

Earning Power of O&C Lands Hits New High During 1955

The earning power of the O & C forest lands in western Oregon in 1955 exceeded all previous records. Virgil T. Heath, state supervisor of the bureau of land management for Oregon, has announced.

Heath said that during 1955, 603,229,000 board feet of timber was sold from districts in 344 sales for a total of \$21,379,769.60. This is compared to 1954 when total timber sales brought \$15,845,833.04. In 1953, the total was \$11,136,573.28 indicating the sharp increase in competition for BLM timber, Heath said.

The average bid price in 1955 was \$37.11 per thousand board feet. In 1954, the average bid price was \$21.76 per thousand, and in 1953, it was \$20.36 per thousand, he said.

Salvage Program

The total value of blow-down, fire and insect-killed timber sold from the O&C districts in the bureau's four year salvage program has exceeded 1,000,000,000 board feet and has returned \$23,946,617.82 in revenue. The program was organized after major forest fires and windstorms in 1951, and the bark-beetle epidemic of 1952 and 1953.

One of the highlights of 1955 for the BLM in Oregon was a June timber sale at Salem in which 7,002,000 board feet of Douglas fir received a bid of \$70 per thousand. The purchaser was Clemens Forest Products, Inc.

December of last year was the best month on record for the BLM. During the 30-day period, 29 tracts of timber were sold, totaling 122,224,000 board feet, for \$4,845,166.95.

The largest single sale made by BLM in recent years was in December at Coos Bay when Coquille Plywood division of Tectron American, Inc., purchased 17,370,000 board feet for \$570,070.95.

Revenue to Counties

Heath explained that under federal law, 75 per cent of all revenue from O&C lands was to be paid to the 18 western Oregon counties. However, the counties have agreed that congress may appropriate one-third of the income for access road construction.

Forest revenue also increased from the scattered pine forest on public domain lands in central and eastern Oregon. From 61 tracts, 31,171,000 board feet were sold for \$872,705.91, an average of \$28.33 per thousand board feet. In 1954, BLM sold 25,896,000 board feet for \$586,991.57, an average of \$22.67 per thousand board feet.

Heath said construction of access timber roads and the survey of new routes to tap large areas of old growth timber will continue to be a major program of the BLM in western Oregon for several years.

By the end of 1956, it is estimated that 117 miles of main-line logging roads will be completed. Several large projects were under construction in 1955, and will be resumed in 1956 when weather conditions permit. Many other projects are under survey in other O&C forest areas.

Largest Systems

The largest of the timber access road systems is that of the Smith river and Siuslaw river drainages between Gardiner and Eugene. The roads will not only tap a large volume of mature and old growth timber, but will make possible salvage of the last large volume of blow-down and insect-killed stumpage.

All BLM access roads are self liquidating. Funds are appropriated by congress to construct the roads after a timber inventory and a road survey is made. When use of the route begins an amortization charge is made against each thousand board feet of timber transported over the road until construction costs are paid. The bureau of public roads lets contracts by bids to private companies and is in charge of construction projects.

Grazing Receipts

In the five BLM grazing districts of eastern Oregon and on the leased public domain outside the districts, the total receipts for grazing use in 1955

fiscal year were \$186,000. Heath said that 269,000 head of cattle, 4,200 horses and 154,000 sheep are grazed on the 13,688,000 acres of BLM federal range east of the Cascades.

Improvements on ranges in 1955 included 13,576 acres of range reseeding, 40 miles of drift fence, and 87 reservoirs, wells and springs developed to water livestock and wildlife.

In addition, there were 2,700 cattle and horses, and 2,400 sheep grazed on the O&C lands in the Medford district.

Known Infestation

The only known infestation of halogen, a poisonous stock-killing weed in Oregon was in the southeastern section of the state near the Nevada line. Chemical was used to treat the infestation and 1,000 acres were seeded to grass as part of the control program.

Large Portion of BLM Fire Damaged Timber Sold, Ready for Sale

A large portion of timber controlled by the bureau of land management which was damaged in forest fires last Labor day week have been sold or ready for sale, according to a progress report by John Carnegie, Medford timber sale assistant for the BLM.

Timber damaged in the Jackson creek fire near Jacksonville was purchased by Donna Timber Products company of Medford Feb. 16. The tract, which contained an estimated 1,614,000 board feet, was purchased in an oral auction sale in which two bidders participated.

The high bid was \$35 per thousand board feet for Douglas fir, \$36.90 for ponderosa pine, \$39 for sugar pine, \$9 for incense cedar and \$12 for white fir.

Blackwell Hill

Fire-killed timber in the Blackwell Hill fire was sold to George Cook of Ashland Feb. 17 for \$7.50 per thousand for Douglas fir and \$6 for ponderosa pine. The tract contained an estimated 180,000 board feet.

Olson-Ross Lumber company of White City, Lloyd Timber company of Grants Pass and DeArmond Brothers Lumber company of Rogue River purchased three tracts offered for sale to date in the Sykes creek burn. The tracts contained an estimated 3,007,000 board feet.

A fourth tract, containing approximately 5,000,000 board feet probably will be advertised for sale in April, leaving about 10,000,000 board feet of intermingled fire-killed and green timber to be cruised for sales later in the spring.

The first tract with an estimated 451,000 board feet was purchased by Olson-Ross Jan. 16 for \$29.15 for Douglas fir, \$22.50 for ponderosa pine, \$19.85 for sugar pine, and \$9.20 for incense cedar.

Lloyd Timber company purchased the second tract of an estimated 2,281,000 board feet Jan. 19 for \$30 for Douglas fir, \$23.55 for ponderosa pine, \$24 for sugar pine and \$7 for incense cedar.

DeArmond Brothers Lumber company purchased the third tract, containing an estimated 275,000 board feet, Feb. 14 for \$24.45 for Douglas fir, \$12.65 for ponderosa pine, \$21.40 for sugar pine and \$5.80 for incense cedar.

Erosion Control

As an erosion control measure the seeded 670 acres in the fire areas to grass last fall, according to Carnegie. Present plans call for considerable reforestation work by the BLM and timber purchasers as logging is completed.

Donna Timber Products will be required to plant ponderosa pine seedlings on 78 acres on its sale area, and Lloyd Timber will plant ponderosa pine seedlings on 180 acres on its sale area.

The BLM plans to plant pine seedlings on 40 acres included in the Olson-Ross sale area, the

Leases on BLM lands in Oregon for oil and gas exploration returned \$231,155 in 1955. There was also an increase in special use and small tract leasing.

John C. Hunt, BLM Fire Control Officer, reported an increase of fire damage on both the forest and the range lands in 1955. Damage to forest stands on the O&C was estimated at \$530,000 in the 3,600 acres burned. Damages to BLM forest and range resources on the grazing districts where 15,735 acres were burned, is estimated at \$43,000.

Hunt said \$584,000 was collected by the BLM for fire trespasses dating back to 1951. Cost of protecting BLM lands in Oregon in 1955 was \$521,000 for contracts to the state and the forest service. BLM fire crews spent approximately \$70,000 inside grazing districts protecting 20,000,000 acres of federal range, state, county and private lands.

Fight Disease

He pointed out that a major portion of the funds collected will be used to advance the war against heart disease in this community and in Oregon, with only a small amount going to the American Heart association, of which Oregon Heart association is an affiliate.

Volunteers will present each home with a collection envelope which the contributor seals after enclosing his donation. It is not necessary that the amount of contribution be revealed, unless a receipt is desired.

Funds collected will immediately be taken to the bank, where Dwight Houghton, drive treasurer, and his staff will count and deposit the money.

In last year's drive, Medford placed second per capita in the state and volunteers said they are hopeful that the city will be at the top of the 1956 list.

Volunteers Start Heart Sunday Drive In Medford Today

Heart Sunday volunteers will begin their house-to-house visits at 2 p.m. today, with each worker calling on 15 to 25 homes in an assigned neighborhood.

The community-wide collection is expected to be completed by 4 p.m., according to Mrs. Earl Bigalow, drive chairman. Women of the American Legion auxiliary planned the drive.

Mayor Earl M. Miller declared today Heart Sunday in a proclamation issued last week asking that "all citizens give generously and welcome volunteers."

Frank Van Dyke, heart fund chairman for the month of February said he hopes "all homes will extend a warm and hearty welcome to the public spirited men and women who volunteer their services."

So They Say

Gemini (May 22-June 21) and Aries (March 21-April 20) are incompatible signs. A marriage of an Aries woman and a Gemini man is likely to be a stormy affair. An Aries female strongly desires to dominate the domestic scene. So does a Gemini man. Both are hot tempered. When an Aries wife and a Gemini husband quarrel, the brawl is a wild affair. They scream insults. They slam doors. They throw things. An Aries mother wants complete charge of child rearing. A Gemini man has definite idea on how children should be handled. His interference causes heated discussions. Aries women crave intense affection. Their great desire is to be swept off their feet and thrilled by their husbands even after ten years of marriage. Gemini men are not very romantic. They are a little on the chilly side. Or, so say the stargazers.

Whimsical entertainer. Well on his way to be added to the list of singers who have become millionaires. A recording he made of the doleful ditty titled "Sixteen Tons" sold over a million copies in a period of three weeks. This is said to have netted Ernie about \$40,000. Incidentally, "Tennessee" Williams, the playwright has made a million

from his plays. Must be luck in that "Tennessee" tag. Maybe I'll call myself "Tennessee Ed" Durling. I don't want to be a millionaire. All I ask is a little more luck. Too many of my solid horses have been running out of the money lately.

Paris restaurant prices are ridiculously exorbitant. The top flight places there are just tourist traps. However, things may be different in Paris in the spring. The money mad eatery maestros in the French capital may take warning from the fact that two such celebrated restaurants as La Rue and the Cafe de Paris have closed their doors, both having priced themselves out of business.

Portland—(U.P.)—A couple reported missing on Mt. Hood was found safe by the fire side at Timberline lodge last night.

State Policeman Fred Rice was sent to start an investigation into the disappearance of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin A. Fraser, Vancouver, B.C. A motel at Government Camp had reported the couple went skiing Tuesday but had not returned by dusk yesterday. Rice found the couple at Timberline and said they had merely decided to remain there a while instead of going straight back to Government Camp.

Gold Hill MOD Drive Nets Total of \$630

Gold Hill—March of Dimes contributions in the Gold Hill totaled \$630, according to Glen Miller, local chairman.

Amethyst Rebekeh lodge turned in the largest single sum of \$183.24 made on the mothers march, and Gold Hill grade school was second with \$127.08.

Vatican City has a total area of 108.7 acres.

Approximately \$50 was missing from Cubby's and a small amount of change and some cigarettes from the station, deputies said.

A third burglary in Ashland was reported Friday night, after thieves removed a safe from the Ashland garage coop. It contained approximately \$300 in cash and about \$250 in checks, according to investigating sheriff's officers, and Ashland and state police.

Committee To Study Corporate Income Tax

Salem—(U.P.)—The Legislative Interim Tax committee decided Saturday to launch an investigation to determine if the state's corporate income tax is driving industries into other states.

Expenditures of \$3,000 was authorized for the survey. Thure Lindstrom Jr., executive secretary of the committee, was given authority to hire experts to conduct the investigation.

Some Oregon industrialists have complained that the corporate excise tax is so high that industries are by-passing Oregon for Washington and California.

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Children are what their mothers are. No fondest father's fondest care can fashion so the infant heart.

—Landon.

How can you tell the age of a woman? A New Yorker says he can tell the exact age of a woman by looking at her fingernails. However, he furnishes no details. I will ask him for further information. In the meanwhile, you can keep in mind the advice of Ed Howe, who said, "if you want to know how old a woman is ask her sister-in-law."

Asides

Is your wife a chain smoker? Is she aware that smokers who inhale absorb ten times as much nicotine as those who don't? . . . Yasmin, daughter of Aly Khan and Rita Hayworth, is reported to have a very good chance of inheriting about \$28,000,000 from her grandfather, the Aga Khan.

Asking

Queries from clients. Q. Is it a fact the films of Grace Kelly will not be permitted to be shown in Monaco after her marriage to Prince Rainier, if so, why? A. Commenting on the proposed banning of the Kelly films in Monaco, the Prince's personal advisor, Charles Palmaro, said, "It would be frightfully bad taste to let the people of Monaco see the Princess in the arms of another man."

Pair Missing on Hood Found Safe at Fireside

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Air Force To Use Beale Indefinitely

(U.P.)—Air Force officials said today the Air Force expects to use Camp Beale near Marysville for an indefinite time.

Asked whether there was any limit on the length of time the Air Force presently plans to use the base, a high official said "none whatever."

He said the service would not have proposed to Congress the spending of \$9,500,000 to improve the facility if it expected to be there only briefly.

Officials pointed out, however, that Beale will not be listed technically as a "permanent" installation. Many bases do not meet all the criteria that must be met to warrant a "permanent" designation. One criterion officials said, is that the Air Force must have complete ownership and jurisdiction.

Two Killers Pay Supreme Penalty

By UNITED PRESS

Two killers paid with their lives today in the Missouri gas chamber at Jefferson City and the New Mexico electric chair the life of Roy Francisco, 28, Portland. He was dead on arrival at a Portland hospital. Injured in the smashes was J. Harvey, 44, Portland. The death was Portland's 12th this year.

Portland—(U.P.)—A collision on Portland's Broadway bridge just before midnight Friday claimed the life of Roy Francisco, 28, Portland. He was dead on arrival at a Portland hospital. Injured in the smashes was J. Harvey, 44, Portland. The death was Portland's 12th this year.

Within an hour in the cold, echoing death chamber of New Mexico, two electric jolts killed James Larry Upton, 22, Upton, a hitchhiker who killed a young airman in September, 1954, was smiling faintly when the death mask was put over his face.

Both murderers were calm during their last minutes.

Former Nazi Wants Soldier's Pension

Stuttgart, Germany—(U.P.)—Former Nazi Gen. Sepp Dietrich, who was charged with responsibility in the Malmady massacre of 140 American soldiers, has requested political clearance to apply for a soldier's pension, it was disclosed Thursday.

Dietrich was recently released from an American prison after serving a term for war crimes. His release brought vehement protests from American veterans organizations.

UO Fraternities Oppose Hazing

(U.P.)—Hazing may be on the way out at the University of Oregon.

Leaders of 21 national fraternity chapters met here last night and unanimously went on record opposing hazing and pre-initiation activities.

Ray Hawks, dean of men, said the move was indication that such tragedies as the recent death of a freshman at Massachusetts Institute of Technology would not happen here.

The resolution, as passed by the Interfraternity Council, reads: "The Interfraternity Council as a group opposes all forms of hazing and pre-initiation activities. The IFC tribunal will take action upon any forms of hazing or pre-initiation activities brought to its attention involving the destruction of property or any actions adversely affecting the fraternity system as a whole."

The council may impose fines, reduce the quota of pledges or request social probation of offending organization.

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