

# FORESTS AMONG OREGON'S MOST VALUABLE ASSETS

## Surpasses All Other States in Amount of Standing Timber---Millions Invested in Lumber Industry

By F. C. Knapp.

TO THOSE with poetic inspirations, as well as to those with only mercenary motives, do the forests of Oregon make strong appeal, and whether journeying through the yellow pine districts of Eastern Oregon, the sugar pine country of Southern Oregon, among the cedars of the Port Orford slope, the big spruce of Clatsop County, or in the fir clad hills of the Cascades, we cannot help being impressed with the magnitude of the Creator's handiwork.

Oregon has the proud distinction of growing in her forest garden practically 100 different kinds of trees, a fact that may surprise some of her own enthusiastic citizens and be of interest to those not entirely familiar with the resources of this wonderful state.

Would the cabinetmaker or furniture builder seek new fields?

In the stock of the match manufacturer running short?

Would the owner of charcoal ovens abandon his present location?

Would the proprietor of the pulp wood works and the paper mills extend to life of these industries?

Is the leather manufacturer looking for bark, light of weight but heavy with tannic acid?

Would the trunk or coffinmaker locate close to his supply of timber?

Does the manufacturer of curtain rollers or broom handles feel that Mother Nature has turned her back on his business?

Is the veneer manufacturer of the eastern states seeing the "beginning of the end"?

If so, then it is for those and "more also" that the State of Oregon wears her sweetest smile as she picks from her lap and holds up for their inspection her redwood, poplar, larch, spruce, myrtle, hemlock, white and cone pine, ash, manzanita, oak, cherry, Port Orford cedar, and other woods daily utilized in connection with the world's necessities.

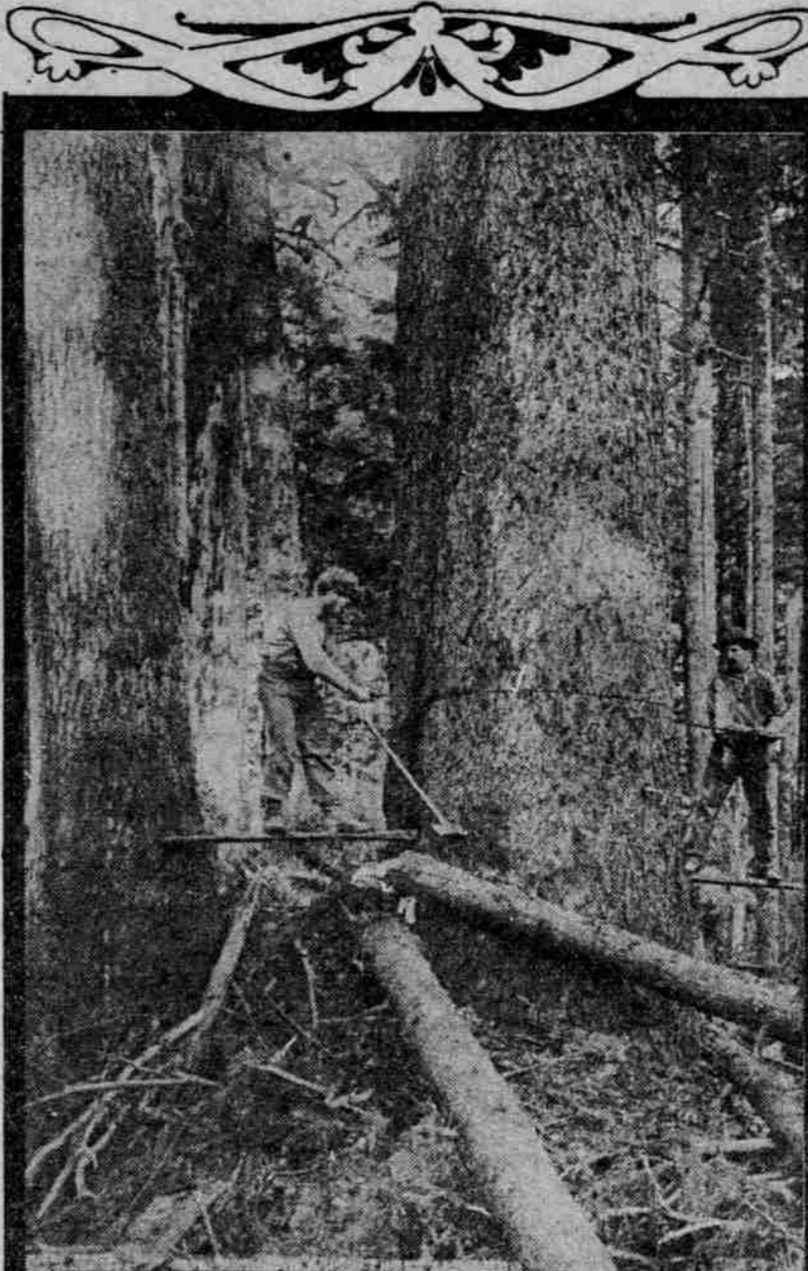
When those best posted and others of us with only a few ideas regarding the timber resources of Oregon think of this subject, we see, or have seen until a very recent change came over the spirit of our dreams, immense sawmill plants, over a half thousand of them, the buildings of which, if set end to end in a circle, would fence in an area equal to that occupied by Chicago.

The jaws of these huge manufacturing plants fed with logs, the securing of which requires the combined efforts of nearly 10,000 men in the forests with donkey engines carrying wire cable sufficient to reach from east to west across the state of Michigan; railroad track almost equal in mileage to the entire amount of track controlled by the trans-continental railroad lines operating within Oregon; drivable streams with splash dams which, if all closed at one time, would raise water in their "flowage" sufficient to float the warships of any three nations of the world;



LOG ROLLING AND LOGGING TRAIN IN OREGON FOREST.

Photos Riser Photo Co. Portland, Or.



FELLING A GIANT OREGON FIR TREE

these plants with their armies of employees are engaged in distributing, we might say, the rough material from a scant dozen of the almost unlimited varieties of Oregon woods.

If 20,000 men distributing a payroll of \$15,000,000 a year under ordinary condi-

tions are required to handle the present output from our forests, who will make a prediction as to the future of even this one of Oregon's many resources after those woods, in a measure unknown, become revenue producing, and the material now being manufactured is brought still closer to the finished product?

### OREGON LUMBER FACTS

Of all Oregon's rich and varied resources, standing timber now ranks first. Of the state's many products,

which are constantly increasing in number and volume, none approaches in value the output of lumber. Oregon is one of the few great lumber states in the Union and is destined to be an ever-growing factor in the markets of the world, as forests of the Eastern

states become exhausted and the lumber industry is still further developed in this state.

According to Government estimates, Oregon's forest wealth attains the almost incomprehensible total of 300,000,000,000 feet, board measure. A. B. Wastell, secretary of the Oregon &

Washington Lumber Manufacturers' Association, declares that this estimate is too low. From the result of recent cruises he says that the figures given evidently do not include much of the secondary forest, where the growth is not so heavy, but nevertheless valuable. Mr. Wastell believes that 400,000,000,000 is a more exact estimate.

Although the lumber output is now immense, the mills have hardly made a gap in the great body of standing timber. The Douglas fir, which comprises 40 per cent of the timber wealth of the state, is of rapid growth, and it is believed that the forests will be self-perpetuating. Barring losses by fire, the supply is virtually inexhaustible.

Authoritative estimates for 1907 place the lumber cut in Oregon at 2,000,000,000 feet, with a value of \$30,000,000. Early in the year it was believed that 1907 would exceed this amount. And so it undoubtedly would have done so, had not the railroads advanced rates on lumber shipments. This movement resulted in a curtailment of the cut which is estimated at 1,500,000,000 feet, of which approximately 400,000,000 feet was sawed in Portland. Some, however, declare that the increased cut at the beginning of the year will offset the reduction in the closing months and that the total for 1907 will be as high as that of 1906.

Although the rate troubles are still affecting the sawmills, lumbermen believe that these difficulties will soon be adjusted, resulting in increased output. The mills of Oregon have a capacity of 4,000,000,000 feet a year, and with favorable rates and adequate transportation facilities, it is thought that it will not be long until all mills will be running at full capacity. Under usual conditions 20,000 men are employed in the lumber industry in this state, with a total payroll of more than \$11,500,000. What these figures will reach when favorable traffic conditions are restored, can only be conjectured.

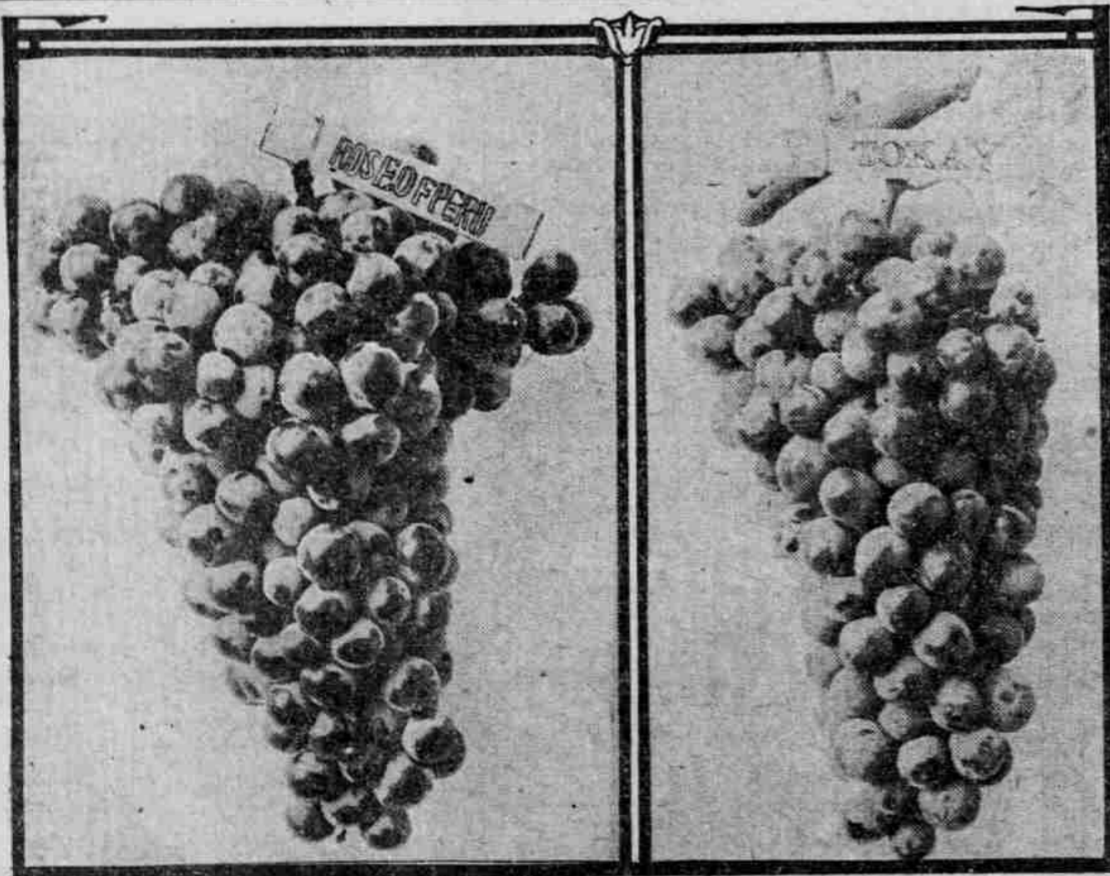
Portland has the distinction of being the largest lumber producing city in the world. There are other ports where greater water shipments are made, but in the combined shipments by rail and water, Portland stands at the head. Some of the largest sawmills in the world are here, and they furnish employment to thousands of men. It is probable that before many years the mills of this city will be cutting 1,000,000,000 feet each year.

Portland possesses many natural advantages as a lumber manufacturing and distributing center. Great cargoes are sent to the Orient and the South American cities, and these markets, to supply which Portland is so well situated, are bound to become larger buyers as time goes on. In addition to this, Portland is in a strategic position to compete for the Eastern and Southern trade of this country. The advance in rates has handicapped the city and state in both markets, but if the old rates are restored on the footing before the Interstate Commerce Commission, as is confidently expected, shipments to both districts will at once increase.

The lumbermen are making a strong fight for reasonable rates, and if discrimination against Oregon is withdrawn, no state has a brighter future in this industry.

## GRAPES THRIVE IN SOUTHERN OREGON

All Well Known European Varieties Reach Perfection in the "France of America"--Future of Industry Promising--Large Acreage Planted



Five Pound Cluster ROSE OF PERU GRAPES Redland Vineyard, Grants Pass, Or.

Cluster of Tokay Grapes Grown 1907, by A.H. Carson Grants Pass, Or.

By A. H. Carson, Proprietor Redland Vineyard.

AT the present the acreage devoted to commercial grape-growing in Southern Oregon is not large. The largest vineyard in this part of the state—one of 45 acres—is owned by the writer, and is situated six miles south of Grants Pass, in Josephine County. The aggregate acreage now in grapes will not exceed 200 acres in Josephine and Jackson Counties. From the fact the lands of Southern Oregon that are adapted to the vine are the hill-sides and slopes of the foothills, the grape industry has been given no great thought or attention in the development of Southern Oregon's horticultural possibilities. I have realized for a number of years the adaptability of Southern Oregon's large acreage of foothill lands, with ideal climatic conditions for growing the grape, were the people shown how. My own modest success is an object lesson of the fact that commercial grape growing will develop, and these cheap hill lands be improved, and make many valuable homes for the



A FOOT OF FREEWATER OR GRAPES

## VITICULTURE IN WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Grapes of American Varieties Especially Adapted to Soil and Climate of Western Oregon--Industry Long Established and Extremely Profitable.

By Walter Hoge.

THE pioneer of the business on this hill was F. W. David, who began to plant the vine there commercially about 30 years ago, but he has had many followers and now much of the two-mile stretch of southern slope is dotted with vineyards. Other fruits are not neglected and flourish there, but the grape is the distinctive crop. A. Reuter, who has been in the business for 21 years, J. A. Peterson, 19 years, and A. Anderson, F. Bled, R. Holscher, William Koppel and others for less time, now have large and profitable vineyards.

A vineyard once brought into bearing goes on for many years with seldom a failure of crop. The amount of yield varies somewhat with the different varieties of grapes, some being heavier bearers than others, but growers on David's Hill estimate their crop at from five to six tons per acre on the average. There is always a hungry market for them at Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Spokane and other Western trade centers, at prices generally quite remunerative, the net returns for the last crop being estimated at 2 1/2 to 3 cents per pound.

Oregon vines are remarkably free from any diseases and pests, especially those which have wrought such havoc among the vineyards of Europe and California. County Fruit Inspector Harris, who has spent much of the ravages of the dreaded phylloxera in other places, says he has found none of it here, and he attributes our freedom from it in large part to climatic conditions. In Europe they have found the best way to fight phylloxera is to flood the vineyard for a time while

the vines are dormant. In Oregon the winter rains seem to furnish the needed flooding to drown the insects which prey upon the roots, thus protecting the vine from them.

Most of the varieties of the vine grown elsewhere in this country and Europe have been tested in Oregon and the kinds best suited for cultivation here have been ascertained. Probably the Concord leads all others for general purposes. The Niagara, Moore's Early, Worden, Delaware, Red Mountain, Sweetwater and Black Hamburg are all popular and largely planted. The last two are especially chosen as wine grapes, though very few are grown for that purpose about here. One vineyardist who has given considerable attention to that industry made 110 barrels of wine from six acres of grapes, mostly Sweetwaters. He finds that it takes about 600 pounds of grapes to make a barrel of wine.

Now as to the quality of this fruit that Oregon can produce in such abundance, Connoisseurs give it a very high grade. At the Chicago Exposition an exhibit of grapes from David's Hill was brought into competition with fruit from California, Lake Erie and elsewhere, and received the highest award. At Buffalo wines from the same place received the gold medal for highest excellence. In all markets they rank high as a table grape for their delicate flavor. They are more tender and juicy than the California grapes and are almost universally preferred when brought into competition with the product of the Southern vineyards.

Vine growing is not confined to any particular part of the state. It is the main behind the business, rather than location, that insures success in this industry, as is abundantly demonstrated by the flourishing vineyards at Jacksonville, Grants Pass, Forest Grove, Milwaukie and The Dalles, as well as at scores of other widely scattered places throughout the state.

Concluding at the various vineyards are largely the same, the variations resulting more from the markets to be served and the varieties of grapes best suited to them, than from any other cause. For that reason the vineyards of Forest Grove may be taken as typical of all others throughout the state, and of them I write especially.

For more than 20 years grape growing for market has been in progress near Forest Grove, and experience has taught growers many practical lessons. One of these is that hill lands are better for grapes than valley lands, not because the soil is richer, but because it is better adapted to the vine. Then it is found that a southern slope is better than any other. The Spring sun warms it early and Autumn rays linger there long and lovingly, ripening and mellowing the juices of the fruit, giving a sweetness and delicacy of flavor unequalled in fruit grown in less favored locations. For that reason, David's Hill, a southwestern extension of the Coast Range that juts out into the valley just north of Forest Grove, has long been a favorite site for grape-growers, and year by year new vineyards are added, until now it is probable that no other small area in the state is so largely devoted to culture of the vine. The hill rises with irregular surface to a height of about 1000 feet above the valley, and it is found that the upper reaches of these slopes produce the best grapes. It is noticed that often clouds and fog are thick over the valley while these uplands will be radiant with Spring or Autumn sun, and early and later frosts are much less liable to damage bloom or

ripened fruit than at the lower levels. The pioneer of the business on this hill was F. W. David, who began to plant the vine there commercially about 30 years ago, but he has had many followers and now much of the two-mile stretch of southern slope is dotted with vineyards. Other fruits are not neglected and flourish there, but the grape is the distinctive crop. A. Reuter, who has been in the business for 21 years, J. A. Peterson, 19 years, and A. Anderson, F. Bled, R. Holscher, William Koppel and others for less time, now have large and profitable vineyards.

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## OREGON'S 1907 SALMON PACK

By I. J. Kern.

OREGON has many and varied natural resources, which are of immense value, but it has none from which the working people receive greater returns or which means more to labor direct, as well as to those who have their capital invested, than the fisheries of the state. The principal salmon fisheries of Oregon are on the Columbia River and have their headquarters in Astoria. Here the main fishing season extends from April 15 to August 25, but little over four months, and still during that time there was expended in 1907 by the Astoria packers among the men who labored to catch the fish the enormous sum of over \$1,000,000, to say nothing of the amount spent for labor in transporting and packing the fish after it was caught.

Owing to adverse natural conditions, the output of the fisheries last year was somewhat less than usual, but still during the main or Spring season about 300,000 "cases" of salmon were canned on the Columbia River, but these were "as they run," many of them being half cases. What is commonly known as a case of salmon is 45 one-pound cans, and figuring on this basis the season's pack on the river was in the neighborhood of 135,000 cases.

The cold-storage pack of pickled fish amounted to about 7500 cases. As each barrel of pickled salmon contains an average of about 800 pounds of cured fish, and as one-third the weight is lost in cleaning, this cold-storage pack represents 419 tons of raw salmon, and as 20 tons of fish are required for each 1000 cases, the cold-storage pack is equal to 160,000 cases of the canned product. So the total output of the fisheries, if all had been canned, would have amounted to 326,000 cases.

The prices for the raw fish ranged from 5 to 7 cents per pound, with an average of over 6 cents, during the entire season. Figuring on 20 tons to 1000 cases, the canner and cold-storage packs represent a total of 160,000 tons of raw fish, for which about \$120 a ton, or \$12,000,000, was paid to the gillnetters, trappers and seiners, the greater portion going to the gillnetters. In addition to this, fully 400 tons of canned salmon were sold in the open markets.

During the Fall season on the Columbia River four canneries were in operation and a total of about 42,000 cases of canned salmon was sent up, while the 11 canneries on the Oregon coast streams packed in the neighborhood of 104,000 cases.

Figuring the market value of the Columbia River Spring pack at \$7 a case, this year's output was worth to the canners \$2,388,500. Figuring the market value of the packed salmon at 15 cents a pound, the Spring cold-storage pack was worth \$945,000, and figuring the market value of the Columbia River Fall pack and the pack of the Oregon coast streams at \$4 a case, they were worth \$2,650,000 and \$11,000, respectively, thus making a total of \$2,388,500.