

The BUILDING REVIEW

VOL. XXIV

SAN FRANCISCO, JULY, 1923

No. 1



JOHNSON, KAUFMANN & COATE, Architects.

Some Residential Work of the Firm of Johnson, Kaufmann & Coate

By HARRIS ALLEN

TO WRITE an article in appreciation of Johnson, Kaufmann and Coate's work is very much like gilding the lily. So much of it has been illustrated, and it has been so much admired and so ex-

haustively described, that apparently little remains to be said. But it is always interesting to try to determine, from different viewpoints, just what produces success. Not that one can lay down a hard and fast

Nurseries for Redwoods

By FRANK MULGREW

IF, IN the days of the overland stage and pony express, pioneers, felling giant trees on the fringe of redwood forests, had been told they would live to see redwood nurseries by the side of saw mills, they would have flouted the statement. At that time redwood seemed to be California's one inexhaustible resource, which would continue in their might long after the mineral lodes had yielded their hidden wealth.

These old woodmen might well look on forest tree nurseries as an absurd fancy. Redwoods interlocked boughs over spaces that a man on horseback might spend weeks in traversing. They emerged from forest fires with scorched bark when pitchy firs and pines became flaming torches. Unlike other cone-bearers, the redwoods refused to succumb to saw and axe, and sent forth a ring of vigorous suckers about their stumps. Such vitality would not die.

But redwood nurseries are now here. They supply evidence of a new spirit in America—a realization that the country has been playing the wanton spendthrift with its natural resources; that the present generation owes a duty to posterity; that the wasting of nature's gifts through ignorance or callousness is criminal.

The movement to replant the cut areas has been started by the redwood lumbermen—members of the California Redwood Association. They are actuated by a desire to perpetuate a valuable California industry. Deposits of oil and mineral can be exploited only once. Experiments show, however, that redwoods mature for commercial purposes at the relatively early age of 60 years; so that the soil and climate in which this unique species first found its home can continue to yield its valuable products for the use of mankind through the ages to come.

In the work of reforestation, the redwood companies of California have employed the services of Major David T. Mason, formerly an expert in the United States Forest Service. The Union Lumber Company of San Francisco started the first redwood nursery on land adjoining its sawmill at Fort Bragg, Mendocino County. There are now fully 800,000 young redwood trees growing there from the seed, a sufficient number to reforest 2800 acres a year. In the near future this nursery will furnish enough young redwood trees to plant 4600 acres annually, and, at the end of five years, this will be increased to 10,000 acres. The Pacific Lumber Company has a redwood nursery of 500,000 trees at Scotia, Humboldt County. Besides the nursery trees, about one-fifth additional second growth redwood will sprout from stumps of old trees. It was Mr. C. R. Johnson, president of the Union Lumber Company, who initiated this movement, which now includes most of the important redwood lumber companies of California. Altogether there are interested in reforestation, in vary degrees, 17 out of the 22 redwood companies in California. These companies produce about 87 per cent of the annual lumber cut of the redwood region.

The sponsors of redwood reforestation have definitely adopted the policy of cutting in such a manner that new growths of timber will be available for felling long before the original forests are exhausted. More than half the lumber production from the redwood area now comes from land that will be reforested and permanently guarded for timber production. The redwood companies, in starting the work of reforestation, are not only fulfilling their obligations to future generations, but are placing the redwood lumber industry of California on a protected and permanent basis.