

Mills Here Prime Factor for Wheat Growers

Pioneer One of Oldest of Industries in Grande Ronde

At no time in recorded history and probably not for many centuries before that has there ever been anything approaching civilization or semi-civilization which didn't depend upon cereal grains for a great deal of its sustenance.

Not only the man who produced the wheat but the man who processed it and his business were an integral part of the community, whether the community was large or small. The coming of swift means of transportation didn't change the basic idea — the man who provided the flour to make the bread was important although his activities were extended to the world instead of confined to a small area.

Just as the miller has one of the oldest trades known, so is the Pioneer Flouring mill one of the oldest established industries in the La Grande and Union county community.

Established in 1896 by the Kiddie interests, it has since that time been an important factor in the wheat industry in the Grande Ronde valley. It has been under management of the same family ever since.

Many Changes In Business Here During Last Year

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May

Preliminary survey of Oregon's over all needs in aviation expansion was completed . . . W. M. Pearce, member of the state board from La Grande said the survey indicated the demand was for the small landing fields of non-paved type close to populated areas . . . A shorter work day, as one of the measures necessary to prevent widespread unemployment was advocated by Rev. Clarence Kupp in an address to the Union county veterans' employment committee.

Elevators

The Pioneer has elevators at Elgin, Imbler and Alice. It has mills, elevators in La Grande, Island City and Union. Union and Island City mills are now operating and the mill here will again be opened when trained millers are again available.

During the war, the mill has operated 24 hours daily and Sundays to keep up with the intense demand.

In the last year, the Pioneer company has processed 750,000 bushels of wheat and 250,000 bushels of barley, oats and rye. Of this 450,000 bushels of wheat is manufactured into flour for local consumption. The rest is shipped to "outside" markets.

Outside Market

Chief of the outside trade is supplying cake, pie and cookie manufacturers with flour produced from the soft wheat which makes especially good flour for finer baking.

Principal markets for the flour are the Atlantic coast, the middle-west, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, Va., Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City.

During the harvest season, when the grain is being brought into the elevators and when the crop is up to the usual amount in the valley, the Pioneer company employs as many as 50 men.

1944-45 Panorama

Oct. 12 — Lt. N. W. Frees, jr. was awarded the distinguished flying cross for outstanding aerial accomplishments . . . He had been flying in the Munda and Rabaul campaign with the navy . . . The junior chamber of commerce planned to open its drive for scrap paper with a matinee for children at which bundles of scrap would pay admission . . . College classes elected officers.

Oct. 13 — Railway traffic was delayed 14 hours by a derailment near Cayuse . . . Jack Wilson of North Powder exhibited a purebred Hereford steer which was adjudged grand champion at the international livestock show. The steer was sold for \$1,410 . . . College enrollment was 228, nearly double the previous year . . . North Powder had subscribed its war chest quota of \$370.

Oct. 14 — La Grande high school Tigers trounced the Pendleton Buckaroos, 37 to 7.

Oct. 16 — Children of the area gathered 10 tons of scrap paper in the first week of the campaign . . . Homer Sprague, 15, was injured when a shotgun blast tore off the second toe of his right foot. The gun was discharged accidentally . . .

Oct. 17 — Twenty-four U. S. cadet nurses were capped in public ceremony at the college auditorium . . . Summerville and Island City reached their war fund quotas . . .

Oct. 18 — Lyle B. Kiddie died after a brief illness . . . Capt. Robert I. Proebstel and Lt. Roy J. Baxter were wounded in the European area.

Oct. 19 — Teachers of seven counties assembled for the Eastern Oregon conference.

Oct. 20 — Nina Wells of Puyallup, Wash., was appointed president of the college Christian council . . . The Tigers defeated Mac-Hi 26-0.

Oct. 23 — Search for outstanding musical and other talent for a talent review was started by the Lions club . . .

Oct. 30 — Both the city and county went over the top in the war chest fund campaign. Collections of \$10,000 had been made up to that date.

(Continued in Section B)

NEED LOTS OF WATER
Date palms, natives of dry, hot deserts, require enormous quantities of water. Unless irrigated artificially, they will flourish only near oases.



PAUL BUNYAN TRAILER COMPANY HOME at 1602 Cove avenue, which has been enlarged and modernized. The offices and parts department, formerly housed in the main building, have been moved into the new east wing.

Paul Bunyan Plant Completes Modernization of Building

Improvements during the past year of the Paul Bunyan Trailer company, 1602 Cove avenue, include completion and modernizing of the east wing of the building, into which the offices and parts department, formerly housed in the main plant, were moved.

Installation of a modern steam-heating plant has been completed. The plant will contribute to the comfort of the employees during the winter, thereby increasing the efficiency, G. L. Larison, senior partner of the company, stated.

Area of the main service plant has been increased 50 percent during the last year. Larison announced, and nine overhead bridge cranes have been installed to enable the company to

handle heavier materials more economically.

Lockers for shop employees and modern toilet facilities for both shop and office personnel are now being installed.

More Machines

To the rear of the plant, a concrete slab 80x100 feet on which to store heavy steel pipe and trailer chassis and bodies has been completed, and a 300-ton

Synthetic Rubber Industry to Continue Large for Some Years; To Make Many Jobs in Connection With Natural Import

What was thought a year ago to be doubtful—that the synthetic rubber industry would continue at a high rate—is still a moot

question, according to some authorities on the subject.

However, because it is not known how soon the rubber plantations of the far east can be brought back into production after they had been overrun and possibly ruined during the Japanese occupation, the synthetic rubber industry is certain to continue for some time yet in this country.

Perhaps, according to some surveys, it will be years before synthetic rubber can be made as cheaply as natural rubber can be produced. Still others think synthetic rubber will make great gains in the near future.

Nevertheless, heavy duty tires are still made of the blended products and for use where considerable heat has to be endured, the natural product is still by far the more satisfactory.

As a result of the demand for raw rubber, which is certain to increase as soon as the auto industry begins to get into full scale postwar production, there will be a multiplication of jobs in bringing it to this country to be processed, once the situation has settled down to the point the full production of natural rubber can be resumed.

When the employment situation has been eased, Larison said, the company will again have a full crew of 16 men instead of the 12 it now employs.

The company is an integral part of the lumbering industry, selling equipment to the logging companies, when priorities are given. It supplies, among other things, logging trailers equipped with the Paul Bunyan hoist, which was developed by that company, and maintains a machine shop to repair equipment and machinery which must necessarily be used much longer than ever before.

16 Men Soon

Four doors have been opened up on Cove avenue.

City Lots Valued Higher This Year

Value of city lots in Union county was set by county tax assessor's figures this year at \$1,464,740, according to recently released compilations. Last year, city lots in the county were valued at \$1,460,145, showing a slight increase for 1945-46 tax purposes.

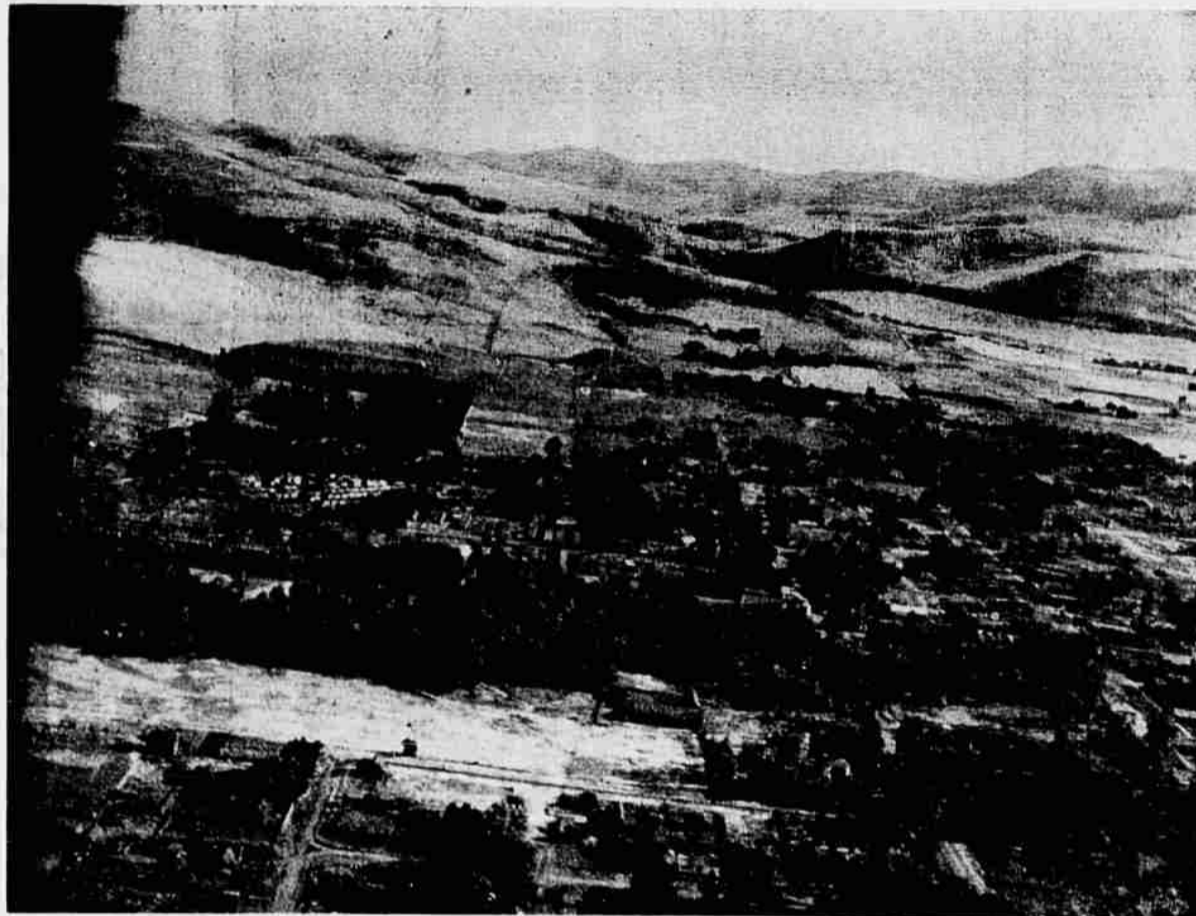
Improvements on the city lots in the county this year were assessed at \$2,430,500 and last year they were assessed at \$2,462,465.

Timber Acreage Of County on Tax Rolls Less

Summary of Union county's assessment rolls this year shows, according to figures compiled by Lee Reynolds, county tax assessor, that there were 18,082 acres of timber lands in the county this year. The value of these was set for taxation purposes at \$107,310.

Last year in the county the assessor's figures showed 22,619 acres of timber lands which were then valued at \$116,560.

Forest patrol tax this year was \$10,874.97, which was arrived at by taxing 309,941.96 acres at 3.5 cents an acre. Last year the forest patrol tax was \$9,876.08, raised by taxing 322,535.95 acres are three cents an acre.



(Shown is an aerial view of the city of Union with the Oregon Trail Lumber company in the left background)

LUMBER WILL CREATE

New Construction . . New Products . . More Employment Opportunity . . More Payroll!

We must jump without pause into full effort for a peacetime economy. Let there be no slack period between the end of the war and the production for peace.

Throughout our area and the entire country, thousands of new homes must be built, new factories constructed, others rebuilt or converted. Attacking the job now will result in continued and increased employment, maintenance and ex-

pansion of payroll. Attacking the job now will launch us into the postwar prosperity we have been thinking of and planning for.

Lumber is the fundamental building material. The Oregon Trail Lumber Co. expects to play its part in providing lumber for construction here and elsewhere and in maintaining Union County payrolls.

OREGON TRAIL LUMBER CO.

Union — Oregon

OLD LEADERS
World War I broke out at a time when virtually all the great leaders were past their prime. Wilson was the youngest of all with his 38 years. Clemenceau was 73, Hindenburg 69, Kitchener 64, Foch 63, Moltke 65, Sukhomlinoff 62, and Asquith 62.