

Half-Year Record Set By Douglas Fir Industry

PORTLAND, (AP)—Record high shipments and the biggest production in 21 years were reported this week by the Douglas Fir industry for the first half of this year.

The shipment record of 5,313,385,000 board feet was achieved despite a freight car shortage in the quarter just ended. H. V. Simpson, executive vice president of the West Coast Lumbermen's association said.

Fir mills in western Oregon, Washington and California cut 4,973,982,000 feet of timber, the largest production for any six months period since 1929.

Simpson said the nation's biggest housing boom kept mills in the region operating at capacity, except for those shut down by spring floods and strikes.

June production of 206,077,000 feet was more than 125 percent of the 1945-49 average.

At the end of June the industry reported unfilled orders totaling 857,669,000 feet and gross stocks of 594,367,000.

Western Australia has a population of 525,000 in an area more than three times larger than Texas.

New Member Inducted Into Roseburg Lions

Ernest Edwards was inducted as a new member into the Roseburg Lions club at the weekly meeting Thursday night in the Hotel Umpqua. The induction was conducted by Bruce Elliott.

Claud Baker, county sanitarian, who has just returned from Alaska, was present at the meeting. Baker, who has been on leave of absence, has been doing mining work in Alaska. His principal comment was that there are plenty of mosquitoes in that territory.

Most of the business meeting was devoted to a discussion of a money raising project. The club also discussed plans for an outdoor meeting soon.

Food Prices Begin Climbing Because Of Korean War

By The Associated Press
Retail pork prices jumped as much as 20 cents a pound in some stores this week as a flurry of price increases extended to several other meat items, poultry, eggs, coffee, bread, sugar and other foods.

Anxiety over the Korean war was blamed for touching off some of the boosts, which were fore-shadowed by steep rises at wholesale levels last week. But many other factors also contributed: seasonal declines in meat supplies; for example, heavier demand for sugar for the canning season, and

Employment In Douglas County Upped During June

The totals of employed persons in Douglas county increased for the second consecutive month during June. With unemployment at a minimum, it is believed the area is as close to full employment as is possible. Lumber firms that did not operate last year for various reasons are in full production and the regularly established firms have added additional shifts to keep the supply in conformity with the demand, reports George T. Foster, local Oregon State Employment office manager.

Construction work is progressing in a like manner. A great deal of activity in this field has utilized nearly all of the available local workers. The various projects started in May and June are showing satisfactory progress and indications that others are in the blueprint stage.

Bean picking should begin during the last week in July. It has been estimated that between 800 and 900 pickers will be needed for the harvest. Registrations for this type of work are being taken at the local office of the State Employment service. All persons interested should list their names as soon as possible.

Reports from firms engaged in wholesale and retail trade indicate that business conditions are very good. A few more employees are being used than for the same period last year.

Claims for unemployment insurance were down considerably over the month of May. The total has nearly reached the low levels established in 1948. The increase in claims anticipated because of the start of the new benefit year, did not materialize. The additional work opportunities available are responsible.

The installation of the occupational testing program has been quite beneficial to employers seeking workers with specific aptitudes for their particular type of work. Performance tests are being administered to clerical workers to establish their speed and accuracy in shorthand and typing. This enables the employer to have a definite picture of the applicant's ability before the completion of the employment interview.

a late coffee crop in Brazil.

There were persistent reports of some minor war-scare food buying by consumers in scattered sections across the nation. Some wholesalers said retail store purchases in many instances were obviously well in excess of quantities needed for normal working inventories. Many wholesalers and manufacturers themselves were buying beyond immediate needs to insure against any temporary interruptions that might delay free movement of foods in the supply pipeline.

The sharpest advances were for the more popular cuts of pork. A survey of chain store prices for center-cut pork chops showed increases ranging from two to 12 cents a pound, with extremes of as much as 20 cents, over last week-end.

Beef also advanced irregularly, but the biggest jump reported by the same big chain was eight cents a pound.

American families now own 191 million life insurance policies, an average of more than four per family.

Mother Of Two Children Found Sadistically Slain

DETROIT, July 14—(AP)—A stranger's slaying of a comely housewife, mother of two children, stirred a full-scale police investigation today.

One man, a neighbor of the victim, was held for questioning. Pretty Mrs. Vivian Stanley, 37, was found dead in a weed patch shortly before noon yesterday two miles from her Pinehurst avenue home in a better class west side district. She was clad only in a night gown and dressing robe.

She had been garrotted, apparently with a chain, and her neck was broken. Police said it was evidently the work of an enraged or sadistic killer.

Mrs. Stanley was the wife of Crawford T. Stanley, a metallurgist.

Wounded Robber Accused Of First Degree Murder

OREGON CITY, July 14—(AP)—An ex-convict, shot down in a gun battle with FBI agents in a bank robbery, was indicted here Thursday on charges of first degree murder.

Wayne Long, 26, was charged in the grand jury indictment with the death of Walter Rucker, 28, owner of a truck used by Long in the robbery of a branch of the First National bank here June 15. He also was charged with assault and robbery, armed with a dangerous weapon.

Rucker, a Portland carpenter, was found shot to death on a lonely road near Estacada.

Long is awaiting federal grand jury action on charges of bank robbery and assaulting a federal officer. FBI agent Leonard Frank was wounded seven times in the gun battle with Long, but is recovering.

Leonard Lindas, Clackamas county district attorney, said Long probably would be tried first on federal charges. He was moved Monday to jail from a hospital where he was treated for wounds suffered in the gun fight.

Economic Control Power For Truman Is Opposed

WASHINGTON, July 14—(AP)—Any idea of giving President Truman standby authority to impose economic controls ran into flat opposition from Senator Taft (R-Ohio) today.

Taft, who heads the senate republican policy committee, told a reporter he is willing to work with the administration in preparing a bill for Congressional action, if controls become necessary because of the Korean war.

"But I am opposed to the idea of giving the President blank check or standby authority to put controls into operation," he said. "I think Congress ought to be on the job and approve any measures that are necessary in the light of the situation that exists at the time."

Gen. Rilea Tells Reason For No Call To National Guard

Why hasn't the national guard been called out under the present emergency?

This is the question being asked by many persons over the state. Sgt. Dwight M. Pope of Co. D, 18th infantry, 41st division, relaying information from Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea, gives the following answer:

A considerable part of the regular army is now serving outside the United States, leaving only small numbers for emergency purposes at home. The national guards are a well-trained, well-equipped organization capable of handling home emergencies, such as bombings, riots and other disasters.

The army needs additional men to bolster its strength, without the need of calling upon the guardsmen. The latter are trained and ready to be called if and when needed. The draftees together with voluntary enlistments are needed to supply an additional pool of trained men.

Under the present emergency, said Sgt. Pope, certain national guard units, such as air, tank and some field artillery units, may be called. The remainder, however, is not expected to be called to duty unless an all-out national emergency is declared.

The approximately 400,000 guardsmen are organized and ready to go if needed, but in the meantime it is important to have a home unit, until additional men can be trained in the regular army, he said.

No Food Rationing Needed, Truman Says

WASHINGTON, July 13—(AP)—President Truman today said Thursday the government has under consideration plans for every phase of home-front mobilization but will use them only if necessary.

Mr. Truman told his news conference:

No food rationing will become necessary.

No food shortage is in prospect; and hoarding is very foolish.

Mr. Truman said the sharp increase in many food prices must be attributed to profiteering.

Commercial Truck Firms Facing Audit By State

SALEM, (AP)—Secretary of state Newberry has ordered an audit of all firms operating commercial trucks.

He said he made his order in the belief that the state is losing thousands of dollars in fees which should have been paid on commercial trucks.

He said he already had found one firm operating 12 trucks which paid fees less than required by law.

AUTO KILLS BOY

PORTLAND, July 14—(AP)—Four-year-old Philip Kail ran from a sunken driveway into a street here yesterday. A car killed him in the city's 21st traffic fatality of the year. The driver was not held.

Sex Murderer Dies In British Columbia Noose

VANCOUVER, B.C., July 14—(CP)—Fred (Red) Ducharme, the millworker of many stories, was hanged at dawn today for murdering a woman he picked up on a rain-swept November night.

His face chalk-white, but his step firm, the 37-year-old Ducharme dropped through an abandoned elevator shaft at Oakalla prison farm at 6:05 and was pronounced dead 13 minutes later.

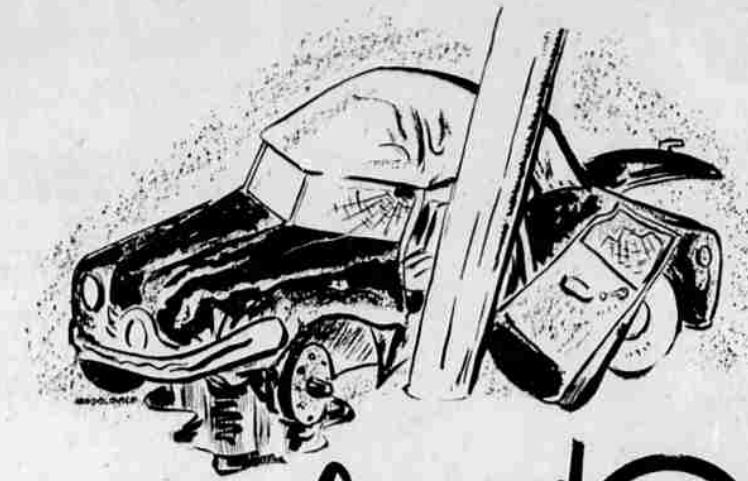
There was no last minute confession—at least to prison officials, nor was there a final plea of innocence.

Ducharme was convicted of the sex-slaying of Blanche Fern Fisher on the night of Nov. 8 last year.

The body of Miss Fisher, a 45-year-old spinster, was found in False creek, near downtown Vancouver.

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