

Tree Farmers Provide Protection of Timber

14 MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or.
Sunday, Sept. 6, 1959

Father Tom's Burial Tuesday With High Honors

Fairbanks, Alaska — (UPI) — Father Tom Cunningham, noted Arctic priest, will be buried with high military and church honors here Tuesday.

Leaders of the church from all parts of Alaska will attend the final rites for the quiet little priest who for 25 years has ministered to a parish spreading over 150,000 square miles.

He was 53 when found dead in his simple cabin at his home parish in Pt. Barrow.

Father Tom, as he was lovingly known by his followers, will be buried Tuesday in the Catholic plot of the old Fairbanks cemetery.

Guard of Honor

A guard of honor from Ladd Air Force base will fire a parting salute to the man who served as a chaplain in World War II and the Korean conflict.

At 4 p.m. Monday Father Tom's body will be moved to the Catholic church here to lie in state until 10 a.m. Tuesday when a pontifical requiem mass will be said. The Rosary of the dead will be spoken Monday night.

The funeral rites will be conducted by the Most Rev. Francis D. Gleeson, Catholic archbishop of northern Alaska.

Heart Attack

Military chaplains from all bases in Alaska will make up the choir for the funeral services, and other Catholic church leaders also will take part in the final rites for Father Tom, who died of a heart attack.

Messages were received from Ice Island, where Father Tom served briefly this summer and from persons in all walks of life in all parts of the country, including an old friend, Lowell Thomas, radio commentator.

Firemen Answer Series of Alarms

The Medford fire department reported a series of alarms Friday and one Saturday.

A truck was sent to the Medford city airport at 2:31 p.m. Friday, for emergency standby duty when a United Air Lines plane radioed it was making an emergency landing because of excessive loss of oil. The plane landed safely.

At 4:37 p.m., Friday, a truck was dispatched to Huston rd. near Phoenix to investigate smoke in the area. The smoke appeared to be coming from a Sierra Cascade lumber company burner.

At 10:37 p.m., Friday, a truck was dispatched to 311 South Front st. The reported trash fire appeared to be somebody burning trash in a no-burning zone.

At 10:21 a.m., Saturday, a truck was sent to 2185 Stewart ave. However, the reported grass fire turned out to be controlled grass burning.

Funds for Airport Asked by Medford

A request for federal aid totaling \$23,395 for Medford airport improvement projects has been submitted to the federal aviation agency, city officials have reported.

Included in the request are funds for taxiway reconstruction, fencing and development of commercial areas.

The FAA is to allocate a total of \$63 million during the 1960-61 year, of which \$932,127 is earmarked for Oregon. A similar allocation is set up for 1961-62.

"The FAA programs for the two years will stress federal aid projects required for increased air safety," the agency has stated.

Warrant Is Served For Alleged Assault

Troy Dean, 150 DeHague st., was served a Medford municipal court warrant Thursday night charging him with assault and battery and setting bail at \$50, Medford police reported.

Police said the warrant was issued in connection with an alleged assault Monday upon Stanley G. Parrish, route 2, box 434B, Medford. The incident occurred at 529 East Main st., police were informed.

Average person in the U. S. uses about 20 pounds of textiles each year.



POND—This pond, one of several on the Applegate Investment company tree farm near Ruch, serves a double purpose—that of providing water for irrigation and to supply tank trucks in case fire should break out on the property. The road that crosses over it is one of many that criss-cross the tree farm as fire breaks.



FIRE BREAK—As protection against fire, the Applegate Investment company, which is now engaged in planting thousands of Christmas trees near Ruch, have a fire break cut around the entire perimeter of their property. The young trees, planted at three and four foot intervals will nearly touch each other in a few years, and fire could sweep through them rapidly, or they could be damaged by burning grass beneath them. The fire trail above is through a wooded section above the plantation.



FIRE ROAD—Glenn Hunter, partner in the Applegate Investment company, left, above, talks with Calvin Smith of the Industrial Forestry association, Medford, about the system of fire roads that criss cross the tree farm. The 20 foot fire break that the men are looking at will be kept cultivated to keep down weed growth. Trees are one and two-year-old Douglas fir hidden in rows of weeds.

Senate's Nod Likely For Higher Gas Tax

Washington (UPI) — A House-passed bill to raise the federal gasoline tax by one penny a gallon Saturday appeared headed for Senate approval this week despite a last-ditch effort by opponents to kill the hike.

Two Senate committees cleared the measure Friday for a floor vote Monday. The measure is needed to provide funds for continued construction of the 41,000-mile superhighway system.

Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) said he would try to persuade the Senate to scuttle the one-cent boost to the 3-cents-a-gallon tax and approve instead one of his two alternate proposals for raising money for highway construction.

One scheme would cut all federal appropriations by one per cent and use the savings for road building. The other would kill a tax break for stockholders and funnel the

extra revenue into the highway program.

The Senate Finance committee rejected Gore's proposals before approving the penny boost in the gas tax. It seemed likely that the full Senate would follow suit.

President Eisenhower is expected to sign the bill even though it does not meet with his full approval. He originally asked for a 1½ cent a gallon boost in gasoline taxes to help finance road construction.

The Senate Finance and Public Works committees acted quickly on the bill, approved by the House Thursday. The Finance committee okayed the gas tax hike and the public works group authorized \$2,000,000,000 for the program for the fiscal year ending next June 30.

The bill would increase the federal tax on gasoline from three to four cents a gallon

for the 22 months starting Oct. 1.

Measures Include Building Roads And Waterholes

The forest fire danger in southern Oregon is not as severe as it was a few weeks ago, but the problem of controlling and preventing fires is a never-ending job among many of Jackson county's tree farmers.

Tree farmers in this area have made careful preparations to protect their growing timber stands during the recent high fire danger period.

Protection measures they have taken include building access roads, firebreaks and emergency waterholes, disposing of slash accumulations, felling snags, and providing and maintaining forest fire fighting equipment in the field.

Members of System

Tree farmers are members of the industry-sponsored American Tree Farm System which encourages landowners to protect their timberlands from fire, insects and disease and to manage their forests so as to produce repeated timber crops. The program is sponsored in the Douglas fir region by Industrial Forestry association, Portland, and in the Western Pine region by Western Pine association, Portland.

As part of his systematic harvesting of timber from his 300-acre tree farm, H. A. Hogan, Sterling Creek rd., Jacksonville, makes the most use of each tree cut by hauling it out whole instead of trimming and cutting it where it is felled.

This operation makes it possible to eliminate slash in the woods, reducing the fire hazard. Limbs, tops and cull sections of logs come out with the merchantable saw wood, and are stacked in a special area for burning.

Minimizing Slash

Before Hogan burns the material, the larger pieces are cut up for cord wood, further minimizing slash burning and at the same time bringing him a larger return from each tree harvested.

Trees which Hogan cuts are small, being sold for poles, piling, car stakes, small saw logs and studding.

William Bishop of Shady Cove, who is developing a 50 to 75 year old stand of suppressed timber, is thinning out inferior stems and using them for firewood and bean poles. He is piling the remaining slash, along with scrub oak and manzanita, and burning it.

Other Jacksonville tree farmers, Marion and Louise Dunlap, who operate the Three Bar Three Tree Farm, have a network of catroads along ridgetops to help protect the farm.

Provide Access

The catroads are 12 to 15 feet wide and, in addition to creating a fire line, provide access to the back side of the property. Dunlap also has bulldozed out three waterholes which provide storage for irrigation and fire protection.

Glenn Hunter, Glen Best and Billie Jo Hunter, partners in the Applegate Investment company near Ruch, have taken particular caution against fire in their large scale Christmas tree farm operation.

Not only is wooded property criss-crossed and encircled by wide fire trails, but their new plantations of Christmas trees have fire "breaks" at regular intervals that will confine any fire to a small area. The breaks will be cultivated regularly to keep down weeds.

Construct Ponds

In addition to their system of fire trails, the men have constructed several ponds which will serve as a source of water for pumper trucks in case of fire. The ponds also provide water for irrigating the young trees.

Fire trails are built so they can be negotiated by trucks and jeeps, providing a means of getting men and equipment to a fire in any section of the property. It is common knowledge among foresters that the key to fire control is accessibility to the fire itself, and the Applegate Investment company have planned for accessibility in case of fire.

Similar protective measures are followed by tree farmers in other sections of the state, and one man in Cave Junction has developed a sideline business from his farm.

Jiggs Morris of Cave Junction turns his slash disposal into profits by utilizing some of the larger oaks and madroenas, and to a more limited extent, tops of fir trees, for charcoal manufacture in his kiln.

Bulldozing Waterholes

Morris also has constructed waterholes at strategic locations for fire protection.

Wallace Kohler is operating a commercial stand on his tree farm west of O'Brien on a thinning basis, and is careful to pile and burn the slash.

Lee Marmelejo of Selma is



FIRE TOOLS—H. A. Hogan, who makes his living from his tree farm operation in the Sterling area, is alert to the danger of fire, because he could be "wiped out" in short order if fire got started. Above, he is checking water level in spray can that is part of his fire fighting equipment that is always at hand.

thinning his timber stands, which range from 40 to 100 years old. After marketing as much as possible of the timber removed, he piles and burns the remaining slash to reduce fire possibilities.

Several tree farmers in Oregon have adapted farm equipment for use in fighting fire, the Industrial Forestry association said.

Trailer-Mounted Pumper

Henry Peters, grass grower at Sublimity, has a 200-gallon trailer-mounted pumper unit and back pumps which he keeps ready for tree farm protection. And Howard Stephenson, orchardist near Camas, uses his orchard sprayer for fire protection on his tree farm.

Since roads are a key to good fire protection, Harold and Elizabeth Wallmann of Grants Pass have approximately seven miles of roads giving quick access to any area of their 450-acre Bull Creek Tree Farm. Salvage and thinning operations paid the cost of the road network, they said.

Sam McCauley, Coquille tree farmer, has built five miles of access roads into his 151-acre farm which enable him to load logs on his truck at convenient scattered landings.

"We had a forest fire get started in here a year ago," he said, "but the Coos Forest Protective association got here within 30 minutes and brought it under control before any appreciable damage was done. It was roads and quick action by the fire patrol that made that possible."

State Requirement

State law requires that fire tools be kept on logging operations during fire seasons, but some tree farmers go beyond this and maintain a cache of tools ready at all times.

Basic fire protection of timber holdings is provided by forest patrol associations and is paid for by landowners through assessments. Cooperative help among landowners is also becoming common, however, and many a small forest owner has had his timber saved from destruction through the timely arrival of fire fighting crews from a neighboring forest industry.

Many of the tree farmers carried out much of their woods work during the winter when they were free from other farm duties. Tree farming, say most of them, fits well into the farmer's work schedule because it is "slack-season" work that makes few demands on his limited time during regular crop seasons.

Apparent Victim Of Robbery Jailed

John Patrick Ryan, 51, of Sacramento, Calif., was the apparent victim of an assault and robbery Friday in the rest room at the Greyhound bus depot, 212 North Bartlett st., Medford police reported.

Police said Ryan, discovered bloody and unconscious on the floor of the rest room, was lodged in the city jail on a charge of drunk in public. Ryan told investigators he had been attacked from behind and robbed of his billfold and about \$80, according to the report. He suffered a badly swollen left eye and a cut on the back of his head.



Exclusively at WESTERN THRIFT

Applying Boosts Oregon Primary Before Officials

Portland (UPI)—The four-day meeting of the National Association of Secretaries of State was concluded here Saturday and an invitation was extended to the association by Mrs. Caroline K. Simon, New York Secretary of State, to hold next year's convention in New York City.

Howell Appling Jr., Oregon's Secretary of State, told the more than 40 secretaries from other states gathered here that the May, 1960, Oregon presidential primary election would be the most important one Oregon has had since the original primary law was passed in 1915.

Appling recommended that the secretaries take a close and favorable look at the new Oregon primary law, under which nationally discussed candidates for either party for President are placed on the ballot.

The Oregon secretary, however, criticized one portion of the law which he termed the "antiquated petition method" of placing a candidate's name on the ballot.

He said the 1959 law directs the secretary of state to put the names of all presidential candidates on the ballot who are generally advocated or recognized in national news media," but Appling added that the new act still enabled the inclusion on the ballot of any name suggested by a petition signed by 1,000 registered voters of a candidate's major political party.

The Oregon secretary praised the portion of the 1959 act which enables major candidates to be included on the ballot, but he said that Oregon should consider a revision of the petition method.

Plane Carries Three to Death

Newberg, Ore. (UPI)—A single-engine, four-passenger Cessna 180 plane crashed on top of Chehalem mountain six miles north of here between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m. Saturday killing three persons.

The craft, which took off from the Hillsboro airport about 4:30 a.m., was en route to Los Angeles, according to Inmann Flying service at Hillsboro.

A spokesman for the company said the plane was owned and piloted by Kenneth Towell, about 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Towell, Hillsboro. The spokesman identified the passengers aboard the craft as Mr. and Mrs. Herman Tribur of Portland.

Towell fueled the plane himself. The civil aeronautics board said he had not filed a flight plan. The crash occurred only minutes after takeoff.

The Towell plane exploded into flame upon impact, badly charring the three bodies, state officers said.

Garden of the Angels

At Hillcrest Memorial Park we have designed the Garden of the Angels for infant burials. This garden is perpetually cared for to insure year around beauty.

Hillcrest

North Phoenix Road

Phoenix

Rogue Valley Hospital

Barnett

Hillcrest Memorial Park