

Research Increases Utilization of Forests

The colorful era of transforming North America's virgin forests into thriving and well-managed timber stands is passing into history, leaving a rich imprint of song and legend on the pioneer heritage of this continent.

The forests, which played an important part in the settlement of the frontiers, continue to represent a living and powerful force in the lives of the people.

The United States today is well along in a vast transition from this initial phase in the history of its forests into a new era of scientific forest management. Forest industries have become permanent members of their communities, and the concept of growing trees as a perpetual crop on Tree Farm Lands has taken firm hold.

There is growing recognition by the people that the forest resource requires intelligent management and wise utilization to bring about maximum benefits.

Profitable Markets
The increasingly higher levels of management applied to forests in the United States are the result of an economic factor of basic importance—increasing and more profitable markets for wood.

Forest industries, with new knowledge gained from research, have made giant strides in the last decade in using more of each harvested tree by turning leftovers into wood chips for paper; by creating new industries to manufacture particleboard, hardboard, softboard, and many other new products; and by discovering uses for timber species formerly unmerchantable.

All of these have helped raise the value of trees to the point where high levels of forest management have become economically feasible.

The forests of the United States today support the nation's fourth largest industrial structure. Current progress in genetics, forest management, timber utilization and development of new products, together with new chemical uses of the tree now dawning on the horizon, hold promise of an increasingly significant role for the industrial forest on the American scene.

Widely Diversified
The structure of the forest industries in the United States is widely diversified and complex. It consists of about 57,000 different companies in all categories of size, most of them small and many family owned.

Companies which own and manage most of the industry-owned forest land are in turn owned by more than 350,000 shareholders representing a cross-section of the people of the United States.

Without sacrificing individual rights of land ownership and other individual freedoms of choice and action, the United States passed from an era of forest liquidation to one of highly developed forestry practices all within the past 50 years.

Progress in the management and utilization of the many forest types and species found in the United States is proceeding at an accelerated rate. In the forefront of this march of progress are the forest industries.

Forest Area
The total forest area of the United States, including the new states of Alaska and Hawaii, is 775 million acres.

The area from which timber harvests are available—the commercial forest area—is 535 million acres. This leaves 240 million acres of forest lands classed as non-commercial, which includes lands incapable of commercial timber production, lands that are inaccessible, and lands set aside for parks, wilderness, game refuges, military installations, and other uses.

Sixty-seven per cent of the commercial forest land, or 357 million acres, is privately owned. It is held by farmers, industries, investors, and other private owners who pay taxes on the land. From the privately owned forests comes about 85 per cent of the wood used by the wood-processing industries.

Thirty-three per cent of the commercial forest land, or 178 million acres, is owned by government—federal, state or local. These lands supply about 15 per cent of the wood used in the country.

Privately Owned Lands
The forest industries look to the privately owned lands for a major part of the raw material needed to meet the nation's demand for wood products, except in some western regions where government lands make a substantial contribution to the raw material supply.

More than 92 per cent of the industry-owned forests are being operated under permanent management for continuous forest crops.

Most industry-owned forest



FIRST MOVERS—The first "prime movers" wheels were solid wood, sliced from a log in the Pacific Northwest logging were oxen and banded with steel. (American Forest Products Industries photo)



SELDOM SEEN—A logging truck the public sees, this specially built rig hauls up to 50 tons of logs, far in excess of public highway limits, over a private logging highway system operated by Brooks-Scanlon Lum-

ber company of Bend. Here, a ponderosa pine log is hoisted into place for the 50-mile trip to the mill. Bed of the truck is 10 feet wide. (American Forest Products Industries photo)

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certified Tree Farms.

Forest land management through tree farming has as its primary objective the growing of repeated crops of trees. The forest practices and forest protection necessary to accomplish this objective usually result in many additional benefits, among them watershed protection, preservation of the soil, recreation and maintenance of forage for game. Multiple use is an inherent part of tree farming on private forest lands.

Sound Management
The future of the forest industries of the United States is underwritten by sound forest management and increasing uses of wood. Continued adequate supplies of wood and wood products figure largely in the lives of the people. The forests of this country are growing more wood than is being removed from them.

However, there are some local shortages, limited supplies of a few species, and an overabundance of low-quality trees in some areas. Good forest management is being extended to more and more of the privately owned forest lands. The people are recognizing the value of their forest resource and the need for pro-

tecting and managing it wisely.

The forest industries will continue to play an important role in improving forest practices and bringing about better utilization of forest products.



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Negro Charges Discrimination In Rental Try

Portland (AP)—Hearing on a case in which a Negro charges violation of state civil rights laws over renting of an apartment was held Thursday before Labor Commissioner Norman O. Nilsen.

Nathan Jones charged that Al A. Parent refused to rent him an apartment.

Parent, owner of apartments on Southwest Terwilliger blvd., said he had not refused to rent to Jones because the latter is a Negro. He said he had a waiting list for an unfinished apartment and could not rent the unit until it was ready for occupancy.

Parent said a woman was first on the list and was admitted to the apartment when it was ready.

Jones' attorney, J. J. Belton, presented a note of introduction and voting cards which Jones submitted to three tenants in the four-unit building. Parent did say he wanted Jones to appraise the other tenants' feelings toward his presence, emphasizing it was to help Jones decide whether he would encounter hostility or congeniality should he and his family rent the apartment.

Parent said he would have rented to Jones despite any opposition had not other prospective tenants been ahead of him on a priority list.

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