

protection against fire by friendly cooperation with settlers living in the region. The methods employed are quite similar in many ways to those of the Service on the National Forests in granting free use of fuel and certain uses of the land. Felled logs or trunks and standing trees containing heartwood are being worked up for engine fuel in order to reduce the fire menace. This is often done at a financial loss.

In 1913 post oak saplings and seedling reproduction ("oak scrub"), mostly from 2 to 5 inches in diameter on low stumps, was cleared from 1,000 acres as an aid to pine reproduction. The cost averaged 25¢ per acre, or \$250 for the tract. The present plan is to clear another 1,000 acres in 1914.

Mr. Hardtner is very desirous to have the tract used as fully as possible for carrying on investigative or experimental work. He feels that the State should take the lead in this, but stands ready to bear a portion of the expense, and in addition devote considerable of his time personally. He possesses an exceptionally clear understanding of the value of young timber and will take a keen interest in all investigative projects of this character. Recommendations will be found in a subsequent portion of this report.