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**The Roseburg Sand And Gravel Co.**  
**Is Operating In Its Twentieth Year**  
**Of Satisfactory Service In This Area**  
**The importance of rock by-products in the construction field cannot be over-estimated — E. R. Metzger founded this industry in 1932 to fill a need — Incorporated August 1, 1952 with Don Metzger as president and general manager.**

By R. KENNETH EVANS  
 Realizing the importance of rock by-products in the potential building of Roseburg, E. R. Metzger founded the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company in 1932. For twenty years this company has been an important factor, in the building of Roseburg as an industrial and commercial center. The majority of the sand and gravel that has gone into the construction of the homes, commercial, public service buildings, schools and industrial plants has been supplied from the rock deposits operated by this industrial company. The sand and gravel is recovered from gravel-bars in the Umpqua river which have been laid down by "Old man River" in the last thousands and thousands of years.

E. R. Metzger, the founder of the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company was a building contractor for several years before he established this industrial enterprise. The construction work gave him a background of experience that emphasized the importance of good rock by-products for the satisfactory completion of any building and for its longevity. Therefore, when the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company was established he selected the best rock deposits available.


**Two Plans Are Operated**  
 There are two locations on the Umpqua river that are used today. A rock crusher is maintained at the plant located at Melrose, where the boulders are crushed, screened, and the sand and gravel separated into various sizes. It is all washed and any surplus refuse removed. Another source of supply is the plant at Wilbur. The capacity for production at the Wilbur plant is approximately 125 cubic yards per hour. The operation of the Melrose plant is more intricate and its capacity for crushed rock, washed sand and gravel is from 75 to 80 cubic yards per hour. With these two sources of supply of sand, gravel and crushed rock, that passes the rigid specifications and requirements of both state and federal governments, makes it possible to meet any major demand that might arise. A large stock pile of sand, gravel and crushed rock is maintained at both plants for immediate delivery.

Ten modern dump-trucks with a capacity for transporting from 3 to 5 cubic yards each, are kept in operation at all times. From four to six trained men are employed at the plants in addition to those working with the dump trucks. This makes a total of approximately 24 people regularly employed and creates an annual payroll of around \$113 thousand dollars.

**Loam Over-Burden For Lawns**  
 The gravel bars in the Umpqua river have an over-burden of river loam that ranges from four to six feet. This over-burden is composed of river loam which has been washed-down, during the process of land erosion, from all locations where water comes into the river. Being heavier than water this loam is deposited at the obstructions caused by the rock deposits. This loam over-burden, which have been made thousands and thousands of years ago, is sold by the Roseburg Sand & Gravel company for lawns, gardens and landscaping. Due to the fact that it must be removed before the rock deposits can be recovered, a very economical charge is made for this loam and deliveries will be made to any reasonable location in the Roseburg trading territory. Bar-run sand and gravel or rock, which is classed as reject, make ideal fill and grading under concrete slabs and for many other purposes.

Mason sand, concrete sand and gravel, round rock for concrete in various specified sizes is the basic materials that are supplied by this industrial firm. Round rock comes in sizes 2 inch, 1 1/2 and 1 inch in diameter. Drain rock

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