

Mt. Shasta Reforestation Progressing

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A quarter century ago the U.S. forest service began work to bring back into timber production the former wooded slopes of Mt. Shasta. It was something new. Mistakes were committed, lessons learned, but through it all shows progress. The way ahead now seems bright.

The beginning in the late thirties found little practical information on how to bring along young trees to where they could go it alone.

It was noted that pines growing in thick stands were tall straight, and remarkably free from limbs. It was thought that planting them in thick brush would show the same desirable qualities. It didn't work out that way.

Choose Thick Brush

Probably the reason for choosing thick brush for a planting bed was that thick brush covered all the lands to be planted. If the brush was a help, that would eliminate

much worry and work. Accordingly big plows were pushed through the manzanita, other native brush to make a trench in which young pine seedlings were planted or pine seeds were dropped.

Today there are thousands of acres thus treated. The spot where the furrows were may still be seen with brush crowding over the places where young trees were supposed to grow. Less than 2 per cent grew, and the few survivors are stunted to where they can never become good trees.

This mistake became a valuable lesson. That method never was tried again. Thereafter brush was cleared away, with planting in bare places between rows of piled debris. This permits a true survival of 98 per cent.

Often Wonder About It!

Strangers seeing these patterns on the mountain for the first time often wonder what it all means. Within a few years these places will be covered with young pines

to become in time stands of trees to feed sawmills of the future.

But experience that brush roots are death to young pines has developed a treatment to control the native shrubs after the pines are started. The forest service has developed a spray program to kill recurring brush while keeping the seedlings covered with paper bags.

The often curving patterns of brush windrows also have a direct meaning in reforestation. These brush rows become windbreaks, and also prevent erosion. They are contoured for protection.

Will Have Material

Forest service personnel now place the reforestation to become 80 per cent completed by the year 2000. With sustained production being a thought in the harvesting methods, sawmills will have material for all foreseeable time ahead.

One step more is being tried to expedite the work. That is to develop a selective spray that will eliminate putting paper bags over seedlings. Spraying with different strength herbicides, and at varying degrees of development, it is believed a time for application will be found to kill brush and not injure the

planted forest products.

While in the beginning of this project inroads by deer, and rodent attacks were thought to be the chief enemy of replanting, it is now known these are easiest enemies controlled. The worst enemies are encroaching brush, and insect pests.

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MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
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IN CLEARED GROUND — This picture shows young trees growing on a cleared portion of forest on the slopes of Mt. Shasta. A high percentage of trees grow better when the land is cleared in some areas.

Medford Post Office Takes Action on Program for Negotiation on Conditions

The Medford post office has taken official action to implement the post office department's new program for negotiation and consultation on grievances, working conditions, personnel practices and other related matters, acting postmaster Jack Eidswick has reported.

tatives of the employee organizations made it clear they are aware of these limitations and are quite content to negotiate within them."

Member of Task Force

Postmaster General J. Edward Day was a member of the task force.

The employees of the Med-

ford post office, now receiving official recognition at the local level for their employee organizations, join with employees in more than 30,000 post offices throughout the nation in acquiring official recognition under the President's labor-management order for federal employees, Eidswick pointed out.

The move, developed by the postal service under President Kennedy's Executive Order 10988 of Jan. 17, 1962, officially recognizes federal employee organizations for the first time.

Recognition is based on results of the largest nationwide labor management election, held June 15 to July 1, 1962, in which 451,000 postal employees participated. Official results were issued to each post office by the post office department in Washington, Eidswick noted.

Results Locally

Here are the results at the local post office:

Exclusive recognition of United Federation of Postal Clerks, National Association of Letter Carriers, and National Rural Letter Carriers' association.

"Exclusive" recognition was acquired by employee organizations having a clear majority of the vote in a particular craft unit under prescribed voting procedures, he said. The postmaster will negotiate with these organizations, holding regular meetings and working out written agreements on matters affecting all employees in the craft unit represented regardless of employees' membership status.

National agreements give local employee organizations the right to deal with the postmaster on local working conditions, personnel practices and in resolving interpretations under the local agreements, Eidswick said.

Reiterate Order

At the same time, the National agreements reiterate Executive Order 10988's ban against strikes and discrimination. They set forth management's prerogatives which are not subject to negotiation, such as the budget, assignment of personnel, work technology or any matter determined by Congress, such as pay rates.

Postal management, under the Executive Order, also retains the right to direct employees, to hire, promote, transfer, suspend or separate employees in accord with Civil Service regulations, he noted.

A report of the President's task force on Employee-Management Relations in the Federal Service, submitted to the President Nov. 30, 1961, before the issuance of Executive Order 10988, said: "represent-

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