

Improvements Sought In Pellet Reseeding Method For Forests, Range Lands

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—New studies are being made to perfect the pellet method for reseeding forests and range lands, the forestry service says.

In his annual report, Chief Forester Lyle F. Watts revealed that the pellets thus far used have not produced satisfactory results either for reseeding trees or grass.

The grass seeds, encased in an earthen coating containing fertilizer and rodent repellent, were scattered from an airplane over some forest land in southeastern Utah and hundreds of acres of wasteland on Arizona Indian reservations.

An Indian bureau spokesman told a reporter the experiment on the range lands also was unsatisfactory.

Livestock Boon
Revegetation of the Indian lands would have been a boon to the livestock raising tribes of the Southwest. Drought and heavy grazing had destroyed the once luxuriant grass. Conventional methods of reseeding seemed slow and laborious.

Watts said of attempts at the planing:
"The conventional pelleting process was found to destroy or inhibit the germinative capacity of conifer seeds, probably by limiting the oxygen supply."

"New type pellets are being developed which, it is believed, will not retard germination, but will have the usual advantages of pellets: easier handling and a supply of nutrients for the young seedlings."

Better Seeder
Watts also said the forest service station in the Pacific Northwest is developing a light hand seeder that will quickly plant, at a selected depth, a single pelleted tree seed.

Spokesmen for both the Indian bureau of public lands said they will be interested in any further developments but that studies by the Utah

State college and Idaho university had found damage to seed runs as high as 82 per cent from the pelleting process.

"Actually," the land agency representative said, "the pelleted seed had a far lower germination than naked seed."

While these three agencies are not satisfied with present pelleting processes or sold on the idea of broad-casting from airplanes, they acknowledge that there are situations where either would be valuable.

Pellet Points
The seed is easier to control if dropped in pellets, for one thing. For another, there is a lot of rough country on the public lands of the West where the usual reseeding methods cannot be used but which could be covered easily from an airplane.

For land where it can be used, the drill is much better, a forester commented. He said experiments have shown, however, that seed can be broadcast successfully in the ashes of a burned over area or in groves of such trees as aspens, where fallen leaves will provide cover.

For reforestation, he said, nothing has yet appeared that will restore the forest better than hand-planted nursery trees.

Holy Year Pilgrims Feel Chill Weather

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 27 (AP)—Near freezing weather chilled some 12,000 pilgrims as they began their humble holy year visits to the four patriarchal basilicas around Vatican City and Rome.

The great, colorful opening and the Christmas ceremonies most of them had come to witness were over. Today they visited the basilicas of St. Peter, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul outside the walls.

Most of the pilgrims were from Spain, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany and other parts of Italy. Their number is expected to increase slowly during the few days left of 1949 and then more quickly as Easter week approaches.

As the pilgrimage was going on, the communist newspaper *Unita* continued to assail the holy year as a "new attack against peace." The communists called upon Italians to counter the holy year "provocations" with peace pledges on New Year's Eve.

Pope Pius XII, prepared to receive diplomatic representatives of 40 nations accredited to the Vatican who will present their New Year's greetings tomorrow. The pontiff is scheduled to reply to the greetings with an address.

Two Sets of Twins In 10 Months
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27 (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Kohal are the proud parents of their second set of twins within 10 months.

Yesterday, the day after their third wedding anniversary, Jeffrey and Michael were born. Each weighed a little more than five and a half pounds. Mother and babies are reported to be "doing fine."

Last February 9, Mrs. Kohal, 27, gave birth to twin girls.

Following the latest additions to the family, Kohal, 31, a grocery manager, commented:

"I'm a little weak. But very pleased."

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Store Break Charged To Tulelake Man

TULELAKE — Walter Olchawa, farmer, was charged with breaking and entering before Justice of the Peace George Long, today and bond was set at \$1000, which Olchawa could not raise.

Christmas Eve, about 9 p. m., Olchawa was reported to have broken a window and entered the Tulelake drug store where he attempted to take several cases of pen and pencil sets. As he crawled out the window, he dropped the sets and also his hunting license.

Police picked him up Sunday and he signed a confession at police headquarters.

He has been taken to the county jail at Yreka. Date for his trial has not been set.

Cary Grant Weds Betsy Drake

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27 (AP)—The honeymoon of Cary Grant and his Christmas bride, Betsy Drake, is over.

Miss Drake, 26, is due to report at her studio today for a movie role. The 46-year-old Grant is slated to start a movie in a few weeks.

Their one-day honeymoon was as closely guarded a secret as was their runaway marriage Sunday in a desert home near Phoenix, Ariz.

Multi-millionaire Howard Hughes, a master of secrecy, piloted the movie couple in his own plane to and from the Arizona rites.

Hotel Fire Does Little Damage

TULELAKE—A pulley belt on the heating system caught fire and filled the Golden Hotel with smoke at 12:30 a. m. today.

Firemen answered the call and extinguished the fire. Small damage was reported to the heating system.

One Insane Escapee Captured

SAN DIEGO—Robert Melvin Burr, 22, one of the men who escaped from the Oregon state mental hospital at Salem December 3, was captured Monday by the FBI in San Diego.

He was taken without a struggle at an armed services YMCA after the FBI had received a tip from Burr's relatives in Portland on the man's whereabouts. He had sent word to Portland asking relatives to forward him money.

At Large
Of four criminally insane men who escaped from the hospital, only Marion Watson, 21, is still at liberty. Watson and Burr are believed to have left the Salem area in a stolen car which was later found abandoned near Klamath Falls.

The FBI said Burr has given them no clue to the whereabouts of Watson, who was the ringleader of the break. He feigned illness to get a guard into his ward, overpowered the guard and released the other men.

It was the second time Burr had been captured in Southern California after escaping in Oregon. The other escapee was also with Watson and both were retaken in Los Angeles.

Burr yesterday was placed in the

Film Fanfare

Boon for Writers—Producer Of New Pic Consults Author

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27 (AP)—Writers who have complained about how their novels were treated by the movies will be heartened by news of Robert Rossen's new project.

The producer-director is planning to film "The Brave Bulls" and is consulting with Author Tom Lea on all details. The two men have returned from Mexico, where Lea helped Rossen select bull fighters for roles in the picture. They also visited people and places that inspired Lea to write the book.

Lea, who is also an artist, is sketching characters and scenes of the book and these will cue the production design of the picture.

A character actress is being sought for a prize role in "I Love Louisa." She'll play Ronald Reagan's mother, but she will be the romantic interest. Charles Coburn and Edmund Gwenn will fight for her hand. Maybe this is the industry's answer to oldsters' demands for something in films besides teenage romance.

psychopathic ward of the San Diego county hospital, held on a federal charge of unlawful flight.

Ginger Rogers will do an independent film after she winds up "Storm Center." She is touting the career of Gene Nelson, who impressed her with his dancing in the stage hit, "Lend an Ear." But he has just been dropped by Warners.

Betsy Drake has a new approach to snoopers who ask when she will marry Cary Grant. She asks the questioners when they are getting married. Insiders still guess the Grant-Drake nuptials will take place after they finish their current film assignments.

Nice of Clark Gable to substantiate my statement that 1949 was Hollywood's marryingest year. The king threw everyone for a loss with the news. Gossipers were humming over his dates with Producer Joan Harrison right up to his wedding time.

"The River" company is finding out about the oddities of making a picture in India. Film makers there always consult the moon and stars before starting a picture. Sometimes the first scene of a movie is shot months before the rest of it—so the picture can fall in the proper astrological time. Most popular U. S. stars in India are reportedly Bing Crosby and Esther Williams.

Wonder if Sam Goldwyn is happy to be out of the "Stromboli" picture, which was originally planned to be made by himself, Rossellini and Bergman.

Beatrice Lillie is drawing a lot of the Hollywood crowd downtown to see "Inside USA." Well she should, being the funniest woman alive.

Peter Lawford's fans are wondering when the lad is going to get the break he deserves from his studio. He has been marking time for too long.

Capable review: "12 O'clock High" (TCF) shows how Gregory Peck whips a bombing group into shape by becoming a bad-tempered martinet. It is one of the best treatments of World War II, but not without its defects. These include its length and some of the old war picture clichés. But the acting (especially Peck) and direction approach greatness.

GIs Give Japanese Scholarships

YOKOSUKA, Japan (AP)—Sailors and marines at this U. S. naval base chipped in for novel Christmas presents for several score Japanese children.

The youngsters will attend a local Christian school with one year scholarships financed by American servicemen. Each scholarship is worth about \$30.

Mrs. Ann Johnson of Washington, D. C., wife of a navy dentist, and Navy Capt. R. O. Bursynski of Milwaukee, Wis., headed the drive.

Red Lights For Cathedral Spire

SALISBURY, England (AP)—This city's 13th century cathedral is going to be lit up like a Christmas tree.

Eight red lights will be placed on the cathedral's 404-foot spire, the tallest in England, to warn airplanes to keep their distance.

In 1929-30, Goalie George Hainsworth of the Montreal Canadiens posted 22 shutouts in 44 games.

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