

INTER-MOUNTAIN NEWS
CLIPPING BUREAU

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REDTAPE AGAIN

It is to be hoped that when the United States army faces an enemy in the field it will act more rapidly than it has upon the forest fires. A week elapsed between the order for the use of the troops and their actual engagement. It is the old, old story of redtape.

Amazing, too, is the calm assertion that not only is there not sufficient equipment for the guard, which Governor Norris offers, but for all the troops themselves. A fine state of preparation for war, when bare camping essentials are lacking. Who knows the day when we may regret all this?

The present fires are the first severe test to which Mr. Roosevelt's green rangers have been put and it clearly indicates that something is radically wrong. The force is not large enough. The millions upon millions of feet of timber destroyed were worthy a more conscientious precaution.

What is to be done, again next year? The lessons so bitterly learned should not be without profit. It might be well to have the army on hand, during the dry weeks of 1911.