

First Quarter Program in Medford BLM District Outlined by Ross Youngblood

District Manager Ross A. Youngblood of the Medford district of the Bureau of Land Management recently summarized the district program for the first quarter of calendar year 1958 which ended March 31. Total collections for this period were \$339,761.44.

Youngblood also mentioned in the summary that revenue from timber sales amounted to \$330,594.02. The payments were made to the bureau for timber which has been sold on the Medford district during the last two years.

Timber contractors are not required to pay the total contract price for large volumes of timber at the time of purchase. However, they are required to pay for the timber installments ahead of the harvesting of the volume purchased. Payment for timber sale must be made in full to the bureau within two years.

Sold in First Quarter

The Medford district sold \$3,436,000 board feet of timber for a total contract price of \$801,428.87 during the first quarter of 1958. The sales included 519,000 board feet of timber at \$17,221.95 sold on public domain land and 32,170,000 board feet of timber at \$784,206.92 sold on O and C land.

Medford district timber sale revenues must be segregated by the two classes of land which the district administers, public domain or O and C, because the bureau shares different percentages of the timber receipts with the local county governments for the two classes of lands. The O and C act of 1937 requires the federal government to return 75 per cent of the timber receipts to the counties which contain O and C land; this payment is to compensate the local governments for the taxes which they lost when the United States reclaimed title to the O and C lands.

Revenue returned to the O and C counties for the Medford district first quarter sales will amount to \$196,051.73.

Available for Funds

O and C counties have made one-third of this shared revenue available to the BLM for use on forest access roads and reforestation projects. The county investment in access roads results in higher stumpage prices for standing bureau and private timber, better fire protection with less

loss from forest fires, and better opportunities for small loggers to buy timber. The investment in reforestation assures a future supply of timber for local industry, and it results in an increased allowable cut for the lands under bureau jurisdiction, Youngblood noted.

The public domain lands which the bureau administers have always been in public ownership; they were never homesteaded, taken for private ownership, or reserved for any federal use such as were the lands of the national parks or forests. They are usually rough and fit only for forestry or grazing, since they are the residual after the better lands were selected for other uses.

The bureau of reclamation receives 95 per cent of the timber sale receipts from public domain lands. Only 5 per cent of the revenue is returned to the local government; this will amount to \$861.98 for the public domain timber sales in the Medford district during the first quarter of 1958.

Timber trespasses, road use fees, and rent of land accounted for most of the remaining \$9,167.42 in collections. Land rentals, which include special land use permits, grazing leases, and other land rentals, accounted for the largest collections in this group.

Process Leases

The Medford district processed 29 grazing leases on 39,199 acres. Bureau grazing leases are reappraised every three years, and may be issued for 10 years. The total number of processed leases included 15 renewed and 14 reappraised. The district has a total of 172 active grazing leases which constitute an important part of the bureau's multiple-use approach to natural resource management.

Special land use permits, an important segment of the total land rental collections, are issued to individuals and organizations for a variety of private uses. They include camp grounds, picnic areas, cattle loading chutes, log ponds, and homesites. Special land use permits are issued only if no other land law is applicable, and then only if the private use is not in conflict with the interest of the general public.

Collections for road use

access roads. These fees help pay for the cost or maintenance of the roads.

Small Item

Timber trespasses, a relatively small item in the first quarter total collections, represent one of the most serious problems which the bureau faces. The problem is aggravated by the large acreage under bureau jurisdiction and by the checker-board ownership pattern of this land resulting from the original O and C land grant which deeded alternate sections to the O and C railroad.

The Medford district had 199 trespass cases on file at the end of the first quarter; 74 of them are suspected and are not yet proven. The bureau checks and prosecutes the cases as fast as manpower will allow, Youngblood said. Trespass cases are turned over to the department of justice to be investigated by the FBI when evidence of a deliberate attempt to steal bureau timber exists.

The cases are processed as criminal cases and may result in fines or imprisonment for the defendant. However, timber trespasses innocent in nature are settled through the payment of double the appraised price of the timber cut.

Secure Easements

The Medford district secured 12 easements, the right to build access roads across private land, during the first quarter of 1958. The easements, with several more yet to be secured, will provide access to 1,411,000 M board feet of BLM timber. Access across private land is made complex for the bureau because of the intermingled nature of the bureau land with private land.

The bureau attempts to "block-up" or concentrate its ownership through land exchanges with private owners or public agencies whenever possible. Such "block-up" ownerships reduce access problems and make fire protection more efficient. The bureau also is interested in aiding private owners to concentrate their ownerships when such exchanges are not contrary to the public interest. No new exchange applications were filed during the first quarter, but 80 cases were on file at the end of the period.

Bureau of public roads and BLM personnel surveyed 29



NEW CLUBHOUSE — Medford Pathfinders last week dedicated a new clubhouse at the Rogue River academy grounds on South Stage rd. The building was constructed through work by club members with funds raised from several projects.

Pathfinders Club Dedicates House

A new Medford Seventh-day Adventist Pathfinder clubhouse was dedicated at the Rogue River academy grounds on South Stage rd. The clubhouse was built with funds raised by Pathfinders, and much of the construction was done by club members.

John H. Hancock, North Pacific Union Missionary, volunteer leader, congratulated local Pathfinders on completion of the clubhouse. Also participating in the ceremonies were Richard W. Schwartz, Oregon conference youth leader, Oral W. Tucker, director of the Medford club, and deputy directors and club members.

Included in Building

Paul Beddoe, Pathfinder deputy director, gave a history of the building. The clubhouse contains 2,880 - square feet and has nine rooms in which individual units may work on various arts and crafts. It also includes an auditorium, counselor's room, kitchen and rest rooms. It was completed in about 10 months at a cost of about \$1 per square foot, he noted.

Several fund raising programs were conducted during the construction period, and as an all-out final campaign a few weeks ago, a plan was presented in which each leader was to donate \$20 and club members \$10. About

3,500 boxes of Pathfinder candy were sold to help finance the building.

Highlights of dedication ceremonies included a song service led by Hancock, a musical program by member of the club, and a tour through the unit rooms in which arts and crafts completed by unit members were displayed. Exhibits included photography, marine life, rocks and minerals, textile painting, floral glass, stars, wild flowers and campcraft.

Displayed at the front of the auditorium were ribbons and trophies won by the club at the annual Pathfinder fairs in Eugene.

Juan Ponce de Leon, veteran of one Columbus voyage, found and named Florida in 1513.

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Local Quartets To Attend Event

A group of "Barbershoppers," including the "Med-tones," a ladies quartet, and male quartets from Medford, will sing as guests at a "Barbershop Quartet Parade" in Grants Pass May 24.

The event is being sponsored by the Grants Pass chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. It will be held at the junior high school in Grants Pass.

Two choruses and 10 quartets from chapters in Salem, Grants Pass will participate. Roseburg, Coos Bay, Klamath Falls, Crescent City and Medford from R. T. (Doc) Willard,

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Sunday, May 4, 1958 3

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Reforestation Program

The reforestation program on the Medford district was accomplished largely in the last quarter of 1957. However 172 acres were planted to 81,000 ponderosa pine seedlings during the first quarter of 1958. Direct seeding of Douglas fir seeds received the district's major reforestation effort this quarter with 744 acres being broadcast seeded by hand or aerial methods. An additional 203 acres were seedspotted to ponderosa pine seed. Seedspotting involves placing individual seeds in the ground in the best possible spot for survival and at a specified spacing pattern.

Contracts were awarded for 1,111 acres of brush removal and scarification during the period. A total of 1,241 acres of snag-felling projects were awarded, with scarification or reforestation projects following the snag felling. Contract prices for brush removal and scarification ranged from \$17.50 per acre to \$42 per acre. Approximately 5,125 snags were felled at an average cost of \$1.25 per snag, or \$5.10 per acre.

The Medford district, in accordance with BLM policy of training its men in the latest techniques of resource management, sent men to several training schools during this period.

New techniques of road design were studied by five men at a 5-day engineering short-course conducted at Oregon State college. Another short-course offered by the college on forest insects and disease was attended by one man.

Conduct Two Schools

The bureau conducted two schools at Roseburg during the period. They were on scaling techniques and on the use of the wedge prism method of determining tree taper for inventory procedures. The scaling session lasted three days and was attended by five Medford men, while the inventory school lasted three days and was attended by two Medford men. Robert Hostetter, assistant district manager in charge of plans for the Medford district, was detailed to Washington, D.C., in January to participate in the middle management training programs of the department of the interior. He will return to the district in June.

Two men returned to the Medford district after two years to military service. They were Pat Clason and Bruce Ottenfield. Both served in the Army.

John A. Carney, assistant district manager in charge of operations for the Medford district, received a superior accomplishment award for his work on a manual release concerning rights-of-way for the BLM Manual. This release set up procedures for processing rights-of-way under the bureau regulations.

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