

DEMAND IS BIG FOR SOFTWOOD

Lumber Men From All Sections Report They Are Figuring on Many Estimates Now.

Indications are that the present heavy volume of buying of softwood lumber is to continue. Retail lumbermen from all sections of the country have reported to the American Lumbermen that never before have they been figuring so many estimates at this season. Some of these are already turning into actual business, while in other cases customers have not yet beyond the estimate stage. However, retailers are securing sufficient business to cause them to increase very materially the volume of their orders, with the result that mill bookings are running considerably ahead of production. This is not an abnormal condition for this season, for normal buying of lumber is heaviest in the spring and for a time outstrips production.

The increase in demand has been noted particularly in the regions producing southern pine and Douglas fir, but other softwood producing sections are likewise sharing in the increase in demand. Prices upon grades in local supply and in greatest demand have been affected somewhat, increases being noted here and there. While the tendency of the market is upward, these price increases have not been very large but it is expected that more advances will be made before long. Industrial demand is also showing betterment, though the hardwood is not as active as the softwood market. Hardwood prices have not been materially changed but it is significant that it is becoming more difficult each week to obtain concessions on hardwood.

EASTERN STAR GIVES A PARTY

(Special to The Observer)
COVE, Apr. 13.—Cove Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, gave an Easter party Wednesday for the children. The small folk made happy by this affair were Geneva, Maxine and Lloyd Marchion, Thelma, Logan and Conrad Anderson, Lee Ellen and Dell Breckner, Alvin and Mina Peterson, Grace and Zella Goyette, Warren Laird and Parker Severs.

The Senior class and the high school teachers were entertained by the Domestic Science class on Wednesday evening.

Prof. E. G. Dykstra visited the Imbler school Tuesday.

Ray Baxter was a La Grande visitor on Tuesday.

Law Bloom was in Baker on Saturday.

Joe Kohlman and Arthur Jerub, who have been in Rock Springs, Wyo., an winter, have returned to Cove.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Davis, who have been honeymooning in Payette, Idaho, have returned to Cove to make their home.

Miss Margaret Laird has gone to Pendleton.

Miss Mertie Miles, who is teaching at Shanghai school was a passenger on the train to Union Friday afternoon. Miss Nellie Barker went home with her for the week-end.

P. A. Conklin, who has been employed in the office of C. B. Miller, architect of La Grande, returned to Cove Friday afternoon. He left for Los Angeles, California, to begin work in an architects office there.

Frank Walters of Corvallis has been a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Conley.

Miss Rose McBean is ill with sore throat trouble that has been pronounced diphtheria.

Mrs. Nellie R. Grace resumed her position in the library on Wednesday. Minor Milman is suffering from a paralytic stroke.

The high school and alumni were entertained by the Freshmen at the L. O. O. F. hall Wednesday evening.

Paul M. Ellis has just returned from a week's trip in the mountains, visiting Mt. Fanny ranger station, Horse Ranch on the Minam, and various other places.

Roy Lay was a La Grande visitor yesterday.

The B. Y. D. Club was entertained by Mrs. Alvin Orton and Miss Helen Antler at the home of the former on Tuesday evening. There were present: Mrs. Thos. Hefty, Mrs. Leonard Towle, Mrs. Thos. Towle, Mrs. J. R. Pike, Mrs. Roy Jewel and the Misses Helen Merckland, Margaret Laird, Mildred Payton, Emma Brown, Leona Hansen, Ethel Saunders and Bess Kelley.

Roy Lantz was a Union visitor on Friday.

A special meeting of the Farm Bureau was called for last Friday afternoon.

On Friday, April 21, a farm bureau meeting will be held to discuss spraying and spraying, also soil cultivating and fertilizing of orchard land. At this meeting the County Agent, H. C. Avery, and C. L. Long, an extension worker from O. A. C., will be present. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Price entertained the Senior class of the high school on Friday evening.

D. B. Richardson of the firm of Rowe and Richardson, was in town last week.

H. C. Ross spent a couple of days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Ross last week.

Miss Lola Marten entertained the Open Cycle girls last Monday evening. Those present were: Mrs. Thos. Towle, Daisy Breckner, Laura Richards, Zella Goyette, Mildred Richards, Mildred Pulp, Lola Marten, Rubie Sharp Olive Delaney, Florence Delaney, Ruth Herford, Mina Peterson, Grace Goyette.

On Thursday evening at the M. E. Church the parents of the Boy Scouts gave a little social affair by entertaining the Boy Scouts and the Open Cycle girls. Refreshments were served and a most enjoyable evening spent.

On Friday evening the "500" club gave another of their enjoyable parties—the last of the series. There were present: Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Rees, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Conley, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Carter, Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Conley, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Herford, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Hefty, Mrs. A. G. Conklin, Mrs. T. W. Conklin, Miss Bess Kelly, Miss Effie Conley, Miss Esther Saunders, Miss Leona Hansen, Miss Mildred Payton and Messrs L. Lantz, Guy Barker, Desmond Pulp, and Grover Dully.

The Methodist Sunday school gave a very pleasing Easter pageant. The music furnished by the choir was exceptionally fine.

Mrs. Alfred Daniel gave an Easter dinner on Sunday. The following guests were present: Mrs. Lou Payne, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Daniel and children, Marvin, Carmen and Jane, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lay.

Naming of Natal.

The British colony of Natal is so named, because the territory was first discovered on Christmas day—the actual birthday of our Savior—in the year 1497. The discoverer was Vasco de Gama, the Portuguese navigator, who had been dispatched by Manuel, king of Portugal, to discover a road to India, via the Cape of Good Hope. It was just after the finding of the New world had enriched Spain, and all the maritime nations were eagerly anxious to make similar discoveries.

Marvelous Art.

A marvelous production of art is the portrait of Paul Y. in the Borgessa palace, executed by Marcello Ploven-tine in mosaic. The mosaic alone consists of 2,000,000 pieces, many of which are no larger than a grain of sand.

IMPROVEMENT CLUB MEETING

(Special to The Observer)
ELGIN, Apr. 13.—The Women's Improvement Club held its regular meeting at the home of Mrs. J. F. Baker on Thursday afternoon. A good attendance was present and the necessary business was transacted. A paper and discussion of the child welfare in general and the Shepherd-Townsend bill, took up the remainder of the session.

The several churches held various Easter observances. The Epworth League began the day with a sunrise prayer meeting. It was well attended and everyone took an active part. The Baptist Sunday school had an unusually large attendance of younger children and each was given an Easter token.

Sunday afternoon a union service was held in the Presbyterian church. The program was made up largely of numbers from the Christian and Presbyterian hymn books. (Rev. Judson Brown delivered the address of the afternoon. The church was well filled with interested listeners.)

Sunday evening T. H. Osborn, the evangelist at the Methodist church, was to have delivered his farrowed sermon, but requests were so numerous to have him remain that he chose another subject. It is not definitely known how long he will be in Elgin.

Mrs. Cora Osborn Backus, who has been assisting her father in his evangelistic meetings, left last week for her home in Seattle. The children's choir deeply regret her leaving.

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Underwood left Saturday evening for Portland, where they will enter school this week. Mr. and Mrs. Underwood expect to leave the latter part of the week and the family will make their home in Portland. Mr. Underwood is a brother of Dr. H. L. Underwood, who practiced in La Grande for a number of years, but who now resides in Portland.

The little church in Fairview district, about twelve miles northeast of Elgin, puts special stress on its Easter celebration. It is a custom of many years' standing to make it an all-day celebration with a basket lunch at noon and always there is a great number attending. If the weather permits the dinner is eaten out of doors. When the roads are good for autoing, several Elgin families drive out for the day, but this year it was not possible for an auto to make the trip. Neighbors come from all about.

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the community and a gala day was spent, which will be just one more delightful memory in the well-filled store of remembrance of the Fairview people.

Sunday night the branch line train was delayed several hours by a slide in the canyon north of Elgin.

Arthur Hallmark left Sunday for a few days at McMinnville and other valley points. While in McMinnville he will attend a conference of agents of the Oregon Fire Relief Association, which has headquarters in that town.

O. W. Ballou spent Saturday in La Grande on business. He went up on Saturday's early morning train, leaving here at 4:00 a. m.

Two men are employed to guard the wheat and grain still on the location of the burned warehouse. It is being hauled away as fast as possible, but still there is a large amount left on the ground.

Mrs. Mary Smith, accompanied by her two daughters, Lena and Norma, left last Tuesday for Portland to make their future home. Mrs. Smith's

mother, Mrs. E. B. Morelock, was also a member of the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Wright came in from La Grande Wednesday. Mrs. Wright was formerly Miss Nellie Gray and had lived for a number of years on the Flat.

Smiles Scarce in London.

A newspaper seller at Charing Cross, London, was emphatic in his views concerning the grandness of the metropolis. "Smiles?" he said. "I never see any. If a customer asks me for a paper he glares at me as if I were an income tax collector. I had a customer who smiled at me twice a day regularly, but they tell me that he is in a lunatic asylum now."

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