

Wood industry opposes laws for NW forests

Associated Press
PORTLAND, Ore. — Lush forests cover much of the Pacific Northwest like a rich carpet of green.

They are coveted as irreplaceable areas of natural beauty, sanctuaries from the hectic complexities of modern life.

They also are valued for the trees that represent the life blood of the region's economy. In 1974, the wood products industry pumped \$5.5 billion into the economies of Oregon and Washington.

About half of the timber in the two states is in national forests. So when Congress considers forestry legislation, the special interests in the Pacific Northwest hone their political skills and come out scorching.

The controversial Monongahela court ruling has spawned the latest forestry legislation now being considered by the House and Senate.

Forest products representatives predict economic disaster if the Monongahela decision is applied to the nation's most timber-rich region, the Pacific Northwest. Convoys of log trucks rumbled into Portland last spring to hold a "funeral" for the timber industry.

Several environmental groups filed suit in federal court to stop the practice of clear-cutting harvesting all the trees in a given area in the Monongahela National Forest of West Virginia.

A federal judge ruled that the Organic Act of 1897 prohibits clear-cutting because it says only dead or mature trees can be cut in national forests and all the trees to be cut must be marked.

The Monongahela ruling all but stopped national forest timber sales in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, as well as in West Virginia. Similar rulings followed in Alaska and Texas.

The House and Senate are considering two very different bills on the subject. The House bill still is in committee. The Senate passed its version by a 90-0 vote last week.

The Senate bill has been criticized from both sides. Industry lobbyists complain it is too specific, raising the risk of more lawsuits by environmentalists.

"What we have now is an omnibus bill with too damn many things in it," said Bill Hagenstein, veteran timber industry lobbyist and executive vice-president of the Industrial Forestry Association, an organization of timber producers in Oregon and Washington.

But some environmentalists say just the opposite.

"In my opinion the bill is far too weak," said David Corkran, a Sierra Club member from Portland.

Theodore Schlapfer, regional forester for the Forest Service in the two states, said he doesn't think the Senate bill would change the agency's practices.

The powerful environmental lobby pushed for legislation that covered the whole issue of timber management in national forests. The industry favored simple repeal of the offensive section of the Organic Act.

As the legislation developed, the clear-cutting issue faded. Environmentalists didn't oppose clear-cutting as long as it was done under guidelines that protected the soil and minimized the visual impact. But other provisions of equal importance have kept the bill a special interest battleground.

They include:
● Requiring the Forest Service to operate under the sustained yield concept, which means no more timber could be cut than grown over a given period. The Forest Service now operates that way, but as an administrative decision. It doesn't have to.

● Forbidding intensive harvesting and reforestation of so-called arid lands or lands that are not well-suited for rapid growth of new trees.

● Changing the method of paying counties their share of revenue from national forest timber sales within their borders. Now, the cost of road construction and reforestation is subtracted from the revenue before the counties get their 25 per cent. Under the new proposal, the counties would receive 25 per cent of the gross revenues.

The Senate bill contains all three controversial provisions. The House version does not. Both allow clear-cutting.

The sustained yield provision is the most controversial part of the Senate package.

Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., said he'll try to amend the House bill to include the sustained yield requirement. Behind it are projections of shortages of timber on private land with old growth stands being cut before the second growth reaches marketable size.

A study by Dr. John Beuter of Oregon State University predicts a 22 per cent decline in the amount of timber cut in Western Oregon by the year 2000 because of the unavailability of private timber.

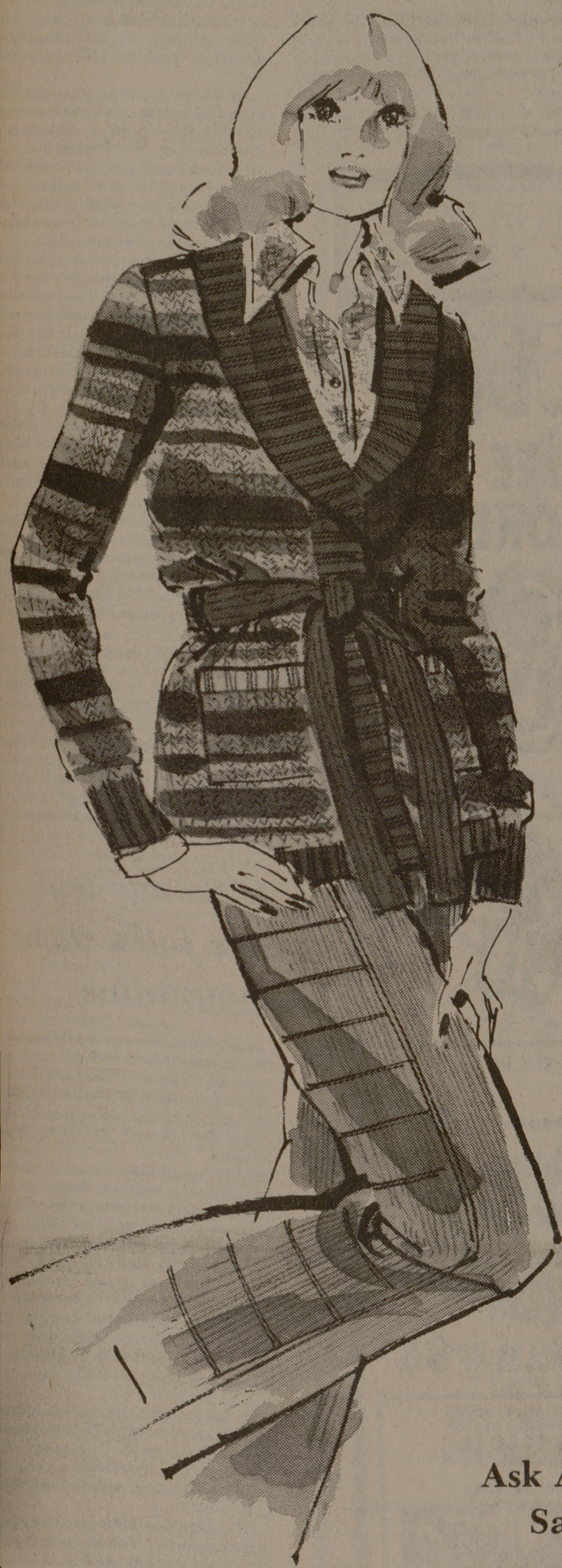
If private timber isn't available environmentalists say the Forest Service will be under increased pressure to provide more trees. That's why they want the sustained yield concept written into law.

Hagenstein, the industry representative, acknowledges the industry believes more timber, particularly mature trees, could be cut in national forests.

He said increasing the harvest would set no precedent.

Sears

FALL SALE



Jr. Bazaar Updated Corduroy Sportswear

Regular \$16.00 Jeans

12⁷⁹ pair

Get the new thinking in sportswear at Sears... all in go-together colors.

FABRIC: 100% cotton pinwale corduroy jeans and skirts
DETAILING: Tucked-leg or lattice-pocket jeans, print shirts and solid or striped acrylic wrap cardigans

Regular \$15 corduroy skirt... 11.99
Regular \$11 screen print long sleeved shirts... 7.99
Regular \$14 solid or striped tweed wrap cardigans... 10.99

Ask About Sears Convenient Credit Plans
Sale Prices In Effect Thru Saturday



Save \$3

Men's western style shirts in fancies, solids

Regular \$10.99

7⁹⁹

Polyester and cotton shirts have western styling like snap front, cuffs and flapped pockets. Long tails stay tucked in. S-XL.



\$3 Off

Roebuck® Western Style Denim Jeans

Regular \$11.00

7⁹⁹ PAIR

FABRIC: Heavyweight pre-shrunk 14-oz. blue cotton denim gets that great faded look after just a few washings. Sizes 30-42.

DETAILING: Double sewn seams, slightly flared legs fit over boots. Two back pockets with "V" scroll stitching.

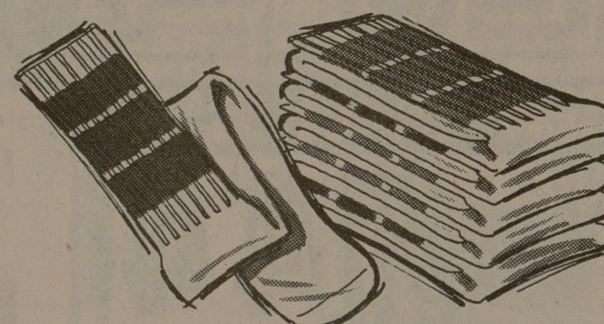
\$3 off "THE WINNER®"
Sears Best by Converse

Regular \$12.99 men's and boys' sizes

\$9⁹⁷



CONSTRUCTION: Looking for strength, grip, support? The Winner delivers. From the heavy woven cotton duck uppers to the deep lug rubber sole. Men's sizes 7½-11, 12M; boys' 3½-7M.



Men's Sock Sale!

Regular \$1.29 Tube Sock

99c PAIR

Orlon® acrylic and stretch nylon for comfort. White with colorful racing stripes. 10-13.



Save \$20

Black and White Portable TV

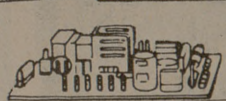
Regular \$149.95

\$129⁸⁸

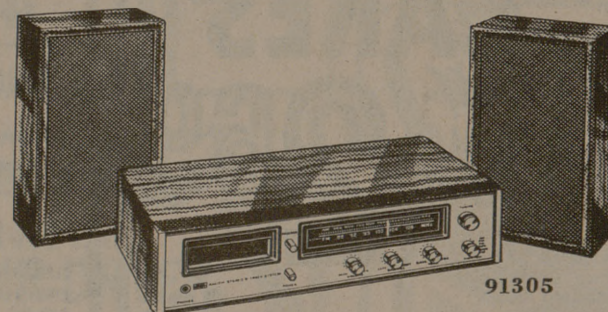
100% solid-state

Great second set. Black and white TV has 16-in. diagonal measure picture and dependable 100% solid-state chassis. Handsome black and silver color, hide-away handle.

Simulated TV reception
100% solid-state chassis gives your set the dependability you expect in fine color TV.



5035



8-Track Stereo Tape Player
Sears Regular Low Price

Easy-to-play 8-track system has its own AM/FM stereo receiver. Air suspension speakers in 15-in. high enclosures.

\$99

Honoring America's Bicentennial

Sears

Celebrating Our 90th Anniversary Year

SHOP AT SEARS AND SAVE
Satisfaction Guaranteed or Your Money Back

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

1901 Texas Avenue

Phone 822-0111
Plenty of Parking

Open 9:30 to 9 P.M.
Monday thru Friday
Open 9:30 to 7 P.M.
Saturday