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DIVERSIFICATION NEEDED

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Various trade journals of the lumber industry, in recent issues, carry predictions on the lumber market's future. The lumber market has softened materially. Orders have dropped to a very low point. Retailers seem to be waiting market stability before stocking up for spring and summer trade. Retail yards, it is generally predicted, will keep inventories low, anticipating further drops in prices. In the meantime, many mills are continuing production and have their docks crowded to capacity. Some smaller mills are closed awaiting market stabilization.

Low grades of lumber are a drug on the market. There is some opinion that the plywood industry has over-expanded and that plywood production must be reduced.

High-grade sawlogs taken from the woods have been going to the plywood factories, because they bring better prices for plywood than for lumber. As a result, sawmills have been cutting a larger percentage of low grade lumber than in years before the plywood mills entered the picture.

Industry leaders, according to trade publications, are at a loss to know what to do. With the profit gone from low grades, with strong competition among plywood manufacturers for high-grade logs, and with the lumber market wanting principally seasoned, finished lumber in top grades, the market offers a complex problem.

Current condition of the lumber market, in our opinion, only serves to emphasize the need for diversification in wood products manufacture.

Why should mills be cutting common grades which, on a soft market, yield little if any profit, and may even represent a loss, when the same material could be used to manufacture paper board, wall board, pressedwood, alcohol, molasses, stock feed, chemicals and many other products?

Many new uses for wood have been devised. Material now going into refuse burners or into low-profit lumber could be used for production more profitable than the high-grade, clear stock output from sawmills and plywood plants. We are wasting millions of tons of wood, cutting trees which should not be cropped for another 25 to 50 years, producing lumber grades of little value, even taking a loss on some grades, when all of this waste has high value if properly processed.

The trouble lies in the resistance of the industry to any process other than that using a saw, coupled with a federal tax structure discouraging investment of risk capital.

Most lumbermen know little about chemical processes. Yet they control the greater part of the timber supply. Few are willing to pioneer new methods. Some of the big manufacturers are developing full utilization. Weyerhaeuser is installing plants at Longview and Springfield where nothing is wasted. If timber is not producing profits when cut into lumber, Weyerhaeuser can channel the material through paper mills, chemical plants or other manufacturing departments where a profitable market is assured.

We need more of this type of manufacture for the industry as a whole. Installations are expensive, which explains why only the larger companies are diversifying production. It is possible, however, for smaller units to work cooperatively to achieve the same results. In our opinion, the federal government should furnish financial encouragement for plant installation, either by long-term loans or through some provision offering relief from taxation for a given number of years for capital invested in a risk enterprise.

Watch Your Poker Pals

The City of Portland is preparing a crime clean-up. War is being declared on the city's underworld. This means that Oregon's smaller cities will doubtless be having crime waves.

Whenever the large cities start clean-up campaigns, underworld characters scatter out to "whistle stops" where they must live off the land. Invariably metropolitan clean-ups are followed by waves of burglaries, hold-ups, safe crackings, etc., in the smaller towns.

Another result is a scattering to the "sticks" of the card sharps.

In towns such as Roseburg, where no licensed gaming halls are permitted, poker players collect in private homes, hotel rooms or out-of-the-way spots where they may have a game free from interference by the law. Such games make ideal pickings for the professional card sharper. We may expect the presence of a large number of these professionals while the heat is on in Portland.

Although gambling is driven under cover, poker playing cannot be prevented, particularly in a timber center. Those who indulge in poker games, however, should be extremely careful that they know those with whom they play, for there will be plenty of professionals seeking a soft touch until Portland quiets down again.

Fishing Boats Being Built on Lower Umpqua

Five deep sea fishing boats are under construction in the Lower Umpqua vicinity at present.

Walter Kueh is building one on the Clifford ranch on the Umpqua River above Reedsport; two are under construction at East Gardiner, on Smith River, one by Marshall Leach and another by Marvin and Benson Judy; and two at Winchester Bay one by Stanley Spooner and one by J. H. Dunaway.

All are experienced boatmen, and are building the boats for their own use as trolling or outside fishing boats.

Three Men Indicted In Murder of Janitor

PORTLAND, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Three men were charged with murder here today in the street slaying of a janitor in a robbery attempt.

Arrested in a week's investigation following the shooting of Ansel Abbott, 63, they were indicted by a county grand jury last night.

They are: Robert Edgar Garver, 24; Leland Delbert Marshall, 20; and Norman Carroll Andrus, 23, all of Portland.

"The Romans made a 'cure' for wounds and ulcers out of oyster shells and cuttlefish bones.

Anybody Wanna Bet on the Hatch?



Scrap from the MENDING BASKET

By Viannett S. Martin

For many years I had to depend upon memory pictures for enjoyment of fresh-fallen snow on evergreen trees. To be sure I could—if no clouds, smudge, smog or fog prevented—see Mt. Baldy 60 miles away when I glanced out my kitchen window. But I could not stand in my kitchen door and feast my soul on the sight that meets my eyes now when snow falls.

Even after the snow down on "99" has disappeared from the roadside our snow remains in this canyon. It was six degrees below the freezing point this morning when we started for town; our canyon was a fairyland! But down on "99" the highway was black again, although slippery.

The snow melted fast down there—even across the road from our house it goes faster than on our hill. There it holds out against the sun till the last possible moment and how I do enjoy it. So white! So unspiced by anything more than a story-telling track.

Odd how we store away impressions without realizing it, and then perhaps years afterward, the significance unfolds to us, something not thought of at the time. For years I enjoyed in memory the beauty of the snow-covered Adirondacks—and then one troubled day when I seemed

weighted down with a burdened feeling of discouragement because a problem did not seem to be working out as fast as I felt it should and I was blaming myself for "failure"—wondering why the prayer did not seem answered—there came to me a sudden mental picture of the woods after a heavy fall of snow, the branches bent low under the burden of snow that seemed enough to break them. I reached for a pencil . . . and as I wrote I was free of my discouragement, and, soon after, of the problem, too.

The Sunshine of His Love
How can we know the depth of root
Until the high winds blow?
Or judge the strength of bending branch
Till weighted down by snow?

May we then claim how staunch our faith
Ere sorrow's storm has tested?
Or surely feel His wondrous love
Till breaking waves have breasted?

Take heart, dear friend, and, like the branch
Though burdened and bent low:
Be freed by sunshine of His love.
Uplifted courage now!

—Viannett Martin
in Home Friend Magazine.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

A CVA NOT THE ANSWER

(The Oregon Journal)

President Truman will find no quarrel with residents of the Pacific Northwest when he says "we must push forward with the development of our rivers for power, irrigation, navigation and flood control." He is talking our language.

Nor will the president get any argument in this region over the necessity for basin-wide development of the Columbia river. That, has been our objective for 10, these many years.

When he says, however, that "we should apply the lessons of our Tennessee valley experience to our other great river basins," he will find plenty of argument from the Pacific Northwest. If by that he means that he favors a TVA or regional authoritarian type of development for the Columbia basin.

The question of a Columbia valley authority has bobbed up again and again in the past 10 years. It has been advocated in various forms by former Secretary of Interior Ickes, former Senator (now Representative) Mitchell, former Senator Bone of Washington, Senator Taylor of Idaho, Representatives Horan, Smith and Rankin, and others.

While these proposals have ranged from the independent super-state type like TVA (with control not only of power development, flood control, navigation and irrigation but also of power, highways, various industries and social work) to an advisory agency representing local interests, there has never been agreement. And bills implementing these proposals have got nowhere.

Frankly, The Journal does not believe, until he clarifies the point, that President Truman favors another TVA for the Columbia, Missouri and other basins. Two years ago when he recommended a \$150 million pro-

gram for Missouri valley, he indicated that he expected the program to be carried out by the army engineers, the bureau of reclamation and the soil conservation service of the department of agriculture—much as Columbia basin projects are handled.

The president also made it clear that speed, rather than involvement in ideological arguments over the administrative pattern, was the important thing. He seemed to favor the Missouri basin inter-agency committee, a democratic compromise. And it may be assumed, until he indicates a change of heart, that he favors the same sort of approach through the Columbia basin inter-agency committee for the Columbia.

The inter-agency committees, composed of field representatives of the interested federal agencies, with the governors of the various states as advisors, have done much to alleviate the conflicts between such agencies as the army engineers, the bureau of reclamation, the departments of agriculture and commerce and to unite these regions on a basin-wide development program. The Missouri valley committee, quite frankly, has done a better job than the Columbia basin committee because the governors of Missouri valley states have taken a more active part in committee deliberations.

The Columbia basin inter-agency committee would be materially stronger and more useful in enlisting a comprehensive and unified river development program if the governors of the various Pacific Northwest states were made actual, rather than advisory, members of the committee, and took more active part in its deliberations. If advisory members were then named from organized agriculture, industry and labor, we would have something workable and locally controlled. And there would be less agitation

for a super-state type of authority such as TVA.
A Columbia valley authority is neither wanted nor needed in the Columbia basin.

In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

tially dangerous moment in our economic history. We are at the height of a boom into which inflation has entered as a prime factor (which means that much of our "prosperity" is imaginary, based on the illusion of DOLLARS instead of THINGS).

This situation calls for delicate and careful handling. We are like the driver of an automobile who is approaching a slippery and ticklish stretch of road. If he is to negotiate this stretch without serious mishap, he must use both his ENGINE and his BRAKES wisely.

There will be times when he will need POWER to go ahead. There will be other times when he will need to slacken speed. If he is to come through whole and safe, he must use these CONTROLS wisely, applying JUST ENOUGH power when power is needed and putting on the brakes just enough and not too much when deceleration is needed. If he puts on too much power, he may go over the bank. If he applies his brakes too sharply, he will skid.

THE President, we are warranted by his words in thinking, wants a powerful engine in the American car. HE ALSO WANTS BRAKES THAT WILL WORK WHEN STEPPED ON. That desire seems to lie at the root of his recommendations.

THE President, in his messages, calls for SPENDING POWER—public works projects (with special emphasis on housing); a SOCIAL program taking more people under the security umbrella; higher minimum wages; a long-range farm-support program. And so on. (With a four billion up in taxes to provide the wherewithal.)

THAT IS HIS ENGINE.

HE calls at the same time for curbs on the economy—including stand-by (meaning gun behind the door) price, wage and allocation (telling who can have what) controls; rent control for at least two more years; increased federal power over credits, etc.

THOSE ARE HIS BRAKES.

IT will all depend on WHAT KIND OF DRIVER HE IS. If he is cautious when caution is needed (as when approaching a nasty intersection or a bad curve), if he is bold when prompt, bold decisions are called for (as when you have to jam the throttle to the floor and pour on the power to get out from in front of trouble), if his reactions are quick and accurate, HIS PROGRAM WILL WORK.

If he lacks these qualities, it will fizzle.

LET'S not shoot the piano player now.
To this writer, he seems to be doing his best.

Public Will Be Charged For Use Of Forest Camps

Beginning with the spring of 1949, charges will be made for camping and picnicking on a representative group of national forest campgrounds in Oregon and Washington, according to an announcement just made by Regional Forester H. J. Andrews, Portland, Oregon. The decision to make these charges on certain recreational areas on an experimental basis was prompted, according to the forest service, by repeated suggestions from Congress that recreational use should bring in some revenue to offset in part the cost of constructing, maintaining and administering national forest recreational facilities.

I wish to emphasize that we are not overlooking the tradition of free public recreational use of the national forests," Andrews said. "We shall have many small camps and picnic areas available for free use by the public in addition to those on which charges will be collected. Also, the proposed charges will be for use of facilities on certain recreation areas and not for entrance to the national forests. The new procedure will be conducted as an experiment on a sufficient number of areas to enable us to draw definite conclusions as to whether service to the public can be improved under this method.

Maintenance Harder
"Most of the recreation facilities on the national forests were constructed by the civilian conservation corps 10 to 15 years ago and the problem of maintenance is becoming progressively more serious. Rustic tables, foot bridges, fireplaces, and toilet facilities are deteriorating from use and weathering faster than they can be replaced or maintained with the limited funds now available. The number of people using the forest camps has been increasing—in some cases beyond the capacity of the existing improvements to accommodate them. Funds available since the war for recreation work on national forests have been insufficient even to maintain essential sanitation and fire protection on all areas, and to keep them usable, and there has been virtually no development of additional recreational facilities to relieve overcrowding. We hope that the experiment being started this year will help solve the problem."

According to Andrews, the plan for charging for recreation use on specified areas will be carried out about as follows: Operation of some of the selected camps will be by a permittee who will be required to keep the area neat and clean, dispose of garbage, maintain the improvements, and furnish firewood. Some charge camps may be operated by the forest service, but not where the sale of merchandise or both house services are involved.

Charges for the use of the selected recreation areas will be: camping, 50c per day per car party of not more than 6 persons, or \$3.00 per week; picnicking, 25c to 50c per day per car party of not more than 6 persons. Extra charges will be made if special services such as split firewood and lockers, or checking stations in both houses are furnished.

A list of the recreation areas at which charges will be collected will be made public this spring by the forest supervisor for each national forest in Oregon and Washington. There are approximately 1,100 camps and picnic areas in the national forests of Oregon and Washington, of which it is estimated 3 per cent will be placed on a charge basis. Some winter sports areas may be added to the list next fall.

Republican Committee Ends 1948 With Deficit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—(AP)—The Republican National Committee rolled up a deficit of \$228,938 during 1948.

Its year-end financial report, on file with Congress, showed a total income of \$2,507,396, with expenses totaling \$2,736,334.

The report did not say how much the Republicans had on hand at the beginning of the year, or how much—if any—was left in the bank when the year ended. The report from the Democratic National Committee last week did. It showed \$315,367 in the bank when the year started, and \$180,914 left December 31.

The two reports showed the G.P. Committee a little ahead of the Democrats on both collections and spending during 1948.

N. Y. Taxicabs Ordered To Remove Radios

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—(AP)—All New York taxicabs must be stripped of their radios, says the City Bank Bureau.

The order really affects only owner-drivers, since nearly all fleet operators have eliminated radios from their cabs. There are 11,800 cabs in the city today.

Reason for the order is an effort to reduce the number of accidents.

The men behind the wheels don't like it.

SNOW HALTS LOGGING
Among the logging camps near Reedsport closed down recently because of weather conditions is the Watkins Logging Co., operating on Wells Creek, near Scottsburg. Mr. Watkins said Thursday that the snow on Fern Port, near his operations, was eight inches deep during the recent cold weather.

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Deadline on Reports Of Farm Program Is Cited

Saturday, Jan. 15, is the closing date for making reports on practices performed during 1948 under the Agricultural Conservation Program. Reports can be made by calling at the Conservation Office, 321 Pacific Building, Roseburg, or they may be mailed in, said Ted Dunwoodie, secretary of the association.

Two other closing dates are also coming up this month. Commercial potato growers should file requests for potato acreage goals immediately if they want to qualify for price support for the 1949 crop. Any goals must be set and reported to the state office before Jan. 31.

Grain loans or purchase agreements are also now available, but must be processed before Jan. 31, Dunwoodie said.

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NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

The 1949 dog licenses are due on Jan. 1st. and for your convenience will be available at the following places until March 1st.

Frank L. Taylor Hardware	Reedsport
Emma Hedden Grocery	Scottsburg
Taylor's Shopping Center	Elkton
Recorder's Office	Drain
Mrs. George Edes	Yoncalla
Oakland Feed Store	Oakland
O. L. Torrey Hardware	Sutherlin
City Marshal	Glendale
Azalea Post Office	Azalea
John Hamilton's Market	Canyonville
Riddle Hardware	Riddle
City Hall	Myrtle Creek
Camas Valley Store	Camas Valley
Mrs. Veda Meredith	Lookingglass
County Clerk's Office	Roseburg

License Fees

Male \$2.00 Female \$3.00 Spayed Female \$2.00

George Weseman
Douglas Dog Control Officer