

DOUGLAS FIR GROWS FAST

PORTLAND, Oct. 22.—A 64-year-old stand of Douglas fir growing on bench land in the middle Fork Willamette watershed, Cascade national forest, Oregon, has made an average growth of 1.044 board feet per acre during the last five years, according to Forest Examiner Thornton T. Munger, who has just completed the third remeasurement of the timber on several sample acres in the region under observation. There are now on this tract an average of 155 living trees per acre, 41 less than were present ten years ago. This shrinkage is due to the fact that in the keen struggle for existence, the smaller trees are being crowded out and smothered for lack of light.

The trees on the sample acres are all tagged and numbered, so that the behavior and growth of each individual tree can be watched by the foresters. They range from 4 to 27 inches in diameter, the average tree being 16.3 inches, a good size for railroad ties and almost big enough for piling.

The gloss scale of all the trees

for the average acre shows 10,316 cubic feet of wood, while the volume of the merchantable portion of the trees over 12 inches in diameter, making no allowance for defect or breakage, is 47,899 board feet.

"This is not an exceptional area," says Mr. Munger. "There are thousands of acres in Oregon and Washington capable of growing 1000 board feet per acre annually. The extensive logged-off areas of the two states offer great possibilities to grow a second crop of timber if only fire is kept out and nature given a chance to reseed the ground."

Miss Mary MacArthur, the English labor leader who paid a visit to America a short time ago, has just been sworn in as a Justice of the Peace in England.

A young woman of Paris, Texas, a few days before her death, selected the material for her shroud and gave explicit directions as to how it should be made.

Albert Steele, an Australian, played the piano continuously for 105 hours, breaking the world's record recently established by an American by 62 minutes.

A classified Ad will sell it.

SINGER CLAIMS 3 COUNTRIES

Mlle. Verlet, who will sing at the Elks' temple Monday night, far from being without a country, now likes to consider herself as having three countries.

Belgium is her native land. Of course, at the outbreak of the war Mlle. Verlet suffered the same fate other Belgians met at the hands of the Germans and was forced to abandon her lovely little house near Brussels. But she carries with her everywhere a flag of the Belgian colors—red, yellow and black. It is flanked on either side with the Stars and Stripes and the brave tricolor of France. These Mlle. Verlet keeps always in her window.

"The three flags together—are they not pretty," she said, lovingly. "I put the flag of your country there on the Fourth of July, and that of France on the fourteenth."

Mlle. Verlet also entertains great affection for France. In Paris she was the premier coloratura soprano of the Paris Grand Opera company, and it was direct from there that she came to the United States.

"I am quite an American now," she says, when speaking of the United States. "I love to sing in your country, because I love your people."

But the people of the United States love to have Mlle. Verlet sing in their country as much as she likes to sing here. For the gifted little Belgian Queen of Song, as she is called in her own country, has taken America by storm. She has a wonderfully rich, clear voice, and she evidently loves her singing so well and enjoys the pleasure she gives "these dear Americans" so much, that it is small wonder she feels like a real American herself.

Monday's concert will give Klamath county residents an opportunity to hear Mlle. Verlet in some of her most successful songs. Admission to the concert is by invitation.

MEET PROPOSED TAX SAY PROPONENTS

(Continued from Page 1)

another fire engine \$15,000; fire alarm system, \$10,000; repair of Sixth street, \$12,325, and the salary of a street commissioner, \$1800 yearly, are added.

As to the first proposed budget increase there seems no argument against it. The last budget was \$42,250 and proved inadequate to meet strictly governmental needs. There has been no radical cut in cost, in any, of running the city, and the \$10,000 increase is needed, it is generally conceded.

But the common council evidently did not feel that this is enough—that the voter should stop at \$52,000, so a second proposal was put on the ballot. If the voter sees fit it supercedes the first proposal. The voter must clearly differentiate and realize the effect of his ballot.

On one hand he may approve the \$52,000 measure, or disapprove it. In the latter case the city is thrown back on the old rate, plus six per cent, and would raise about \$43,000, exclusive of the bond interest fund.

On the other hand he may decide that the city needs to repair Sixth street, enlarge its fire department and hire a street commissioner. Then he passes by the first proposal entirely and votes on the second.

If he votes "yes" on one he should, logically, vote no on the other. He cannot logically vote for both affirmatively, or both negatively.

As to the second proposal, raising \$92,100, exclusive of bond interest, the question is—Does the city need more fire apparatus, a fire alarm system, a street commissioner, and the repaving of Sixth street.

The last two questions provide the answer of one. A street commissioner, who was competent and on the job, would, at a cost of \$1800 a year, save the re-paving of Sixth street, at a cost of \$12,000. The city in the past two years has laid much costly paving over a widely scattered area. It is wise economy, proponents argue, to hire a competent man to watch this paving and by timely repairs prevent its untimely destruction.

That Sixth street, a main artery of approach, needs repaving, is generally conceded. It is work that must be done sooner or later and proponents of the higher tax argue that it might better be now than later.

Unless the increased fire apparatus is sanctioned, it is argued, there will be a balket increase in fire insurance rates that will effect every property owner who carries insurance.

Klamath Falls is such a bad fire risk that in the last few years, it is said by insurance men, the policies paid out, have exceeded the prem-

iums paid into the insurance companies. Unless demands for better fire protection and reduction of hazards are complied with, the raise will be forthcoming.

Once effective the new rates will cost owners in the aggregate from \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year, and they will, as far as can be foreseen, continue to exist until the fire-protection is deemed adequate. Which means that the money for fire apparatus will have to be spent some time. By spending it this year the tax payer keeps his insurance premium at its present rate, or perhaps lowers it. When the present truck was purchased insurance rates here dropped ten per cent, a total saving to citizens of \$20,000. Another drop of this size would meet the expenditures that the voter is asked to ratify if he votes for the additional levy.

Both candidates for mayor endorse the \$92,000 levy. Both are tax-payers.

W. T. Lee said to a Herald representative—"I have said I want to be elected mayor because I believe I can give the city a progressive administration. I cannot do the things

I want to if my hands are tied by lack of funds. Further than that, however, I consider the ratification of this measure good business. We lose in increased insurance if we turn it down, five times as much in one year as we would gain. The defeat of this measure would be the rankest of false economy. I am against high taxation as much as any other taxpayer but we cannot evade, in my opinion, a vote for this measure if we use everyday business judgment."

W. S. Wiley said:—You may say for me that I endorse both the \$92,-

crease of the bonding power of the city to 15 per cent. Unless these measures pass any administration that the people may select will be met upon its inauguration by the obstacle of inadequate finances. I have taken thought on the matter and I can see that it would be poor policy for the tax-payers, of whom I am one, to turn down the budget items that mean increased fire protection and risk a certain raise in insurance rates that in a year would swallow up several times the amount of the tax paying."

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