

PORTLAND CITY OF FACTORIES

Ranks Second on Coast in Manufacturing, and Presses California Metropolis Closely for Lead

By S. B. Vincent, Secretary of Manufacturers' Association of the Northwest. THE City of Portland enjoys the enviable distinction of being the second largest manufacturing city on the Pacific Coast. Her manufactured products, while not covering a wide range, are of such volume, that in the aggregate their value exceeds that of any other city in the West, save San Francisco.

When one considers that the output of Portland's factories for the year of 1907 will total in value approximately \$35,000,000, her position as the great manufacturing center of the Pacific Northwest is unassailable.

Lumber and timber products, of course, rank first in the list of Portland's manufactures. With the greatest forests in the country almost at her door, Portland is peculiarly well adapted for the marketing of the hewn timber and its manufacture into the various commercial forms which commonly are assembled under the general heading, "Timber and Lumber Products."

Oregon lumber is being shipped to every section of the United States, to the Hawaiian Islands, to Australia, to Africa, to the Philippines and the Far East. Oregon fir is being shipped with more or less regularity to Grand Rapids, Mich., the furniture manufacturing center of the United States, and the time, according to the best governmental authorities, is not very far distant, when the bulk of the standing hardwood timber of commercial value in the United States will be found in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The value of the lumber and timber products manufactured in Portland during the past year will exceed \$5,000,000. These figures do not include planing mill products to the value of about \$2,000,000 or furniture factory products to the value of about \$1,000,000.

Portland's flour and grist mill products rank second in importance in her list of manufacturing industries, the value of the output for 1907 being about \$5,000,000. As an advertisement of her commercial stability and increasing importance as a manufacturing and commercial center, Portland's food products afford an unusually fine testimonial. Portland flour is now consumed in every section of the

ASSESSOR'S FIGURES SHOW INCREASE IN WEALTH.

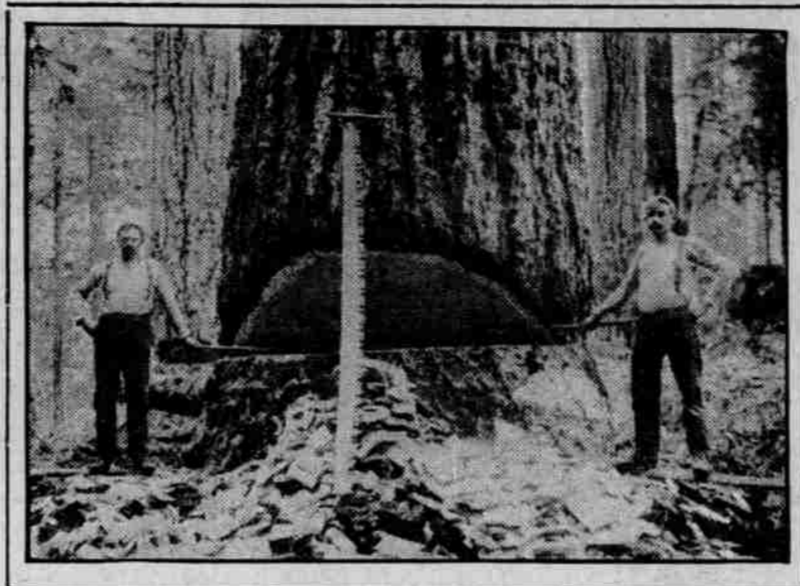
No more remarkable evidence of Portland's progress can be given than the comparative table of the annual assessment of Multnomah County property during the past seven years. Portland property comprises all but a comparatively small proportion of the assessed valuation of the county, and the increase from year to year has been very great. In explanation of the appended table, it should be said that 1905 was the first year that property was assessed at an approximate full valuation. Even with this taken into consideration, the advance has been notable, and it is worthy of attention that the 1907 assessment exceeded that of 1906 by \$52,235,490. Increased value of realty and franchises and new buildings are the chief factors in the advance that has been made. The annual assessment of Multnomah County for the past six years follows:

1902	\$44,148,600
1903	57,028,000
1904	30,425,000
1905	143,880,000
1906	180,935,588
1907	233,171,078

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PORTLAND'S BUILDING RECORD FOR 1907.

More and better buildings have been erected in Portland during the past year than in any other city in the city's history, as is attested by the official record of permits issued at the City Hall. The total expenditure for the year was \$9,505,377, with the December figures estimated at \$250,000. This is a gain of \$2,561,936 over 1906, when the expenditure amounted to \$6,943,441. A higher standard has been adopted in the building, both of business structures and residences, as is shown by hundreds of new homes all over the city and many skyscrapers completed during the year.

Month	1907	1906
January	\$604,475	\$392,657
February	629,748	308,288
March	629,748	429,414
April	1,529,917	550,802
May	1,422,722	712,000
June	865,259	398,167
July	825,271	740,620
August	881,250	440,440
September	943,209	440,440
October	1,029,475	429,414
November	1,092,210	675,225
December	543,250	372,618
Total	\$9,510,137	\$6,943,441

globe. Wherever shipping is carried on, and in many places where it is not, there one will find Portland flour. It is eaten by the civilized peoples of the world, wherever they are, to the North, the South, the East or the West; there one will find the finest flour in the world with the sacks bearing the name of the maker and "Portland, Oregon," in bold letters. And in not a few countries Portland "mush" is eaten every day for breakfast, and in this great country of ours, where the "flapjack" forms the principal breakfast dish in hundreds of thousands of homes, Oregon "salt-raising pancake flour" serves to keep the name of the city and state favorably before the people.

If to her lumber and flour products that Portland, and Oregon, must give most credit for the upbuilding of her industrial life, but the packing industry, yet in its infancy, has assumed such wide scope during the past 10 years, that today the products of Portland's slaughter and packing houses aggregate in value about \$2,500,000 annually. With the rapid growth of the Pacific Coast this industry will assume proportions of a magnitude not dreamed of a decade ago. Some of the largest packers in the country are erecting plants near this city and in a few years Portland will be the "packing town" of the West.

And so on down the long list of Portland's industries one could go, but as I was not asked to present a table of statistics, I will turn from the past into the future and dwell for a few moments upon our needs and the prospects for the further upbuilding of Portland as a manufacturing center, and Oregon as a manufacturing state.

PACKS PRUNES FOR THE NATION

Albany Center of Industry in the Willamette Valley—Ships 6,000,000 Pounds of Dried Fruit in 1907

By Willard L. Marks. ALBANY exported 6,000,000 pounds of dried prunes in 1907—the largest shipment ever sent out from any city in the Pacific Northwest. They went to all leading markets of the United States, brought better prices than ever before, helped increase the fame of the Oregon prune and distributed \$300,000 among the growers of this part of the state.

The immensity of this shipment can better be realized when it is shown that if the prunes sent from Albany this season were placed end to end they would reach once across the United States and two-thirds of the way back. Or they would build a wall of prunes more than two feet high from Albany to Portland. Every person in the United States could sit down to dinner and each have three prunes out of this colossal shipment. If the people of Albany were to eat all the prunes their city shipped this season, each person would be compelled to eat ten prunes at each of the three meals every day for five years.

A little less than half of the prunes which comprised this shipment were grown in Linn and Benton counties, in country tributary to this city. The remainder came from different parts of the Willamette Valley and Southern Ore-

gon. They were dried near the scene of their production, and were packed at the plant of Lassele Brothers in Albany. Thirty prune-driers were operated this Fall within a radius of ten miles of this city. Hundreds of people were employed picking and drying the prunes and the magnitude of the industry assumed in Linn County this year is shown by the fact that Lassele Brothers paid out more than \$40,000 in wages for labor directly due to the work of their packing plant.

The prunes shipped this year were of excellent quality and received high praise in Eastern markets. Ninety per cent of the shipment consisted of prunes of the Italian variety, the remainder being petites. The prunes were about equally divided between the classes listed as 20's-40's, 40's-50's and 50's-60's, making an average of 45 prunes to the pound. There are about 1000 acres of bearing prune trees in Linn County, and that part of Benton County close to this city. Added to this acreage are some young orchards not yet old enough to bear. The growth of the prune-growing industry here is shown by the fact that 100 acres of prune trees were set out this year.

Included in the prune acreage tributary to Albany is the largest Italian prune orchard in the world. It stands in Benton County on the Albany-Corvallis road five miles southwest of this city, and includes 160 acres devoted exclusively to culture of prunes. There are said to be

larger prune orchards in California, but this excels all others of the Italian variety. This big orchard was set out 15 years ago by a stock company, composed principally of Corvallis men, and owing to poor yields and fluctuating prices it was a financial failure for many years. Recently, however, it has been yielding a good income.

Until five years ago prune-growing was hardly recognized as an industry in Linn County. Then the Lasseles established their first packing plant and exported 30 carloads of dried prunes. Prior to that time only five or ten cars a year were sent from this county, and the only 200 acres of prune trees were bearing in this vicinity. Since then the industry has been making remarkable progress, and when the Lasseles shipped 30 carloads in 1906 it was regarded as a remarkably large shipment. Last year 150

carloads were exported and all Pacific Northwest prune-shipping records broken. The reputation of the Oregon prune has rapidly risen in the East. In the past five years the price has risen 2 cents a pound, and this year's shipments netted 5 cents a pound to the grower. In former years some difficulty was experienced in selling the Oregon product, but this season local prunes were sought more than those of any other state.

Several of Oregon's most promising industries have been allowed to lag. Prompt action will have to be taken to save them from dry-rot. For instance a few years ago Oregon was eighth in the list of wool manufacturing states, but today she is thirteenth. No industry seems to offer such a promising field for development. This state is possessed of as good wool as is grown in any country and it is raised in such quantities as would seem to warrant greater efforts in a manufacturing way. The water of many of our streams is equal to the best that Great Britain has and there seems no good reason why more of our wool should not be secured at home and manufactured into cloth, blankets and other articles of which wool is the base. The time is not far distant that unless the wealthy men of Oregon get together on some project for establishing textile towns, Eastern capitalists will step into the breach and capture the profits which seem to be certain in any well managed woolen mill.

Portland seems to offer a rich field as a furniture manufacturing center. With



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