

County School Children Tour Forest Tract Demonstration

By JIM FISHER

Approximately 265 Jackson county sixth graders toured the forest demonstration tract sponsored by the extension service last week to learn forestry first-hand. The demonstration tract is located on the John Black ranch four miles up the Forest creek road from the Jacksonville-Ruch highway.

The area was planned earlier this year by the extension service with the state forestry department cooperating. County Agent Earle Jossy worked with Forest Marketing Specialist Gary Sander from the Corvallis office of the extension service and former Service Forester Jack Mace of the Medford office of the state forestry department in establishing the tract.

A cat trail was constructed through the area and seven stations established. A parking lot for school buses and cars was also built near the entrance to the area. Much of the work needed at the various stations was done this spring.

Serve As Instructors

Representatives of the state forestry department, U. S. forest service, soil conservation service, bureau of land management, and the extension service were asked to serve as instructors for the stations.

Working at the fire control station last week were Labor Foreman Bert Cook and Forest Warden Bill Davis from the Southwest Oregon district headquarters of the state forestry department. At the station, various fire tools were shown to the school children as well as a pumper truck. The forestry department's radio communication system and the increased use of airplanes in firefighting also were explained.

The fire lookout station on nearby Mt. Isabelle was visited from the fire control area and served as an example of the many lookouts manned each year by fire protection agencies throughout the state.

The children were told how to report a forest fire should they discover one. If they do not know of the location of a fire, they should notify the telephone operator giving their name, telephone



STUDENT TOUR - Some of the more than 265 sixth graders from Jackson county commercial thinning and pruning. The schools who toured a forest demonstration tract, which was planned earlier this year, tract recently are shown above hearing is on the John Black ranch in the Apple-Technical Assistant Wes Stanfield of the gate valley.

number, and the location of the fire.

The second station of the demonstration area was the seed production and tree planting one. District Ranger Neil Suttell, Assistant Ranger Bob Snoch, and Forester Doug McClelland from the Star ranger station of the U. S. forest service gave the instruction at this station.

The growing of a tree was explained from the gathering of cones and the extraction of seed through the planting of seed in a forest nursery and the growing of the seedlings. Examples of different cones and the equipment used to extract the seed were shown. Samples of nursery trees two and three years old were ex-

amined by the students. The instructors then explained the proper methods of transporting and planting seedlings in order to have a good survival rate.

Commercial Thinning

The third station toured by the school children was a commercial thinning plot instructed by Ron Smith and Meredith Leach, foresters for the bureau of land management. They explained how a forest should be thinned once trees have reached a merchantable size. Sample trees were bored with an increment borer and growth rings of the trees were shown as a way to tell a fast-growing tree from a slow-growing one. The removal of snags and the preventing of accumulation of logging slash were given as fire prevention measures needed in such a stand of trees.

Commercial thinning requires a good road system in order that all areas are accessible to thinning. At the end of each thinning, poor quality trees have been removed and the better ones left to grow more.

Popular Station

A popular station of the demonstration area was the Christmas tree plot. Instructors here were Gary Sander, extension service forester, and Marvin Young from the Josephine county agent's office. Different species of trees used as Christmas trees were shown, as well as the different treatments performed on trees to control growth rate and shape. Pruning of lower limbs, shearing of buds, and thinning of small trees are some of the ways to control tree growth.

A sample area at the station had been thinned and pruned to show how the work is accomplished.

The fourth station of the tour was the pre-commercial thinning and pruning area. Here Service Forester Jim Fisher and Technical Assistant Wes Stanfield of the state forestry department explained how an unmanaged forest is first placed under forest management.

First, the trees are thinned so that the tips of the branches barely touch. This can be done by removing poor trees or "D" trees as they might be called.

The "D" trees are dead, dying, damaged, and diseased trees that will not produce good wood during the next 20 or 30 years. Few of the trees are merchantable, so the thinning is termed pre-commercial.

Competitive Vegetation

Hardwoods and other competitive vegetation can be poisoned on the stump or after they have been cut to prevent sprouting of new trees.

Pruning of tree limbs to a height of 17 feet was also shown as a way to obtain good clear lumber in the future. This forestry practice is done only to thrifty growing trees, while they are still young, so knots will be covered and they start to grow clear wood.

County Agent Gene Winters and Soil Scientist Mueller of the soil conservation service showed the school children how forest soils affect the tree growth. In a soil pit dug at the station, they point-

Speakers Told For First Baptist

Two men of the church will speak at the morning and evening services of First Baptist church today.

The pastor, the Rev. James Neely, is on vacation and will also represent the church at the Western Regional meetings of the Conservative Baptists in Long Beach, Calif., Nov. 3-5.

Lester Wilcox Jr. will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service, and John Roelfs will speak at the 7:45 p.m. gospel hour. Mr. Wilcox served as pastor of the Forest Acres Community church for several years, and Mr. Roelfs is pastor of the Sams Valley Community church.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 7:45 p.m. the Rev. John Henderson, Eugene, will speak at the Medford church on behalf of Judson Baptist college. The school has recently obtained new building and campus facilities in Portland. Pictures and information concerning the plans and progress of the college will be presented.

ard Oliver, laborer, and Alton Joy, fire control aid, from the Ashland district of the Rogue River National forest. They showed the main trees native to Oregon including the Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine growing on the demonstration area.

Branches of trees from higher altitudes, such as Shasta fir, white fir, and others were also shown to the students. Easy ways to identify each species and the main uses of the tree were explained by the foresters.

During the two days the tour was conducted, many favorable comments were received from teachers and school officials. Present plans call for a similar program for Medford school children this spring.

The forest demonstration program has been established in nearly every western Oregon county during the past few years as a means of educating tomorrow's citizens in the need and methods of good forestry practices important to the state's economy.

Regional Meeting Plans Discussed At Meeting Here

Plans for the Southern Oregon Regional Conference on Aging were discussed at a meeting of the Rogue Valley Council on Aging last week.

The conference will be held Nov. 14 at the Methodist church. Last week's meeting was called by Frank Glonning, chairman of the local council.

Miss Julie Johnson, Eugene, executive secretary of the state Commission on Aging, and four members of the recently formed Klamath county Committee on Aging attended the session.

Miss Johnson discussed the plan for regional conferences on aging prior to a state meeting, which will be followed by a White House Conference on Aging in 1961. The southern Oregon region includes Jackson, Curry, Lake, Josephine and Klamath counties.

Tentative Plans

Tentative plans for the southern Oregon conference were presented by James Pullman, administrator of the local welfare department; Mrs. Fred Rankin, Mrs. Rita Holmes, Col. C. L. Williams of Ashland and Edward Jacobson, manager of the Medford social security office.

Workshops will be held in four areas of interest, they said. They are recreation, employment and income, housing and health. Speakers to discuss the subjects have been secured, committee members said. Panels are being arranged by members of the committee and Dr. Frank Roberts, Col. Williams, William Hoxie and Mrs. Chester Guch.

Glonning noted that the conference will be open to the public and no registration fee will be charged. Invitations will be sent to public agencies, clubs, churches, and county organizations to participate in the conference.

Luncheon Scheduled
A luncheon will be scheduled at noon to which medical societies, nurses, hospital

Attending the local meeting from Klamath Falls were Mrs. Marshal Cornet, who recently was appointed to the commission by Gov. Mark Hatfield; Mrs. Charles Dakin, chairman of social welfare aides for the Red Cross, Julius Guinotoni, state employment service, and Wilber Womer, social security office manager.

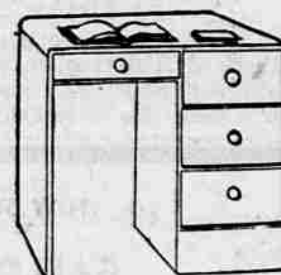
Persons interested in attending the southern Oregon regional conference or assisting in preparations for it may contact the advance registration committee, which includes John Gribble, chairman, and Mrs. Harry Fuller, Mrs. Lillian Greenman, and Mrs. Edith Southwick. The Fifty-Plus club will be in charge of registration at the conference.

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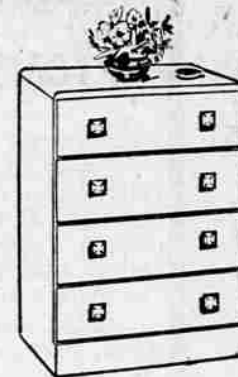
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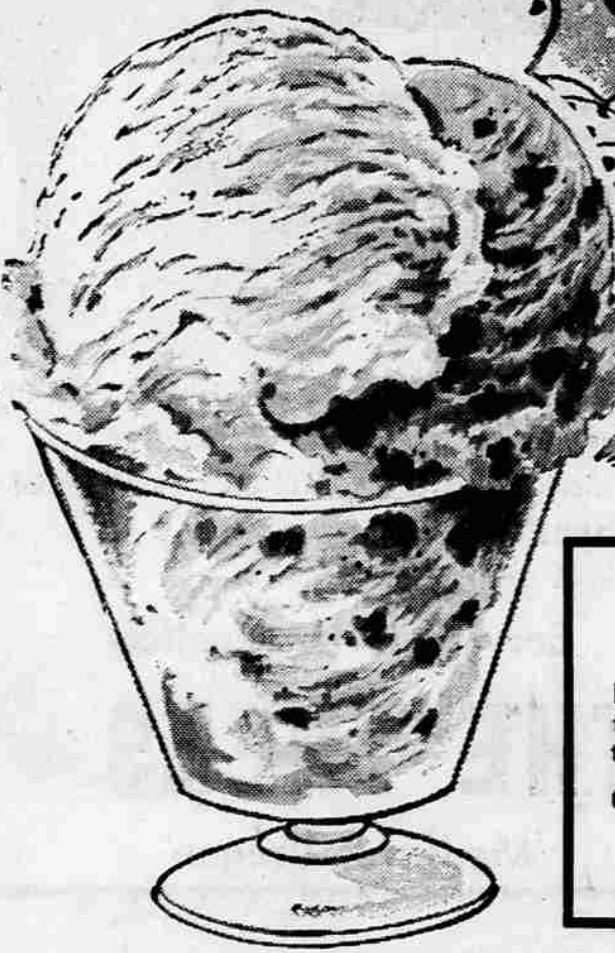
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HALLOWEEN TEEN AGE DANCE

Medford Armory - Saturday, October 31, 9:00 to 12:00

Live music furnished by the Local Musicians Union. Floor Show features the SHADOWS, crowning of King and Queen and presentation of Youth Honor Day Awards.

ONLY ADMISSION REQUIRED WILL BE A SIGNED YOUTH HONOR DAY PLEDGE CARD. Open to all teenagers.

Sponsored by the Moose Lodge of Medford