTICE is hereby given that all applications for permits to graze cattle, horses and sheep within the DESCHUTES and DESCHUTES DIVISION OF THE PAULINA NATIONAL FORESTS during the season of 1915, must be filed in my office at Bend, Oregon, on or before February 10, 1915. Full information in regard to the grazing fees to be charged and blank forms to be used in making applications will be furnished upon request. M. L. MERRITT, Supervisor.

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CHURCH NOTICES

Baptist.
Bible school 10 a. m. Preaching service 11 o'clock. Young people's meeting 7 p. m. Preaching service 7:30. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening 7:30.

Methodist.
Sunday school at 10 a. m. Attendance last Sunday 113. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Junior League at 2:30 p. m. Epworth League at 6:30 p. m., A. S. Black, pastor.

Church of the Brethren.
Services held each Sunday near the high school building. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. Ira H. Fox, minister.

POWELL BUTTE

(Continued from page 2.)

Powerman filled it with an ax. It had evidently come across the butte from the east side.

George Kearns' dog was bitten by the one that bit Harry Debront and Mr. Kearns chained it up. In due time however, it showed signs of rabies and had to be killed.

The Little valley school board met Wednesday night to determine how many months of school we could have. There are funds enough for a

9 month term this year it is thought. Hay is still being hauled to town from here. D. A. Patterson and Carl Blair are hauling to Bend markets. Mr. Pyatt of Alfalfa was through here last week with a shipment of salmon he had just received.

Buy your rolled oats at the Bend Flour Mill. 40tf

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