

**15 U. S. CANNON PLANTS
ARE FINISHED.****Three Hundred Millions
To Be Spent For
Big Guns.**

Washington, March 25—Virtual completion of 16 plants for the manufacture of mobile artillery cannon for the American Army was announced by the gun division of the bureau of ordnance. In a memorandum to Acting Secretary of War Crowell outlining its work the division summed up its other accomplishments as follows:

Construction of smokeless powder plants in face of the necessity of doubling the present output. These are now under way.

Expenditure of approximately \$40,000,000 for plant facilities to manufacture artillery cannon, with an estimate that \$300,000,000 will be spent for cannon alone within two years from the outbreak of the war.

Negotiations for the erection of many plants for the extraction of toluol from illuminating gas.

Conservation of the supply of ammonium nitrate and acids and construction at Government expense of a plant for the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen and its final conversion into ammonium nitrate.

Construction now undertaken of a gas filling plant to cost approximately \$1,500,000 and the construction of five large shell filling plants to cost in the aggregate \$25,000.

Concrete Has Many Uses.

Concrete, because of its great resistance to fire and to the shock of explosions, is adaptable to a wide variety of uses, according to the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. It is cheap, easily and quickly handled, sanitary, and durable, and its characteristics render it of great military importance. Among the military uses to which concrete is put are the construction of armories, barracks, roads, bridges, coast and interior fortifications, gun emplacements, trench linings, bombproof shelters, magazines for explosives, tunnels, retaining walls, sea walls, wharves, dry docks, water reservoirs, aqueducts, sewers, sewage-treatment works, incinerators, stables, floors, roofs, munition-factory buildings, warehouses, fuel-oil tanks, barges, and even in the interior of battle-ships.

**COUNTRY CALLS TO
TOWN FOR HELP TO
SOW CROPS.****Retired Farmers and Business Men With Farm Experience Asked to Help for 30 Days.**

Corvallis, Ore., March 23—Farmers are looking to the city for help to sow their spring crops. Many of them have the land, the teams and the seed for increasing the acreage as called for by the food administration program, but lack men.

Retired farmers and young men with farm experience now working in business establishments are asked to give up four weeks to helping the farmer put in his spring crops. Men capable of handling big teams and running machinery are the kind most needed.

Merchants and manufacturers who have men that can be spared are urged to consider it a patriotic duty to send those men out.

The only way this help can be reached is by voluntary enlistment.

Concerning the need for help J. W. Brewer, Federal farm help specialist who has just completed summarizing the crop and labor survey, finds that an honest attempt is being made by the farmer to grow the big crops on which the success of the war largely depends. The fall sowing was increased more than one half, and the spring program calls for a substantial gain in acreage. But to carry out this program, help from the town is needed. The going wage is \$60 a month with board.

**Lumber Cut Of Identical Mills
In Oregon and Washington**

Lumber census reports received up to March 15, by District Forester Geo. H. Cecil, show that 205 large mills in Oregon and Washington cut five and one-half billion board feet during 1917. This is 150 million board feet more than the cut of the same mills for 1916.

The returns available are as yet incomplete, although about three-fourths of the mills of the two states have sent in reports. Because of the need for an accurate census, due to the country's war-time demand for lumber, officials in charge of the work are urging mill which have not yet reported to do so as soon as possible.

**An Easter
Flower****Grays Harbor Railway
Treasury Is Robbed.**

Aberdeen, Wash., March 25—Thieves stole about \$1000 of the Grays Harbor Railway & Light company funds from a safe at Electric Park early this morning. They attracted the attention of the watchman by a hurry call and when he was responding they committed the robbery. Electric Park is the shining-in place of the conductors.

**LAND GRANT OPENS
MONDAY APRIL 29.****300,000 Acres In Jackson
And Josephine Counties.**

Washington, March 25—Secretary of the Interior Lane has approved regulations opening to entry under the homestead law about 300,000 acres of agricultural land situated principally in Jackson and Josephine counties. These lands are a portion of the Oregon & California railroad grant lands. Additional lands will be opened as classifications are completed.

Applications to entry may be filed by any duly qualified person for 160 acres or less at the land office at Roseburg, beginning April 29 and ending May 25. All applications filed during this period are considered filed simultaneously, and in the case of conflicting applications a drawing will be held May 28 to determine the successful applicants. Applications must be sworn to before the register and receiver in Roseburg, accompanied by the required office fees, and an amount equal to 50 cents an acre. The total purchase price is \$2.50 per acre. The balance is to be paid on final proof. Applicants must personally examine the land.

The restoration of 300,000 acres of grant lands to entry will be an important factor in the development of the counties effected and the announcement was very acceptable news. In the near future lands in the northern part of the grant will also be opened.

The Overworked Initiative.

In addition to three initiative bills, four referendum measures, there will be two more initiative bills. C. S. Jackson of Portland thinks the newspapers are getting rich too fast and has framed up a bill limiting the price to be paid for legal advertisements. Another bill is to abolish the Public Service Commission. That will make ten bills on the ballot to vote. Another bill extends the state insurance to all classes of workers and to include what are called occupational diseases in the list of injuries for which the state will pay.

North Bend—Construction of jetty at north entrance of Umpqua river to cost \$550,000.

OUR OWN STATE**Some Recent Happenings
In Various Parts
of Oregon****Home Totally Destroyed.**

Klamath Falls, Or., March 23—Fire at 3 o'clock this morning destroyed the home of Fred McManis, at 224 Michigan avenue, and strenuous efforts of the firemen alone saved the house adjoining it. The cause of the fire was unknown, and the house was ablaze before the alarm was turned in.

Pioneer Oregonian Dead.

Dufur, Or., March 25—Mrs. Oivva Bolton, an Oregon pioneer of 1852, died at her home in Boyd, Or., February 19, in her 86th year.

Mrs. Bolton was born in Virginia, and early in life moved with her parents to Iowa, where she was married to Absalom D. Bolton, who died at Boyd in 1903.

Sawmill To Run Nights.

Astoria, Or., March 23—Arrangements are being made to operate the Hammond mill nights commencing this week. In order to advance the cutting of ship timbers the Government has picked 100 soldiers with sawmill experience to work in the mill. The Hammond Lumber Company is now supplying ship timbers for most of the vessels under construction on the Columbia River.

Cove Woman Dies at 64.

Cove, Or., March 25—Another of Cove's early settlers, Mrs. Josephine Cochran Doney, died from pneumonia March 16, 1918, on her 64th birthday, while a guest of one of her early-day friends, Juliette Dougherty, in Cove, Or. She had just returned from a visit to her daughter, Mrs. R. N. Wright, at Gooding, Idaho. The daughter and a brother, Charles Cochran, were summoned in time to be with her at the last.

Ship Knees Cut at Brownsville.

Brownsville, Or., March 25—A crew of men in the employ of Loeb Brothers of Portland has gone into the woods near here to get out ship knees. Loeb Brothers will move their mill and equipment from Corvallis to Brownsville, as they have secured suitable timber near here. The timber in the foothills is said to be ideal for this purpose.

**Bend Man charged With
Intent To commit Burglary.**

Bend, Or., March 26—Upon a complaint made by Mrs. May Houston, Charles Eakman was arrested and brought into the justice court yesterday morning on a charge of attempted burglary. Mrs. Houston says she discovered the man in her house about 5 o'clock Sunday morning and that when she turned on the light he attempted to choke her. She recognized him as a neighbor and called her father, but the man escaped. The woman is the wife of Earl Houston, formerly deputy sheriff, who is now in France with the 20th Engineers.

Deeds Filed for Pacific Highway

Roseburg, Or., March 25—Deeds for rights of way have been filed from Victor Phipps, S. E. Moore, Rodney R. Knott and N. Brucker for the new route of the Pacific Highway between here and Myrtle Creek. Settlement has also been arranged with S. C. Miller and the one or two owners of remaining ranches which will be crossed. The Rice boys fought their case out, defeating the county and securing big damages.

Ontario Bonds Sell Above Par.

Ontario, Or., March 26—Municipal water bonds for \$100,000 were sold here last night to Keeler Bros., of Denver, at par plus a premium of \$607.50. The sale was made at auction. A Toledo, O., firm's sealed bid was for a discount of \$4875.

New Home Guard Companies.

Roseburg, Or., March 26—Myrtle Creek has formed a home guard company, with 50 members. Oakland, Or., has also formed a home guard company with 100 signers on their petition.

INDUSTRIAL REVIEW**Manufactures, Enterprises and
Improvements, Providing
Payrolls and Promoting
Development
of Oregon.**

North Bend—Krusse & Banks put third ship on ways.

Gardner—New light plant going in to serve lower Umpqua towns.

Grants Pass—Alameda mine installing new machinery.

Marshfield—Saubert mill, for several years idle, to operate.

Growing castor beans may soon become an important industry in Oregon.

Detroit—470 acres burned over land near here to be reclaimed this spring.

Salem—6,000 tons of potatoes to be dried at Kings Product Co. for U. S. army.

Contract let to metal eleven miles Bandon-Curry road at \$48,416.

Marshfield—Coos Bay Shipbuilding Co. to increase to 650 men. Minimum wage paid is \$4.40 for eight hours work scale running up to \$6.60 per day.

North Powder—Farmers of vicin y co-operate in construction of \$15,000 elevator.

Between 125 and 150 bulk elevators will be constructed in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Salem—Building of starch factory by Pacific Potato Starch Co. of Portland practically assured.

Brownsville cannery enlarged by purchase of Corvallis plant.

Portland—Willamette Iron and Steel Works has contract for marine boilers from Seattle.

Toledo—Miller logging road to be extended north.

Milton—Contract let for new Methodist church.

Milton—Car of locust timber shipped to Portland shipyards.

The Dalles—Diamond Milling Co. sold to Kerr, Gifford Co., wheat exporters of Portland. New owners will improve and enlarge mills; will run day and night.

Reedsport—Sawmills in lower Umpqua district busy; new road to cost \$8,000.

Portland—Purchase of Ladd interest in Portland Flouring Mills Co. by Theo. B. Wilcox and Puget Sound capitalists consummated, price paid \$5,750,000. Portland Flouring mills Co. owns 14 mills and about 200 elevators.

Portland—Contract for erection of 1,045,160 bu. municipal grain elevator to be awarded.

Milton—Warehouse being moved to make room for large bulk grain elevator.

Astoria follows Portland with a liberty hall to boost war bond sales.

Special tax proposed in excess of six per cent limitation to meet war expenses.

Government faces shipworkers strike for \$10.68 a day at Baltimore.

Oregon Portland cement company to furnish 37,000 barrels cement for new elevators.

Salem—Contract awarded for Coliseum at State Fair grounds, cost \$75,000.

North Bend—\$141,800 a month is payroll of Coos Bay industries.

Adams (Umatilla County)—320 acres wheat land west of here sold for \$2.90 an acre.

Pine Valley Herald—"Put the politicians to work"—at hard labor.

Portland—Eastern capitalists proposed to establish twelve-way wood shipyard here.

Beaverton has dedicated \$150,000 starch factory.

Toledo—Work commenced getting Chesley Lumber Co.'s mill ready to cut.

Halfway—This community will build modern \$10,000 church this summer.

Corvallis—Willamette Stock & Land Co. gets government spruce contract to cut 3,000,000 ft. Electrically equipped plant to be put in on Siletz Bay.

Gold To Be Held At Home.

Mexico City, March 25—A decree issued today prohibits the exportation of gold in bars and of Mexican and foreign gold coins. It provides for the exportation of gold and silver bullion by special permit in each case. As to the exportation of ore and concentrates containing gold and silver, the decree issued in September is still in effect.

*This is the year we should plant
all the vacant space at our
command to vegetables.*

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sell them to you just as cheap
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