

ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1926.

Ninety Percent of Umpqua National Forest In Watershed of Umpqua Rivers

Ninety per cent of the Umpqua National Forest, which has an area of approximately one million acres, is in the watershed of the Umpqua river in eastern Douglas county. The forest has been estimated to contain 23,500,000,000 board feet of timber. Of this, 83 per cent is Douglas fir. The rest consists of hemlock, noble fir, red cedar and various less important species.

It is the plan of the forest service to have this timber cut on a sustained annual yield basis. That is: logging operations will be carried on in such a way that the same amount of timber will be available for cutting each year for an unlimited period. This means that provision must be made after logging, in each case, for the establishment of a second growth. Under this system, the forest would produce, at the present time, this would be about enough for six good sized saw mills. Under intensive forest management the capacity of the forest would be increased to nearly 400 million feet annually.

The forest service is anxious to have the cutting of this timber commence. When the railroads are constructed up the North and South Umpqua rivers, the timber will be placed on the market immediately. It is thought that it is simply a question of time till these railroads are built, because there are large bodies of privately owned timber adjacent to the forest at the present time.

The only logging operations of any size on the Umpqua National Forest at present are on the flow river watershed, in the north end of the forest, in Lane county, where forty million feet a year is being cut. This timber goes out over the Oregon, Pacific and Eastern railroad to Cottage Grove.

One of the important industries on the Umpqua forest is grazing. Stock graze on the mountain ranges during the summer and are kept on ranches, usually outside of the forest, and at lower elevations, during the winter. Some of the sheep are brought in from Eastern Oregon. During the past season, permits were issued for 1720 head of cattle, seven horses and 9500 sheep.

Another use of the forest, which is developing rapidly, more so than the limited appropriations which the government has for the purpose and take care of is recreation. The Umpqua region has long

been known as a wonderful fishing and hunting country. The construction of roads and the increased use of the automobile is leading more and more people every year to spend their vacations in the forests. During 1923 over 11,000 people spent an average of three days each for recreation purposes within the Umpqua National Forest. Diamond lake, which has been opened to automobile travel within the last few years, received more attention than any other place. There is a natural camping ground three miles long along the east shore of the lake. However, the Tiller country and the North Umpqua also received their share of visitors.

For the protection and administration of this forest a year-long force of ten people is maintained. During the summer months this number is increased to about 85, which includes men employed on road and trail construction and protective organization. A very complete system of fire protection is maintained. Trails and telephone lines radiate to all parts of the forest. Seventeen lookout points are established on high peaks from which extensive views of the surrounding country may be obtained, during the dry season men are constantly on watch from these points for any fires which may spring up.

Tools and equipment, food supplies, pack horses, etc., are kept in readiness at various points for the use of fire fighters. Men known as smoke chasers are within reach of the telephone so that they may proceed to a fire immediately on its discovery.

The construction of new roads and trails is being carried on from year to year. One of the most interesting parts of the program is the construction of a road up the North Umpqua to Diamond lake. This will connect with existing roads which lead into eastern Oregon.

Twenty-five per cent of the income from the national forests is returned to the counties in which the forests are located for the benefit of the county road and school funds. In addition, ten per cent is turned back to the forest service for the construction of roads and trails within the forests. This is in addition to the regular appropriations which congress makes for roads and trails in the forests.

Survey Completed of The Timber of Douglas County

Douglas county derives an annual income of \$2,700,000 from lumbering, according to the report filed at the agricultural economic conference today by the Chamber of Commerce committee appointed to investigate this phase of the commercial activities of the county.

The annual payroll from lumbering amounts to \$1,582,000 and nearly one thousand men are given employment.

The report shows an increase of from 25 to 30 per cent during the past two years with a bright outlook for the future.

The committee's report is as follows:

The committee on the lumber and timber industry herewith submits the following facts obtained by a survey of this industry for the year of 1925.

At the present time the lumber industry is confined largely to two sections of Douglas county, namely: Reedsport and Glendale and vicinity with several small operations in various parts of the county.

A digest of the operations are as follows:

Reedsport, output in board feet, 90,000,000; number of men employed, 500; annual payroll, \$1,000,000; income derived, \$1,800,000.

Glendale and vicinity, output in board feet, 24,000,000; number men employed, 200; annual payroll, \$400,000; income derived, \$480,000.

Other sections, output in board feet, 16,000,000; number of men employed, 150; annual payroll, \$120,000; income derived, \$300,000.

Roseburg remanufacturing and retail of lumber, number men employed, 25; annual payroll, \$45,000; income derived, \$120,000. Total output in board feet, 130,000,000; total number of men employed, 915; total annual payroll, \$1,582,000; total income derived, \$2,700,000.

Our survey of this industry shows an increase of 25 to 30% over previous two years. This increase is brought about by an enlargement of mills heretofore in operation and new mills going in.

We also have authentic information that other timber and lumber interests are contemplating the development of various timber tracts in the near future, as well as increasing the capacity of the mills now in operation. It has long been conservatively

estimated that the stand of timber in Douglas county aggregates 60 billion feet. At the present time the stand of timber in this county has scarcely been scratched. The waste of standing timber in other sections and the expansion of foreign markets for forest products will from time to time increase the manufacture of lumber in this county.

W. A. BOGARD, Chairman,
ALBERT SNYDER,
STANLEY CHAPIN.

Strawberries

Other crops in Douglas county are equally as profitable as the prune, according to a Myrtle creek rancher, locally known as the "Strawberry King" of the county. His records show a net profit of \$200 an acre over a series of years, equivalent to a dollar a crate net. The yield runs 200 crates to the acre. He ships the first "Oregon" berries into Portland each year. Douglas county is the earliest produce district of the state which permits to grow grapes, tomatoes and berries to reach a high priced market a week or ten days ahead of competing districts.

The harvest month is May, but continues over two months. Strawberry culture is a light, profitable industry adapted to the small home places of the county, where soil conditions are favorable. Strawberries have always been a satisfactory crop and the market demand has never been supplied. Our acreage in strawberries could be increased over one hundred per cent.

Brambles

Douglas county has been called "The Italy of America" by enthusiastic visitors. There is more than a mere element of truth in this appellation. As noted on other pages of this paper many favorite fruits are grown here, but none perhaps to better advantage than raspberries, blackberries and loganberries. Many of our people make a splendid profit each year from these three bramble fruits.

Douglas county was taken from old Umpqua county, and was named after Senator Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois.

FROM EUGENE to STATE LINE on PACIFIC HIGHWAY

