

Green Mill Transit Market Bucking Adverse Weather

By H. J. COX
Lumber Market Reporter

The green mill transit car market is bucking adverse building weather and buyer indifference throughout the lumber consuming areas.

More transit lumber is moving from American and Canadian mills than the United States market will presently absorb and there is little

likelihood of green mill market improvement until weather moderates and buyers begin to stir.

The specified dimension market varies among comparable firm-order green mills with some operations reporting lack of market ac-

tivity this week and others seeing gradual improvement and enough new business to moderately cushion their unfilled order files.

During the past week fresh snow fell in Missouri, Kansas and other sections of the Midwest and East, putting a damper on lumber buying from large fir mills. However, there was a slight increase in inquiry and buying as compared to past weeks with sales mostly to country yards.

QUEEN OF FESTIVAL
WINCHESTER, Va. — Miss Daphne Fairbanks, 18-year-old daughter of swashbuckling movie star Douglas Fairbanks Jr. and Mrs. Fairbanks, has been named queen of the 31st Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival.

The brunette freshman at Briar Cliff College, Sioux City, Iowa, will reign over the annual extravaganza to spring and apples May 1-2.

All export markets are quiet. The Atlantic Coast cargo market took a buying spurt this week for all ports, Baltimore and north, including metropolitan New York. Rain during the past week curtailed activity in the California cargo market. The volume of enroute and ar-

riving cargo has been greater than demand and no one is buying ahead.

Inclement weather still retarded buying of Western pine and associated species, but there is optimism over market trends and prospects.

Plywood plants are booked to the extent they desire at the \$64-\$66 index for 3/4-inch Ad and are now asking \$68. Numerous plant price lists have been issued at the \$68 base. Seasonal buying usually starts during April to early May. If production can be kept in balance or so, plywood manufacturers believe prices will strengthen and demand will build up a backlog of new business that will carry them through the mid-year holiday closures.

CV Extension Unit To Plan New Projects

Camas Valley Home Extension Unit met Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Neal Brown on Upper Camas Road.

Sandwiches, plain and fancy, was the project for the day with project leaders Mrs. Bert Irwin and Mrs. Brown. Many types of sandwich fillings were demonstrated by the two leaders.

Mrs. Robert Cummings, program planning chairman presented the members present with the program planning interest sheet for members to select projects for the coming year.

ACW chairman, Mrs. William L. Banks read a letter from former county extension agent, Miss Helen Chandler, now in Pakistan, telling of some of the customs, foods and wearing apparel of the people in the area. During the Christmas season Miss Chandler toured part of India also.

Mrs. Cummings was appointed chairman of the nominating committee.

The unit voted to try to complete funds for a 4-H club scholarship by April 15.

The next meeting will be April 16 and will be held at the home of Mrs. Brown, according to correspondent Mrs. N. L. Banks.

Anguished Cries Of Schools Teaching Legislators Things They Didn't Know About Law

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM — Anguished cries from some school districts are teaching many legislators some things about the 1957 Rural School District Law that they didn't know before.

This complicated law, passed in a hurry at the end of last year's regular session, added first class districts to rural school districts.

It changed the finance theory for rural districts from the basis of need to an apportionment based on the number of pupils in each district. Now, this law runs at cross purposes to the basic school fund apportionment law, which is based primarily on need of each district.

The Legislative Interim Committee on Education plans to meet here May 23-24 to study the unexpected effects of the law.

James L. Turnbull, assistant state superintendent of public instruction, says that some school districts will find their local property taxes greatly increased because of the law, while others will get sizable reductions.

Generally, districts with lots of school children and with relatively low property valuations will reap the benefits.

In some counties the rural people will pay more to help reduce the tax load of the city people. In others the city taxpayers will pay more to help the country folk.

Portland, Medford, Eugene and Corvallis are districts that will have to juggle up more school taxes under the law.

Those rural districts which will have to exceed the 6 per cent tax

limitation—and that includes most of them—will have to hold special elections this year to pass on their budgets. These budgets will look extremely large to the voters, because the ballot titles won't tell how much state support will reduce those anticipated levies.

Special Elections
These special elections will be held between now and July 15, with many of them scheduled for May 5, so, when the interim committee meets to hear the complaints about the new law, it will know the outcome of many of these elections.

And, for the first time, the city voters will take part in these elections.

The offsets this year are the \$95 per pupil per year voted by the 1957 regular session, and the additional \$10 approved at the special session. All of this \$10 must be used for property tax relief.

Starting next year, there will be an additional offset provided by each rural school district. This, too, will be figured on the basis of flat grants per pupil, rather than need.

Turnbull said that some districts in Umatilla County are the hardest hit under the rural school law.

He said that Umatilla County taxpayers also will get an extra jolt because their property valuations were increased 27 per cent. The effect of this, he said, is to make a general increase in local taxes, and also to shift some of the load from utilities to other real and personal property.

Stanfield and Umatilla are the hardest hit in this regard, he said.

Interior Dept. Opposed To Fish Predator Bounties

WASHINGTON — The Interior Department told Congress Wednesday it opposes payment of bounties for control of fish predators such as hair seals and sea lions in Pacific Coast and Alaskan fisheries.

Asst. Secretary Ross L. Leffer, in a report on a pending Senate bill, said the Fish and Wildlife Service has found that bounties generally serve more as a means of harvesting an annual crop of the pest species being bountied, rather than as an effective measure of control of the predators.

"Under such a system, predators are taken where the take is easiest and least expensive, and not necessarily where their taking does the most good," he said.

Leffer expressed a preference for direct control measures — employment of professional hunters and trappers who concentrate their efforts in problem areas. He said such measures are much more effective and less expensive.

When the steamship Titanic was sunk in 1912 by an iceberg off the Newfoundland coast, 1,317 lives were lost.

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Research Making Headway In Fight Against Cancer

WASHINGTON — Top Cancer experts believe "important breakthroughs may be expected in the not too distant future" in the fight against the disease.

Their hopes were expressed to the House Appropriations Committee during recent closed-door hearings on the fiscal 1959 budget of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The committee made public their testimony today.

Dr. John E. Heller, director of the National Cancer Institute, said research programs "are providing a momentum which was unknown in the cancer field a few short years ago."

The expected breakthroughs in research, he said, "may lead to better understanding of the origin and nature of cancer; they may open direct and short paths to drug cures; they may point the way to widespread prevention of cancer through immunization."

Virus Barrier Needed
Virus studies, Heller said, have reached the point where development of a vaccine may be "around the corner." He said that "when we get a vaccine, we can prevent cancer."


Heller told the committee it already is possible to produce a vaccine against cancer in animals and that in 80 per cent of the cases tested, the animals treated have been protected against cancer, particularly leukemia.

"If we can produce a vaccine against leukemia in animals," he said, "there is hope that we can produce such a vaccine for humans."


Heller said there is "grave suspicion that excessive concentration of automobile exhaust (fumes), which contain what we call polycyclic hydrocarbons, will produce cancers in the human."

Some animals exposed to such fumes, he added, have become cancerous.


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