

AROUND THE FARM

By W. G. Nibler
County Extension Agent

What is the outlook for second growth timber? Will it really pay a farmer with 20 to 100 acres of well stocked wood land to care for this timber and handle it like a crop? There are many farmers in Columbia county who are giving these questions serious thought during the last few years.

The price of second growth was high at the end of World War II. Then it dropped, and now it has come back up some. But what is ahead for the next 10 to 20 years.

If you want to look at national figures on timber use, here they are. We are using about 54 billion board feet annually while annual growth is only 35.3 billion board feet. The deficit is coming from old growth timber stands. This is not really as bad as it looks since old growth timber can be kept only so long. When it is mature it should be cut and the stand regenerated.

Oregon is harvesting its timber about twice as fast as it is being replaced by growth. But "it's an ill wind that blows nobody good"—decline of the old growth means better days ahead for second growth timber. That is,

it will be good for the man who has some second growth timber for sale.

Now let us take a look at what is happening here in Columbia county among farmers who own timber tracts. We have previously mentioned the work being done by J. C. Skeans, Rainier, and Ernest Harris, St. Helens, in selective harvest and management of their timber tracts. The fairgrounds timber harvest tract was specifically set up by our forestry committee to serve as a demonstration on how to manage those small timber acreages and to get definite figures on the return that can be expected from them.

During the past two or three months we have accumulated the names of quite a number of farmers who are interested in developing their timber land. J. J. Mickalonis, Pittsburg Guard Station, and Wes Fuller, PMA assistant, have spent several days during the past month visiting these farms, and helping to outline a future program for their management.

George Stephens, Scappoose, has 80 acres of second growth he is now starting to cut on a selective basis. The major project on his farm will be development of this woodlot.

John Rauch, Rainier, has 20 acres of mixed fir and cedar. A road has been put into the area and selective cutting has been started.

Donald Nys, Rainier, has a good sized plot of second growth fir he is going to manage on a selective harvest basis.

Glen Hawkins, Vernonia, has quite an acreage of second growth timber in which considerable volume of cutting was made this fall. This cutting was done in much the same way that selective harvest work is being done on the Crown Zellerbach tree

farm. Small contractors operating with horse equipment did the work.

Ralph McKee, Vernonia, figured that the slack winter time season on his dairy farm could be used to a good advantage to do some selective harvest on his timber land to supplement his farm income. He is logging with horses.

T. R. Mallory, Rainier, has started some good work in his second growth timber according to Mickalonis.

There are other farmers who are doing some selective cutting and we know of quite a number who are interested and are laying plans for work they intend to start doing.

There are many more, however, who are themselves clear cutting or are contracting for clear cutting of fine second growth stands that could easily be handled on a selective cutting basis. By selective harvest, some immediate income would be available and a good stand of trees could be left on the land to grow more wood.

Farmers and others interested in managing cutting of their woodlots can get individual assistance in doing the work by applying to the county extension office, St. Helens, or to J. J. Mickalonis, Pittsburg Guard Station, Vernonia.

The timber harvest tract at the fairgrounds is available for study at all times and Ed Howe, caretaker will be glad to show farmers around and explain what has been done.

To encourage better forestry practices, the agricultural conservation program offers a payment of \$5.00 an acre or improving a stand of forest trees through

In Oregon

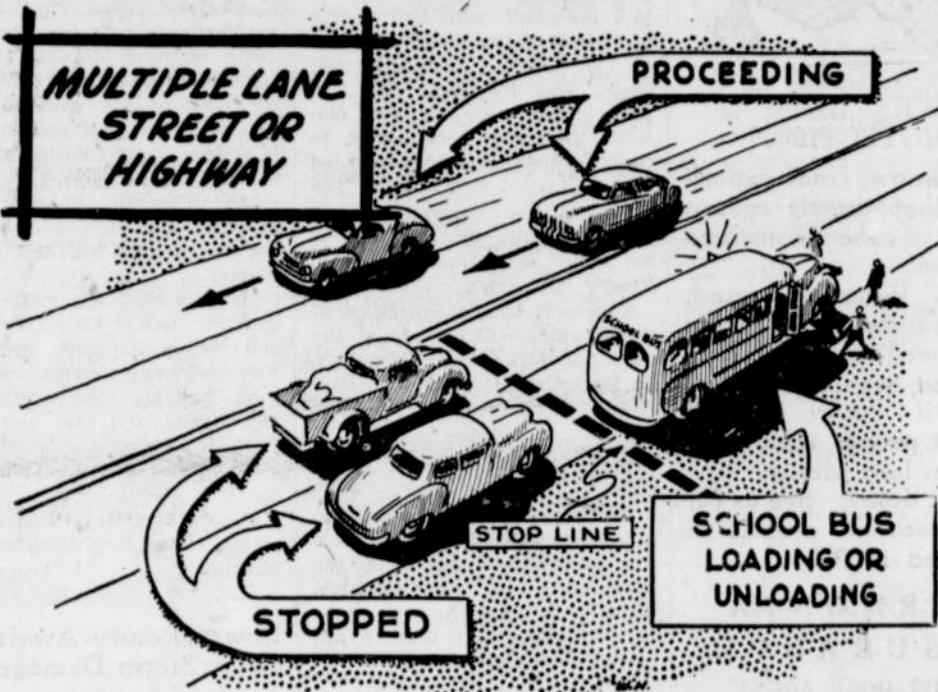
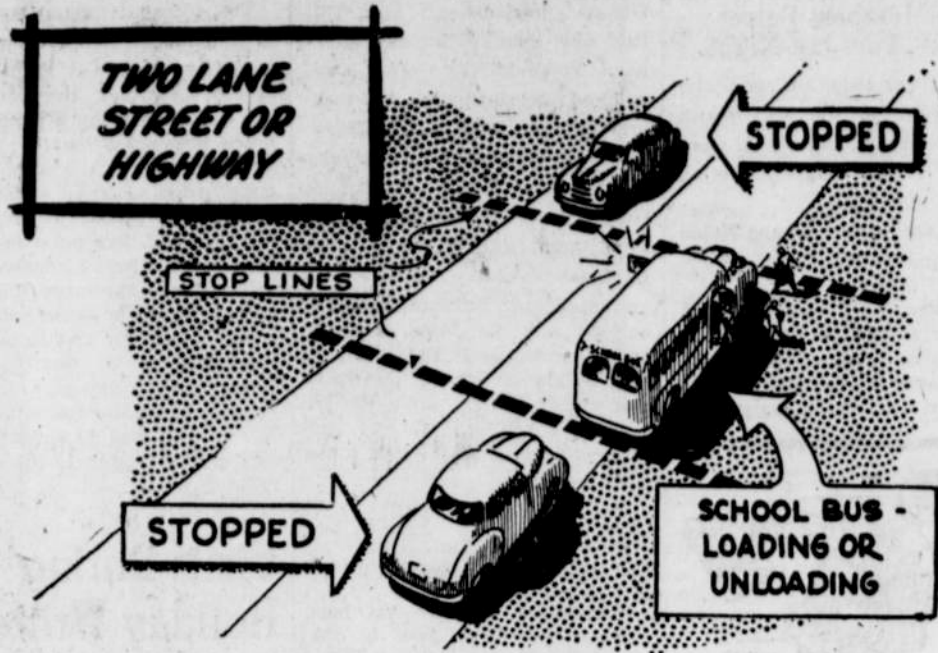
BEAVERTON — With a total report of \$334.48, against a community quota of \$803, Beaverton collections for the community chest will continue until December 3, declares Earl Sicotte, local chairman, who also reports that all workers have not submitted their returns as yet.

BICYCLE SAFETY SUBJECT GEARHART — H. A. Ellsworth of the Astoria police department was the speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Parent-Teacher association in November. Ellsworth spoke on bicycle safety, and the formation of bicycle clubs. In conjunction with his talk he showed two safety films. Ellsworth is in charge of boy's safety patrols in Astoria.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE GRESHAM — The magic carpet to Christmas-land was being spread for Gresham area last week as Chamber of Commerce workers got everything in readiness for the first visit by Santa Claus last Saturday afternoon.

SURVEY ESTIMATES 5036 TILLAMOOK — The Tillamook postoffice has completed the annual survey of possible stops in the city. It is customary for the post office officials to estimate as a general average four persons to a home and therefore they feel that they are able to make a fairly accurate report of the number of persons who live in Tillamook City. They found that there were 1259 homes within the city limits and therefore the estimated population for

STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES!



Confused about Oregon's new school bus stopping law? This is the way it works. On a two-lane roadway, you must stop when meeting or overtaking a school bus which has halted to load or unload children. On roadways having three or more lanes, you must stop only if you're traveling in the same direction. After having stopped, you must not proceed as long as any children are leaving the bus or crossing the roadway. To assist in holding traffic while children cross the road, all buses are being equipped with red stop signal arms as rapidly as possible. You must stop for the bus whether or not the stop arm is displayed. Use of this signal by the bus driver simply indicates the situation requires you to remain stopped. The law applies equally to city streets and rural roads and highways.

Tillamook City is within the neighborhood of 5036.

A single oyster produces between 55 million and 114 million eggs in a lifetime.

Tax Return Total Up To Deadline Figured

Officials at the county courthouse are still busy compiling the tax returns which were either mailed or brought in

prior to the November 15 deadline.

Sheriff M. R. Calhoun said he expected figures on the collections to be available late this week.

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