Effectiveness Of Timber Management In Control Of Pine Beetles Pointed Out

By MALCOLM EPLEY

Examples of timber management as it can be applied for effective resistance to pine beetle infestations were shown members of the Shasta-Cascade subsection of the American Society of Foresters on an interesting field trip in the Modoc national forest last week.

Meeting at Hackamore, the 65 in attendance at the session went first to a test plot nearby where Paul Keen, senior entomologist of the Berkeley laboratory of the U. S. bureau of entomology, gave a review of the battle against pine beetles in the area, beginning in 1921.

Early Methods

Keen told of the early methods used in the attempt to stop infestations, which took an increasingly large toll of trees in the Happy Camp-Lava Beds area in the middle 'twenties. In 1927, the bugs took 166,900,000 feet of timber in the area. After a decline, there was another rise in the loss to 103,628,000 feet in 1934.

Since then, the bug harvest has again trended downward, and losses in 1941 to 1945 were less than 10,000,000 feet annually.

In the early period, the control method developed was to fell the infested trees, peel them, and burn the bark. This was expensive, and took a great deal of manpower. Furthermore, as time went on, foresters began to doubt its effectiveness, and there was some question as to whether declines in losses could be credited to the fell-peel-burn program, or to natural causes.

Like other insect infestations, the bug attacks seemed to run in cycles, and also there appeared some evidence that they were influenced by climatic conditions. In good moisture years, when the trees put on heavy growth and were in good condition to withstand the bugs, the losses tended to decline.

Management Method

Out of this situation developed the management method of bug control. Under this plan, the susceptible trees in an infested area are removed by logging operations, leaving the virile trees to continue growth.

A system of risk ratings was developed, under which trees are examined and marked according to their apparent susceptibility to bug damage. Trees with full foliage, healthy crowns and long needles are classed as low risk, and in this type of operation, are left standing. Trees with ragged and thin crowns, bunchy or thin foliage, localized weak conditions, and dead limbs and twigs, are classed as high risk and removed. In between are two intermediate risk classes.

In the area viewed by the foresters at the meeting last week, trees had been marked to show clearly the various risks. After looking these over, the foresters moved to another area in the Modoc, where the Ralph L. Smith Lumber company a few years ago conducted a logging operation to remove the susceptible trees.

Some Logging

About 30 per cent of the ponderosa stand in this area was removed by logging. The Smith company found the operation a profitable one, however, and the foresters present noted the excellent condition of the remaining timber stand.

After these field meetings, the sub-section session moved to the Ralph Smith company cookhouse at Canby, where dinner was served. Following dinner, Russell Bower, fire suppression officer for the Modoc forest, gave a talk outlining the modern forest fire fighting organization. In it, he emphasized the importance of first night control—hitting the fire with everything available on the first night rather than attempting piecemeal control methods.

Modoc Pines Classified According To Bug Risk

Here Hale Scarbrough of The Herald and News, left, and Hy Brown of Canby, look at a pine tree in the Modoc forest test plot near Hackamore which has been marked according to its susceptibility to bug damage. A risk 3 tree like this ordinarily would be removed in a logging operation designed primarily to prevent beetle damage. In the background is a risk 2 tree, which could safely be left for further growth.

HIGH SCHOOL
News Notes and Comment

By MARY O'BRIEN

Mary O'Brien

Plans go forward on the Parents and Patrons banquet for the graduating seniors and along with them goes the work of the committee of junior girls who take charge of table decorations. Headed by Pat McMillan, the group consists of Mary Lou Case, Lou Ann Chase, Doris Ethridge and Carol Monteith. Flower arrangements will be made, using all red or white flowers if the girls can obtain enough. Anyone who could help by donating flowers is asked to call Pat McMillan at 6795 immediately.

* * *

Tonight the Pep Peppers are holding their annual mother-daughter banquet at 6:30 in the Willard hotel. Outgoing officers will turn over their positions to the girls of the present junior class who were elected. Marilyn O'Neill is outgoing Pepper prexy, Mary Ann Mills filled the vice presidential office, Joyce Sample kept the secretary's records, and Jean Hilton collected the girls' dues and kept the treasurer's accounts.

The pep club's social chairman, Joanne Albee, is general banquet chairman. Decorations were made by Irma McBride, Marilyn McLellan and Frances Bailey. Marilyn O'Neill and Katharine Newman made the placecards.

* * *

Prize winners at the senior Hick Day assembly and their respective divisions are listed below: Funniest couple, Barbara Scott and Jeanette Petty; funniest boy, Darrel Price; funniest girl, Bob Mocabee; cleverest couple, Marilyn O'Neill and Bud Brown; cleverest boy, Lee Goode; cleverest girl, Shirley Dalton; best sustained character, Bud Selby, and the four single prizes went to best foreigner, Lynden King; best undressed, Jerry Thorn; best animal, Mary O'Brien, and the best beverage, Jody Bennet, Joyce Sample, Mary Ann Mills and Dorothy Collier.

* * *

RASP's annual spring show program will be held tomorrow night at 7:30 in the KUHS auditorium and will feature talent from all the city grade schools, Shasta school, and Sacred Heart academy. The ten numbers on the program are: a recitation by George Orrell, a piano solo, "Spanish Courtyard," by Jack Ayres; Riverside's octet singing "Twilight"; Jean Adams playing "Blue Butterflies."; clarinetist Richard Tracy playing "Schon Rosemarine"; "The Spinning Song" rendered by Theresia Borgen; George Blahos playing "Intermetso"; Athena Lampropulos playing the violin solo "Sonata"; Shasta's octet singing "The Pledge," and finally Ellen O'Keefe and Harriet Lavenik playing the piano duet "Malaguena."

* * *

Script and Mike sponsored the matinee dance today with the usual schedule arrangements and the regular admission being charged. Irma McBride was head of the decorations committee; Jim Kennett and Belle Doris Russell worked along with Irma. Signs were made by Velma Massey, Rosemary Bigbie and Nadine Yockey took charge of concessions.

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Federal Health Bill Urged

WASHINGTON, May 20 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) said today the republican-controlled sentae has not place on its 1947 schedule for the "long and bitter battle" that would be required to pass a federal health bill.

This rejection by the GOP policy committee chairman of President Truman's appeal for "immediate attention to the development and enactment of national health and disability insurance programs" was accompanied, however, by a promise of early hearings on the question.

Taft said the labor committee, which he heads, will start listening to testimony on health needs in a few days.

Senator Murray (D-Mont.) announced he planned to introduce a bill today to carry out most of the suggestions made by the president in a message to congress yesterday.

Veterans Service Limitation Told

SALEM, May 20 (AP)—Service in the armed forces before December 31, 1946, when President Truman declared hostilities at an end, may be applied toward eligibility for state educational aid for veterans, but service after that date does not count, Attorney General George Neuner ruled today for the state department of veterans affairs.

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Boyle's Column

Kansas Man Proves To Be All Wound Up His Hobby

By HAL BOYLE

COLUMBUS, Kas., May 20 (AP)—Ed Fouts is all wound up in his hobby.

His hobby is collecting string.

That hobby is more complex than the average taxpayer has any idea.

You may never have heard of Ed. But how many people heard of Jack Dempsey before he signed to fight Jess Willard? That is exactly the position Fouts finds himself in today—the dawn period between being a comparatively unknown challenger and the world-hailed champ.

Connoisseurs of string collecting already know that Ed is within striking distance of becoming a historic figure in this neglected art, one of the slow timeless characters who become silent milestones by which subsequent devotees measure their own inching progress.

To put it bluntly, Ed began collecting string on December 12, 1941—a few days after Pearl Harbor—and now has 178 miles of it, carefully tied together in a perfectly round ball standing four feet six inches high after 293 hours of methodical knotting.

There are scores of people in the United States who collect string on a serious basis, and many more who do it intermittently as a light pastime. Ed knows personally of 30 serious collectors, writes to 15 of them to compare progress.

He is outstanding himself—aside from the tremendous size of his ball of string—for two reasons. In his own words:

"I never paid a cent for the twine I have used, and I am the only one that uses the same weight twine all the way through."

Ed is a family man with two children and he has helped two other children get ahead in the world. He runs his own filling station on the edge of town, and he is proud of the fact he had never been late or missed a day's work in 33 years. He is a small, gray-haired energetic man of 56.

"I started collecting string because I read a newspaper article just before the war that a hobby would help you forget your worries and live longer," he said. "Believe me, it does. I get more fun out of seeing the eyes bug out on strangers when they come into my filling station and see this ball of string."

It is something to come upon unexpectedly. It weighs 338 pounds and that explains why Ed is like Jack Dempsey—just before Dempsey catapulted to fame.

"One fellow has a 540-pound ball—I think he's in Indiana but I really don't recollect just where he is," Ed said. "By December twelfth this year I think I'll have a 600-pound ball, because I've lined up friends with a big wholesale bakery who are giving me plenty of string. I've got more coming along all the time."

Ed said he was sorry I had come along to write about his hobby.

"I got the record right now on the same weight twine all the way through—16 gauge," he said. "It's all the same color, too. That's another thing some ones overlooked. But I want to win the all-time twine collecting record hands down."

I think he's afraid that the man who has the 540-pound ball will read this story and speed up his collecting. After all, that fellow doesn't stick to 16-gauge twine.

Ed collects pieces of string about four feet long. I asked him how many knots he had tied. That bothered him. String collectors like to know every statistic about their hobby.

"Nobody ever saw me tie a knot," he said. "I don't sleep much, and I do it every morning between four and five o'clock."

Scientists Watch Total Eclipse

BOCAIUVA, Brazil, May 20 (AP)—A total eclipse of the sun occurred here today in clear weather, which promised success for the preparations of a large group of American scientists gathered on a wooded plateau at Bocaiuva to witness the phenomenon.

The eclipse began about 8:22:36 a. m., became total at 9:34:48, remained in totality, three minutes and 48 seconds, and continued in partiality until 11:03:36. The times (all two hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time) are subject to official confirmation.

The eclipse was not visible to the naked eye, however, at a similar observation station at Araxa, 275 miles southwest of Bocaiuva, because the sky was cloudy and overcast.

The eclipse was not seen in the Northern hemisphere.

(A broadcast heard in Rio de Janeiro quoted Prof. C. C. Kiess, of the U. S. bureau of standards, as saying "the total eclipse observations at Bocaiuva were 100 per cent successful, pending of course, development of the films" the broadcaster remarked during the period of totality: "It is deep night here; even the sun is black. The sky is midnight blue, and there are brilliant stars.")

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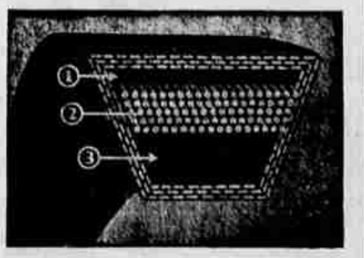

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